

OFFICE OF THE COLE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cole County Grand Jury releases report for January Term 2012

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI (July 17, 2012) – The Grand Jury of Cole County, Missouri, recently released the report for the January Term 2012, which ended June 30, 2012. One hundred sixty (160) indictments, with over 280 counts, were returned against defendants, and approximately 225 persons appeared before the grand jury, either under subpoena or on a voluntary basis, to testify and answer questions asked by the grand jurors.

Of the 280-plus counts for which indictments were issued, 46 were for offenses against the person, three (3) were for offenses against the family, two (2) were for sexual offenses, 116 counts were for offenses related to controlled substances, 60 were for stealing and related offenses, 24 were for related property offenses, nine (9) were for offenses affecting public order and safety, nine (9) were for offenses against the administration of justice, one (1) was for taxation and revenue related offenses, and nine (9) were for weapons offenses.

“Cole County’s grand jurors actually only hear a small number of the cases that are handled by the prosecutor’s office,” said Prosecuting Attorney Mark Richardson. “My job is to present cases with serious felony counts to the grand jury, which listens to testimony and considers evidence before determining whether there is probable cause that a particular defendant committed a particular crime.”

Cole County is one of the few counties in the state of Missouri to use the grand jury. The full report, which also contains information and history on grand juries, can be viewed on the Cole County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office website, <http://www.colecopa.com>.