

Tona Monroe
853 Marble Lane
Greenback, TN 37742

Tom Hatcher
Circuit Court Clerk
926 East Lamar Alexander Pkwy.
Maryville, TN 37804

Feb. 1, 2011

Dear Mr. Hatcher,

Thank you for your timely response to my questions regarding the Grand Jury Foreperson in Blount Co. I'd like further clarification from you regarding the appointment of Bo Henry, Judge Young's rescission and the reappointment of Mrs. Penny Piper.

In response to the last question regarding a break in the service of Mrs. Penny Piper as Grand Jury Foreperson, you state, "There has been no break in her service." This appears to conflict with your last descriptive paragraph.

"Before the Governor appointed Judge Meares to fill the vacancy by Judge Thomas, Judge Young appointed Bo Henry when Mrs. Piper's term was up. Very soon after taking office, Judge Meares rescinded the order of Judge Young and reappointed Mrs. Piper Grand Jury Foreperson."

If there was no break in her service, does this mean that this appointment and rescission took place very quickly and that Bo Henry never actually served as Foreperson? Or did he serve briefly, creating a short break in Mrs. Piper's service as the Foreperson?

Is the Grand Jury Foreperson paid the same as the regular members of the Grand Jury? If so, how much are the members compensated? If not, how much is the foreperson paid?

On a different but similar matter, does the Circuit Court Clerk's office keep records of the number of criminal indictments that the District Attorney's office seeks and how many true bills are returned, how many no bills are returned and how many are quashed? If your office maintains these or similar records, please provide me with the numbers for the past 5 years that you have records for. Please note that I am not asking for actual copies of the indictments, just the statistics for each of the past 5 years. If your office does not maintain these records, please let me know where I may obtain these records.

Sincerely,

Tona Monroe