



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, February 28, 2006



Council Session

## Item C1

### **Proclamation "Juror Appreciation Week" February 27, through March 3, 2006**

*By serving on a jury, citizens have the privilege of providing direct input into the administration of justice. Jury service is an important civic responsibility and is one of the highest duties an individual can perform in a democracy. The Mayor has proclaimed the last week of February 2006 as "Juror Appreciation Week". District Judge James Livingston, County Court Judge Philip Martin and Supreme Court Certified Court Interpreter Constanza Meier will be present to receive the proclamation.*

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards



THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
City of Grand Island  
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, juries are essential to a fair, reliable, and citizen-based system of justice, in which the people, and not government officials, resolve disputes; and
- WHEREAS, juries represent the common sense of ordinary people and thus keep the administration of law in accord with the wishes and feelings of the community; and
- WHEREAS, the decisions that jurors make affects millions of lives every day and have a profound impact on our economy and our society; and
- WHEREAS, by entrusting jurors from the community to decide legal cases-some of them involving millions of dollars or life-and-death issues-we reinforce our belief that everyday people can make correct decisions, that we are an open, democratic government; and
- WHEREAS, few activities in our civic life provide such a direct contact with our democracy as does jury service; and
- WHEREAS, along with voting, jury service is one of the main ways we take part in the public life of our nation-when we vote, we are one of millions, but when we serve on a jury, we are one of twelve; and
- WHEREAS, the jury system gives equal weight to diverse voices-the system works because everyone on the jury has an equal voice regardless of who they are, what they earn, or where they are from; and
- WHEREAS, the success of our jury system depends on the participation of all citizens who are called to serve; and
- WHEREAS, every day, throughout our country, citizens devote their time and energies to deciding disputes that significantly affect the lives, liberties, and property of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Vavricek, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska,  
do hereby proclaim, the last week of February 2006 as

***“JUROR APPRECIATION WEEK”***

in the City of Grand Island. This week, let us recognize those who are called upon to take time from their daily lives to fulfill the highest responsibility of citizenship and make our system of justice a reality through their jury service. In addition, I urge the citizens, schools, businesses, and media of our nation to use this occasion to dedicate ourselves to preserve and strengthen the jury system.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this twenty-eighth day of February in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Six.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk