Grand Jury does not determine guilt or innocence, but determines whether there is probable cause that a crime has been committed and that the subject of the grand jury investigation should be indicted and tried in court for that crime.

1. The Grand Jury is secret, no public is admitted.
2. Goal: “probable cause”
3. There is no judge present.
4. The Prosecutor is the only legal official in the proceedings (and because of this “defines” the law to the jury, not a judge).
5. The members of the jury are not screened for bias.
6. Defense attorneys are not allowed in the proceedings.
7. Court room rules of evidence, accumulation, accuracy etc. do not apply.
8. Evidence presented cannot be challenged, objections cannot be raised to questions
9. Defendant cannot call witnesses or present exculpatory evidence.
10. The prosecutor does not have to reveal evidence of innocence to the jury.
11. Limited use immunity can be used to force witnesses to testify in violation of right to self-incrimination
12. Witnesses can be imprisoned for contradictory testimony for the life of the grand jury.

It is no wonder that over 99% of all grand juries return indictments. Are there any similarities in the 1%?