

IF YOU'RE QUESTIONED...

If the FBI or police questions you, or if you're subpoenaed to a grand jury, what can you do to resist?

- You can refuse to answer questions or testify about events or other people.
- Don't provide names of other people you know, even if it seems harmless.
- Invoke your right to freedom of speech and association (First Amendment).
- Mobilize support and educate the public.
- Tell your story to the media. Help reveal the government's secret proceedings.
- Invoke your right against self-incrimination (Fifth Amendment).

If you want to support grand jury resisters, you can:

- Help raise funds for their legal defense and livelihood.
- Write to prisoners.
- Provide courtroom support to targeted individuals.
- Help expose the secret political motivations of the government.
- Get involved in the Grand Jury Resistance Project.

ABOUT THE GJRP:

The Grand Jury Resistance Project (GJRP) is a coalition working to generate resistance to governmental political repression waged in the form of grand jury investigations, surveillance, political prosecutions, and collaboration between federal and local agencies to deny basic constitutional rights.

Web: www.grandjuryresistance.org
Email: gjrp@fbiwitchhunt.com

ONGOING ACTIONS:

GJRP provides **direct support** to individuals targeted by government harassment and prosecution, including **letter writing, fundraising,** and organizing **court support.** GJRP also works to **educate the media** and the **public** about the injustice of the Grand Jury system.

TRAININGS: GJRP offers trainings on Grand Juries and resistance. Please contact us for more info or to schedule a training.

OTHER RESOURCES:

National Lawyers Guild 9/11 Hotline
415-285-1041.....www.nlgsf.org

www.fbiwitchhunt.com
www.greenscare.org

GRAND JURIES ARE AN ABUSE OF POWER!



Grand Juries operate secretly, are controlled by the prosecution, often jail people for remaining silent, and are used to suppress dissent.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH GRAND JURIES?

- Grand juries operate very differently from the US Court system, and operate in secrecy.
- The 16-23 jurors are not screened for bias, and are hand-selected by the prosecutor.
- The usual rules of evidence do not apply (e.g. hearsay and unsubstantiated accusations).
- Grand juries have no judge present and are controlled by the prosecution.
- Those questioned do not have 1st, 4th and 5th amendments protections, as they would expect in court trials.
- Defense attorneys aren't allowed in the room and cannot present or question evidence.
- Grand juries are often “fishing expeditions” for information, gathered by questionable means.
- Indictments can be made on purely hearsay evidence—not “legal” in the normal court system.
- A witness that refuses to answer questions can be found in contempt and jailed for the duration of the grand jury (up to 18 months).
- A grand jury can be secretly renewed, extending an investigation indefinitely.

HISTORY

Because of their broad subpoena powers and secretive nature, grand juries are used by the government to gather information on political movements and to disrupt those movements by causing fear and mistrust. The grand jury was originally conceived of as a *protection against overzealous prosecutors*, but is now often used *by prosecutors to attack social change movements*, from pre-Civil War abolitionists to contemporary activists.

Grand Juries are being used to undermine the efforts of:

Arab and Muslim community leaders

Former members of the Black Panther Party

Anarchists

Environmental activists

Animal liberation activists

Journalists

Medical marijuana activists

Who's Next...?

RECENT GRAND JURY RESISTERS:

Racial Justice

Black Panther Party — Five former Black Panthers were jailed in 2005 for refusing to cooperate with a state grand jury in San Francisco that was based on evidence gained by police torture in 1973. In January 2007, they and several others were arrested and charged based on evidence that caused the original case to be dismissed.

Environmental Rights and Animal Liberation

Eugene — Jeff Hogg was jailed in May 2006 for refusing to testify before an eco-related Eugene, Oregon, federal grand jury. He was released in November 2006, without giving the grand jury any information.

San Diego — Three eco and animal liberation activists refused to testify in a federal grand jury and were jailed for 3 months from July to October 2005.

San Francisco — Several people have refused to cooperate with a San Francisco federal grand jury convened in 2006 to investigate actions against abuse and torture of animals by corporations.

Journalists

Josh Wolf — Refused to turn over video footage to a San Francisco federal grand jury investigating a June 2005 anarchist demonstration against the G8. Wolf has been jailed since September 2006, longer than any other U.S. journalist for civil contempt.

Sarah Olson Dahr Jamail — Independent journalists Sarah Olson and Dahr Jamail successfully fought their subpoenas to testify at the trial of Lt Ehren Watada, who is charged with refusing to go to Iraq and making public statements opposing the war.