

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

132A



FROM: Superior Court of California, County of Riverside

SUBMITTAL DATE:
April 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Proclamation of May 1 - May 7, 2005, as Law Week in Riverside County

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors proclaim the week of May 1 - May 7, 2005, as Law Week in the County of Riverside.

BACKGROUND: Law Day, officially established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1958, provides an opportunity to reflect on our nation's legal heritage and the role of law in our society. The official date of Law Day is May 1, 2005, and this year's theme, "The American Jury: We the People in Action," reminds us of the vital role that jurors play in the American system of justice. The Proclamation expands the Law Day celebration to a weeklong event in which the County, the Court, and the Riverside County Bar Association will acknowledge the fundamental importance of the jury system in protecting our democratic tradition of a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Departmental Concurrence

Inga E. McElyea
FOR INGA E. McElyea
Inga E. McElyea, Court Executive Officer
Superior Court of California, County of Riverside

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$	In Current Year Budget:
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$	Budget Adjustment:
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$	For Fiscal Year:

SOURCE OF FUNDS:	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature *Sally A. Deaton*

- Consent
- Policy
- Consent
- Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: | **District:** *All* | **Agenda Number:**

2.6

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
OFFICE EXECUTIVE

**To Proclaim
May 1 – May 7, 2005
as “LAW WEEK” in Riverside County**

WHEREAS, Law Day is a celebration of our great heritage of liberty, justice, and equality under the law;

WHEREAS, One of the principles we fought for in the Revolutionary War was the right to trial by jury. The Declaration of Independence pointed out that George III had deprived Americans, “in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury”;

WHEREAS, A jury of one’s peers is a cornerstone of American democracy. Along with voting, it is one of the main ways people take part in the public life of this nation;

WHEREAS, Trial by jury is guaranteed in the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Amendments;

WHEREAS, Jurors decide whether defendants are guilty or not guilty, liable or not liable;

WHEREAS, The decisions that jurors make affect millions of lives everyday and have a profound impact on our economy and our society. 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 the right 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 jury service;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Board of Supervisors of Riverside County not only recognizes May 1 – May 7, 2005, as “Law Week” in Riverside County, but also acknowledges the central role of juries in American life, and recognizes the importance of educating its citizens about the rewards and benefits of jury service.