

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Court announces the empanelment of an additional Grand Jury. To administer equal justice under law as close as practicable to all affected individuals, and to continue implementing the Court's 2019 divisional realignment, a separate Grand Jury in the Northern Division of the Eastern District of Arkansas is in the public interest. This Grand Jury will have a general scope. Its work will not be focused on any particular individual or any certain kind of alleged crime. It will consider evidence of any alleged violation of federal law that has occurred, or is occurring, in the fourteen counties that make up the Northern Division of the Eastern District of Arkansas. From time to time, this Grand Jury may also consider evidence of alleged violations of federal law in the Delta Division or in the Central Division of our Court.

It has been decades since a federal Grand Jury sat in northeast Arkansas. This new Grand Jury has begun its work. In 2023, the Court plans to convene a similar division-based Grand Jury in Helena to consider matters arising in the Delta Division of the Eastern District. As has long been true, a Grand Jury made up of citizens drawn from a fair cross section of the entire Eastern District continues to sit regularly in Little Rock. With the cooperation of the United States Attorney, the Court is empaneling these divisional Grand Juries to better fulfill the

Court's constitutional duties with the assistance of more citizens from all forty-one counties in the Eastern District of Arkansas.