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GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV

TITLE 3. GOVERNMENT OF COUNTIES [23000 - 33205] (Title 3 added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

DIVISION 2. OFFICERS [24000 - 28085] (Division 2 added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

PART 2. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS [25000 - 26490] (Part 2 added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

CHAPTER 1. Organization [25000 - 25176] (Chapter 1 added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

ARTICLE 9. Subpenas [25170 - 25176] (Article 9 added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25170. Whenever the board of supervisors deems it necessary or important to examine any person as a witness upon any subject or matter within the jurisdiction of the board, or to examine any officer of the county in relation to the discharge of his official duties as to the receipt or disposition by him of any money, or concerning the possession or disbursement by him of any property belonging to the county, or to use, inspect, or examine any books, account, voucher, or document in the possession or under the control of the person or officer relating to the affairs or interests of the county, the chairman of the board shall issue a subpoena, in proper form, commanding the person or officer to appear before it, at a time and place therein specified, to be examined as a witness. The subpoena may require the person or officer to produce all books, papers, and documents in his possession or under his control, relating to the affairs or interests of the county.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25171. Whenever the board appoints any of its members a committee upon any subject or matter of which it has jurisdiction and confers upon the committee power to send for persons and papers, the chairman of the committee has all the powers and duties of the chairman of the board of supervisors.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25172. The sheriff of the county to whom the subpoena is delivered shall serve it by reading it to the person named therein, and at the same time delivering to him a copy thereof. The official return of the sheriff upon the subpoena, showing the time and place of service is prima facie evidence of service.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25173. Whenever any person duly subpoenaed to appear and give evidence or to produce any books and papers before the board or a committee neglects or refuses to appear, or to produce any books and papers, as required by the subpoena, or refuses to testify or to answer any questions which a majority of the body decides are proper and pertinent, he shall be deemed in contempt, and the chairman of the body shall report the fact to the judge of the superior court of the county.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25174. Upon receipt of the report, the judge of the superior court shall issue an attachment directed to any sheriff, marshal, or police chief in the State of California, commanding him or her to attach that person and forthwith bring him or her before the judge who ordered the attachment issued.

(Amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 872, Sec. 49. Effective January 1, 1997.)

25175. On the return of the attachment and the production of the body of the defendant, the judge has jurisdiction of the matter. The person charged may purge himself of the contempt in the same way, and the same proceeding shall be had, and the same penalties may be imposed, and the same punishment inflicted as in the case of a witness subpoenaed to appear and give evidence on the trial of a civil cause before a superior court.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)

25176. Witnesses subpoenaed to testify on behalf of the county in matters of public concern before the board of supervisors are not entitled to have their fees prepaid, but the board shall allow them the reasonable expenses of their attendance.

(Added by Stats. 1947, Ch. 424.)