

# Sentinel

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## Supervisor Rowe Last Year Purchased \$1.19 Million Home In Redlands

By Mark Gutglueck

Supervisor Dawn Rowe last year spent \$1.19 million in purchasing a home in one of the more exclusive neighborhoods in San Bernardino County.

That acquisition, coupled with Rowe's affiliation with former supervisor and convicted political corruption figure Bill Postmus, who is currently actively engaged in electioneering fund laundering for a number of regional elected officials, triggered



Dawn Rowe

widespread rumors and reports suggesting Rowe obtained the house through the use of dark money that

had been diverted into her personal account from her political war chest.

Rowe, however, this week offered a credible explanation of how she was able to buy the home using wealth she has accumulated over the last two-and-a-half decades.

Rowe has been a political figure in San Bernardino County since 2010, when she ran successfully for the Yucca Valley Town Council.

Rowe's backstory is

that she and her husband Alan Rowe, a Marine captain with whom she had a son and a daughter, had come to Morongo Valley and established a residence in Yucca Valley when her husband had been stationed at the Twentynine Palms Marine Base. Previously, the Rowes had lived at various Marine and Naval installations around the country.

On September 3, 2004, Alan Rowe, then on his second deployment in

Iraq, was killed in action while securing a bridge in Anbar province. Dawn Rowe decided to remain in Yucca Valley and raise her children, then 5 and 3, seeking to make her family's way in the world by subdividing and developing property. Her efforts in that regard bogged down in governmental red tape and regulations, with some of her projects stymied or outright rejected at the planning commission and town council **See P 5**

## Appeals Court To Determine If Fire Tax Referendum Will Go Before Voters In June

The latest in a series of efforts carried out over the last five years by a group of governmental accountability activists to undo what is now a \$161.98 per parcel annual tax imposed on the landowners in San Bernardino County's unincorporated areas that was a consequence of the board of supervisors' 2018 action to impose that tax without an actual vote of the residents paying it will come down to the wire on April 11.

On that date, the Fourth Appellate District in Riverside County is due to consider and determine whether to let stand a Superior Court judge's determination that those activists will need to postpone yet again a countywide vote to rescind the tax.

Government reform and anti-tax activists insist the board of supervisors bypassed Article XIII C Section 2(d) of the California Constitution in imposing the fire service assessment on the county's unincorporated communities.

San Bernardino County officials claim that a California Constitutional provision guaranteeing that citizens have the right to cast a vote with regard to any new tax they are to pay did not apply in this case because the county offered the voters an opportunity to protest the assessment intended to shore up the provision of fire prevention and suppression in the more than 94 percent of the county outside of its cities and incorporated towns, and fewer than two percent of either the county's landowners or voters lodged any such protests.

Previously, fire protection in the county's unincorporated **See P 3**

## Upland Preparing To Fight Vagnozzi Wrongful Termination Suit Before A Jury

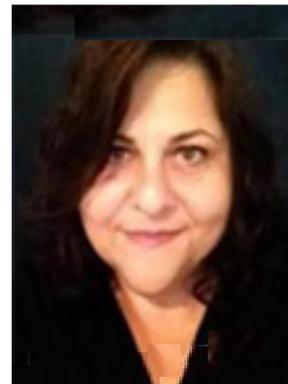
The City of Upland this week spurned an attempt to settle the wrongful termination lawsuit brought against it by former City Manager Jeannette Vagnozzi, signaling instead it is willing to face down the accusations it and its officials acted prejudicially toward her when it acted to terminate her in May 2019, less than six months after her chaotic and contentious tenure officially at the helm of the City of

Gracious Living began.

At issue in the case, if indeed it does go to trial, is whether Vagnozzi was treated unfairly by four-fifths of the city council, including three members installed into office less than two months after she was promoted into the position of full-fledged city manager, or whether, in agreeing to take on the city manager's post in a vote that consisted of the last action of three lame duck

council members, she bit off far more than she could chew, thereby consigning herself to what some consider to have been a foreordained failure.

What proved out to be Vagnozzi's misplacement in the role of Upland City Manager played against a backdrop of action and political miscalculation on her part in the years before her promotion to city manager and further miscalculation and action



Jeannette Vagnozzi

taken in the months after she assumed the city manager role.

Historically, at least since 1990, the position of Upland city manager has been a post fraught with both political and professional peril. City managers in all municipal jurisdictions must continuously remain in favor with a majority of their respective city councils, which is often a tortuous assignment in itself, given the myriad issues and matters a city manager is called upon to resolve, each **See P 2**

## SB Police Union Endorses Two Valdivia Allies In Council Race

Though its membership is unwilling to publicly embrace scandal-plagued incumbent Mayor John Valdivia in this year's race for the county seat's highest political office, the San Bernardino Police Officers Association is nevertheless seeking to assist him in recapturing control over the city council that slipped from

his grasp roughly a year after he took office following his November 2018 election.

Since Valdivia came into the mayoral position in December 2018 following his election the previous month, there has been a cascade of less-than-flattering revelations about the 46-year-old mayor, many of which **See P 7**

## Trailers Continue To Aggregate On Apple Valley Agricultural Property At Bootlegged Storage Yard

Significant numbers of 53-foot-long shipping containers continue to pour into an unpermitted storage operation that popped up in the unincorporated county agricultural area of Apple Valley after the owners of the property were told eleven weeks ago that they needed to remove them.

While earlier public statements from county

officials indicated enforcement of the county's code would result in the situation being redressed, residents of the area, given the intensification of the problem at the site in question and the reticence of county officials in recent weeks to address the matter, say the property owners are being sheltered as a consequence of their political connections.

Starting in late December 2021, semi-trucks began delivering 53-foot-long shipping containers, all with Walmart logos, to a 4.9-acre property at 9233 Deep Creek Road between Round-Up Way and Rock Springs Road owned by Earl and Rhonda Graham, designated as Assessor's Parcel Number 0438163430000. The Gramams are the **See P 3**

## San Bernardino Wins Bidding War With Upland To Lure Goodman To Head Its PD

San Bernardino has lured Upland Police Chief Darren Goodman to serve as the head of its department, reportedly on the basis of a total annual compensation package exceeding half of a million dollars.

In coming to San Bernardino, Goodman will become the first Black police chief in the county seat's history, the same distinction he achieved in

Upland when he left the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department with which he was serving as the commander in the rank of captain at the Chino Hills station in 2018 to become the City of Gracious Living's top cop. San Bernardino will be his third tour as a city police chief, as the sheriff's department serves under contract with Chino Hills as its police de-

partment, and Goodman was thereby the de facto police chief there.

A usually reliable source told the *Sentinel* that San Bernardino and Upland found themselves in a bidding war over Goodman that went on for more than two months. San Bernardino set its sights on Goodman in large measure because it perceived hiring him as a cure to long

ongoing issues relating to policing in what was ranked in 2019 as the United States' third most dangerous city, with a murder/homicide rate of 22.48 per 100,000 population in 2018. With a population that is 65.2 percent Hispanic percent Latino, 14.3 percent Black, 4 percent Asian and roughly 16 percent non-Hispanic white, San Bernardino has a

police department with 262 police officers, some 60 percent of whom are white. This has led to a degree of friction with a sizable contingent of the city's residents.

There are warring gangs within San Bernardino, hailing from both the east and west side of the 62.45-square mile, 222,101-population city. As an African-American with **See P 3**

## In The Years Before Her Rise To The Top, Vagnozzi Sided With The Majority Faction On The Council That Lost Power Just As She Reached Her Goal

*from front page*

one of which carries with the possibility of offending one of his or her political masters. In Upland, which has had more than its share of challenges, including having a mayor, commissioner and city manager indicted or criminally charged and convicted on political and public corruption charges within the last decade-and-a-half, remaining in office as city manager for any length of time is a daunting challenge, and the footing below the city manager's feet at Upland City Hall remains, to this day, slippery. During the period from 1943, when Upland first created the official position of city manager, until 1990, the city stood as a model of managerial stability, having had only three individuals – Richard Manley, Elwin “Pinky” Alder and Lee Travers – in the city's top staff position over the course of 47 years. In the 32 years since then, however, Upland has had a succession of 14 city managers: Ray Silver, Mike Matlock in an interim capacity, Kevin Northcraft, Martin Thouvenell in an interim role, G. Michael Milhiser, Robin Quincey, Stephen Dunn, Martin Lomeli, Rod Butler, Martin Thouvenell once more in the role of interim manager over a span of 17 months, Bill Manis, Martin Thouvenell a third intermittent time, Vagnozzi, Rosemary Hoerning, Steven Parker in an interim role, and now Michael Blay. The average tenure of each of those managers, counting Thouvenell's three terms separately, is two years.

Vagnozzi was hired as a special assistant to then-City Manager Rod Butler in 2015 before transitioning into an assistant city manager's role which also had her fulfilling, at one point simultaneously, the functions of administrative services director, human resources director, risk manager and city clerk. She at least seemed

to be performing adequately in those capacities. In making herself at home in them, she became identified with senior staff in a way that committed her to the political alignments that by 2016 had seeped into the city's administrative ethos. This alignment benefited and penultimately advanced her professionally, indeed obtained for her the ultimate prize of becoming city manager. With her decision to line up on the side of those in City Hall who were in ascendancy in late 2016, all of 2017 and most of 2018, however, she was left in a precarious position beginning in late 2018, literally weeks after she became city manager, when the political wind she had sailed and glided with for two years shifted to become a headwind which sent her careening in a tailspin to earth toward a hard landing.

Rod Butler had been hired as Upland city manager in 2014. He was faced with managing a senior administrative staff that had been winnowed considerably over the previous few years by the loss of several department heads. In 2015, he convinced the city council to fund a special administrative assistant-to-the-city manager position and he hired Vagnozzi, who after 26 years with the City of La Verne, had risen from the post of intern to that of assistant to Bob Russi, La Verne's city manager. Vagnozzi's duties in Upland included serving as city clerk, administrative services director, human resources manager and risk management director. By the fall of 2015, she had conformed herself well into all of her roles. In early 2016, the title of deputy city manager was conferred upon her. All seemed well. Precipitously, however, in the summer of 2016, three members of the city council – Mayor Ray Musser, then-Councilwoman Debbie Stone and Councilman Gino Filippi – for different, indeed in the cases of Musser and Stone conflicting, reasons, grew disenchanting with Butler and terminated him without citing cause, giving him a severance package equal to nine months' salary and benefits as he headed out the door.

The council had Vag-

nozzi fill in for Butler for two days, and brought in Upland's former police chief, Marty Thouvenell, to serve as interim city manager and simultaneously head up a recruitment drive to find a replacement for Butler. What was originally intended to be no more than a three-month stint for Thouvenell as interim city manager prolonged itself into a 17-month assignment, as efforts to replace Butler stalled.

Among those contemplated as Butler's replacement were Vagnozzi, with her experience as Butler's understudy and right hand woman, and two other department heads, Community Development Director Jeff Zwack, whose strength consisted of his overall command of the character of the city, and Finance Manager Scott Williams, who possessed a firm grip on the city's bleak financial outlook, which was illustrated by a previous auditor's opinion from the certified public accounting firm Mayer Hoffman and McCann stating that there were such serious questions with regard to the city's solvency to the point that it was on a trajectory toward being “unable to continue as a going concern.”

At that point, neither Williams nor Zwack nor Vagnozzi impressed Thouvenell enough for him to recommend that the council elevate any of them into the city manager's role. Rather, for the next 16 months, Thouvenell remained in place as the city's acting city manager while an effort to recruit Butler's replacement dragged on. In that time frame, Musser chose not to seek reelection as mayor in the 2016 election, and Stone successfully vied against then-City Councilman Glenn Bozar to replace Musser. Also elected to the council in 2016 was newcomer Janice Elliott. Following the November 2016 election and the installment of Stone as mayor and Elliott as councilwoman, the council chose to fill the vacancy within its ranks that resulted from Stone's advancement into the mayoralty and her resignation from the council to do so by selecting Sid Robinson, who had finished in second place in the council race behind El-

liott, to serve out the final two years of Stone's council term.

Thouvenell, a domineering A-type personality, seized, or was given by the council majority, carte blanche over the city. In the initial stages of Elliott's first term, Mayor Stone, Councilman Robinson, Councilwoman Carol Timm and Councilman Gino Filippi went along with Thouvenell's cost cutting and revenue generating plans. A part of Thouvenell's strategy was to close out the city's 110-year-old municipal fire department and annex the entirety of the city limits and neighboring San Antonio Heights into a county fire service assessment zone. This entailed the imposition of a \$153 per parcel per year property tax addition and steering that newly created revenue stream and a share of the city's pre-existing property tax to the county to have the county fire department take over the provision of fire and emergency medical service in the city. Only Councilwoman Elliott opposed that move.

At Thouvenell's instigation, the council pushed forward with a host of programs, moves and strategies, virtually all of which some interest group or other in Upland resisted. Two such proposals were for the city to sell 12 percent of its landmark Memorial Park to adjoining San Antonio Hospital for use as a parking lot and effectuating a trade with Lewis Homes for Cabrillo Park, located within an existing residential district on 11<sup>th</sup> Street, for dormant quarry property proximate to the 210 Freeway. Time and again, Elliott emerged as the one member of the council either opposing or questioning the items on Thouvenell's agenda, which were automatically supported by the council majority. As a result, Elliott early on became persona non grata with the council and Thouvenell, who orchestrated a series of actions to neuter her politically. These included removing her from council subcommittees internally at City Hall and withdrawing her as the city's representative to intercity organizations and joint powers authorities and conferring her share of those assign-

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Mark Gutglueck, Publisher

**Call (951) 567-1936**

**to learn of locations where the Sentinel is available or to provide news tips**

10808 Foothill Blvd., Suite 160-446

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

SBCSentinel@yahoo.com

Legal Notice Department 909 957 9998

Message Line 909-276 5796

ments on the other members of the council. Ultimately, the city council passed a resolution of censure against her.

As the contretemps between Elliott on one side and Thouvenell and the council on the other side continued, Vagnozzi made what she considered to be a safe political calculation, siding with the council majority and Thouvenell, who was, throughout 2017, conducting an evaluation of candidates to serve as city manager. Vagnozzi, in her role as deputy city manager, administrative service director and city clerk, facilitated the censuring of Elliott and her removal from the various subcommittee and adjunct governmental positions she held.

Ultimately, the council, advised by Thouvenell, overlooked Vagnozzi's application for city manager and in December 2017 settled upon hiring Bill Manis, who was then the city manager in Rosemead, making his hiring effective as of January 1, 2018. Simultaneously, Vagnozzi was promoted from deputy city manager to assistant city manager, which entailed an \$8,000 per year salary enhancement.

In his role as city manager, Manis found himself over and over again in the shadow of the overbearing Thouvenell, to the point that it created for him something of a psychological crisis. By the summer of 2018, he was seeking employment elsewhere. In September, he came to terms with the city council on a deal by which he would leave as city manager officially as of November 1, staying on the city payroll until that date, but departing from

his office in City Hall immediately. Thouvenell was again the acting city manager, and with Vagnozzi ran the city.

2018 was an election year. Historically, Upland elected its council members and mayor in at-large elections in which candidates were drawn from anywhere within the 15.62-square mile city limits and all residents were free to vote with regard to all city council seats that were open, those being one along with the mayor's post in elections corresponding with the general U.S. Presidential race and three council seats in California gubernatorial election years. In 2018, however, Upland was set to make a transition, such that for the first time in its then 112-year history it was to hold by-district council elections.

Elliott had been elected to a four-year at-large term in 2016, so she was not due to seek reelection until 2020. In an effort to cripple her politically, Thouvenell together with Vagnozzi and the four members of the council majority drew an electoral map that created council districts and election sequencing that were intended to benefit incumbents Gino Filippi and Carol Timm. The map divided the city into what were essentially northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast quadrants, designated, respectively, as the First, Second, Third and Fourth districts. With the at-large terms to which Filippi and Timm had been elected in 2014 coming to an end in 2018, Thouvenell and Vagnozzi arranged, and the council voted, to schedule the elections for the Second, Third

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## Without A Vote & Inviting Residents To Author Letters Of Protest, Officials Imposed A Fire Tax On 94 Percent Of The Land In The County *from front page*

areas – those places where the municipal limits of the county's 22 cities and two incorporated towns do not extend – was part of the service provided through county government's routine function. In 2018, then-County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig, asserting that the traditional methods of taxation and

revenue generation for local government were no longer adequate to ensure the county fire department was sufficiently manned, outfitted and prepared to ensure the public safety, led a move to place all of the unincorporated county areas his department serviced within a fire protection assessment district, known as Fire Protection Zone 5, or FP-5 for short, which was originally formed to defray the cost of providing enhanced fire and paramedic service to the desert communities of Silverlakes and Helendale in 2006.

Between 2013 and 2018, the application of the FP-5 taxing authority had been

extended from households and businesses in Silverlakes and Helendale to include those in the cities of San Bernardino, Needles, Twentynine Palms, Upland and the unincorporated county community of San Antonio Heights after the San Bernardino, Needles and Upland's city councils had elected to shutter their municipal fire departments in favor of arrangements with the county fire department for fire prevention, fire suppression/firefighting and emergency medical service within their respective city limits and the Twentynine Palms Water District, which had previously used its authority to operate a

fire department within the 58.76 square mile city of Twentynine Palms and its more than 20-square mile sphere of influence, decided to hand responsibility for running that fire department over to the county. The community of San Antonio Heights, which lies immediately north of the Upland City Limits in the foothills of the Eastern San Gabriel Mountains, was, against the wishes of the vast majority of its residents, folded into the fire protection service arrangement that the City of Upland worked out with the county fire department in 2017 and was made subject to the FP-5 tax at that time, even though it had previ-

ously been receiving fire protection from the county defrayed by the property tax paid by San Antonio Heights landowners.

During that five-year period ending in 2018, the Fire Protection Zone District 5 tax imposed on each parcel ranged from roughly \$130 to somewhere below \$150 per year, pursuant to the 3 percent inflation allowance increase built into the formula for imposing the assessment.

Though California's Proposition 218 required that any new special tax must be approved by a vote of those who must pay it, the county used a protest vote process to gain clearance to enlarge FP-5 to

cover the roughly 18,899 square miles of unincorporated areas within the 20,105-square mile county. Residents were sent notices of the district's expansion and were invited to object to it. Those who sent in letters of protest were deemed to have voted against being included in the enlarged FP-5. Those who did not respond were deemed to have supported being brought into Fire Protection Zone District 5. If 25 percent had protested, the matter would have been taken to an actual vote in which landowners would cast traditional straightforward yes or no ballots to determine

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## In The End, Upland Could Not Match What SB Was Willing To Pay Goodman *from front page*

a PhD., Goodman is considered to have sufficient credibility with the minority population and the mental agility to run a department patrolling a city faced with severe social challenges. San Bernardino has the highest homeless population among the county's cities. Even among those who are housed, 14.5 percent live below the federally-defined poverty line.

Goodman's departure from Upland, which will occur on May 28 so that he can assume the San Bernardino job on June 1, comes after the City of Gracious Living invested heavily in him in more

ways than one to prevent his departure after it was learned two years ago that he was the last finalist to be eliminated in the competition for the job of Riverside police chief. Upland upped his salary to what is now \$231,771.97, his add-on pay to \$13,002.20, his benefits to \$66,614.05 and the contribution toward his pension to \$99,886.86 for a total annual compensation of \$411,275.08. That generated resentment in then-Upland City Manager Rosemary Hoerning, who, despite being higher on the city's organizational and authority chart than Goodman, at that time was provided with a total annual compensation below his. This contretemps manifested in Hoerning, in June 2020, suspending Goodman over a

complaint lodged against him by his one-time but subsequently demoted executive assistant. The city council moved rapidly to rescind that suspension and subsequently cashiered Hoerning.

To reassure Goodman about the degree to which the city valued him, the council, in seeking out and hiring Hoerning's ultimate replacement, brought in Michael Blay, who served with Goodman in the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department during the early stages of their law enforcement careers. Blay left the sheriff's department in 2009 and moved into private security work. In March 2016, Nils Bentsen, who had served in the sheriff's department with Blay and Goodman and later became station commander/police chief in the City

of Hesperia prior to that city hiring him as its city manager, recruited Blay to serve as Hesperia's development services director. In 2018, Bentsen convinced the Hesperia City Council to allow him to promote Blay to assistant city manager.

Last year, despite more than two dozen of the 38 applicants for the city manager post having more extensive and impressive municipal management credentials and résumés than Blay's, the Upland City Council chose to hire him based upon his friendship with Goodman, Goodman's endorsement of him, the prospect that the two would work well together and the belief that having Blay in place as city manager would ensure Goodman's longevity in the Upland police chief's

position.

While the general public did not learn about Goodman jumping ship to San Bernardino until this week, which left many with the impression that Goodman had blindsided Upland officials with his disclosure to them of his planned departure, the *Sentinel* is informed that Goodman quietly informed Blay and the city's politicians about his having been approached by San Bernardino's headhunters and the offer to extend him the police chief's job there. According to one individual close to Goodman, he offered to remain in Upland, which is more distant from his Riverside home than San Bernardino, if Upland would match San Bernardino's salary and benefit package. Upland did so, the *Sentinel* is told. There-

upon, San Bernardino upped its offer to Goodman, followed again by Upland's chief negotiator, said to be Upland Mayor Bill Velto, saying the City of Gracious Living would again increase the police chief's pay and benefits. San Bernardino again went Upland one better. Upland, in response, offered a slightly better deal. After San Bernardino met and raised that ante, the *Sentinel* is told, Goodman's value had hit half of a million dollars in total annual compensation. Upland, concerned that if it were to put itself in the position of paying Goodman that much money it would need to make a corresponding increase to Blay's salary and benefits, dropped out of the Goodman sweepstakes.

*-Mark Gutglueck*

## Over 1,000 Cargo Containers Illegally Stored On Property Near Apple Valley *from front page*

owners of Graham's Hay Sales, as well as the owners of I-15 Auctions, Bid Fast and Last Auctions, Standing Bar G Productions, and IG West. They advertise selling cattle and hay and are very active and well known in the equestrian community. They own an additional 23-acre parcel, designated as Assessor's Parcel Number 0438163240000, behind the 4.9-acre spread. The 23-acre parcel is a site of natural soil, riding pens, animal stalls, and stored manure. Both of the properties are designated by

the county as having SFR zoning, meaning they are intended for development as single-family residential subdivisions. Nevertheless, the property has historically been agricultural and the land along Deep Creek Road between Bear Valley Road and Rock Springs Road is one of the last agriculturally zoned areas in Apple Valley. Crops are still grown on many properties there.

All of the cargo containers have Walmart logos on the side. Upon arriving at the property, they are separated from the truck chassis by a crane and are stacked three or four high into a solid mass side by side resembling a large warehouse. The truck trailers come in five days a week, sometimes up to 10

per hour traveling down un-engineered Deep Creek Road, which at that point is a north-south truck route upon which rock/gravel trucks and Stater Bros trucks are normally the most common traffic. Vibrations can be felt on area properties when trucks come down the hill southbound near Tussing Ranch Road. One of the semis pulling a Walmart trailer took out a phone switch box at the site, and another jackknifed blocking Deep Creek Rd traffic for a couple hours. The trucks mostly arrive via Bear Valley Road east to Deep Creek south, and some come via Main Street and Rock Springs Road, making a left turn north onto Deep Creek and are obliged to back up in the intersection

at Rock Springs to navigate under the railroad trestle bridge. On that treacherous stretch of Deep Creek Road since last June, there have been three fatal single car rollovers.

Accordingly, there are two objections to the illicit Graham truck storage facility, one being the incompatible and unpermitted use of the property and the other being the traffic hazard the constant flow of trucks on Deep Creek Road represents.

The *Sentinel's* inquiries have determined that the containers being deposited at the site are essentially seasonal ones that are utilized by the Walmart corporation as it begins to gear up for the Christmas season to make deliveries of merchandise from warehouses

to 4,756 Walmart stores operating in the United States at present. Immediately after Christmas, the use of large numbers of containers ends. In previous years, as currently, some of those containers, both on and off trailers, are kept at the Walmart warehouses and in some cases where feasible behind Walmart stores. The vast majority of them, however, were kept at trailer storage facilities in and around major transportation hubs across the United States. In Southern California, many of those facilities are located in the vicinity of Los Angeles/San Pedro/Long Beach near the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach. As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic-induced supply

chain crisis, loaded trailers and box cars around the country remained at a stasis wherever they were and backlogs accumulated in the parking lots of factories, warehouse and transportation nodes such as those at the Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors. Often, upon the trailers or containers involved at last being unloaded, they remained onsite, empty, the semis that delivered and dropped them weeks or months previously having long since departed. Those empty trailers and containers have gradually and steadily been moved to the nearby and regional trailer storage facilities. In this way, Walmart was unable to leave its trailers and con-

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## Majority Of The Council That Elevated Vagnozzi To City Manager Had Just Been Voted Out Of Office *from page 2*

and Fourth districts to take place in 2018 and every four years thereafter, and the elections for mayor and the First District to take place in 2020 and every four years thereafter. As Filippi was a resident of the Third District and Timm a resident of the Fourth District, this fell in keeping with the cycling of elections that matched their then-current tenure. That is, they were scheduled in 2018 to seek election to their respective district posts as their at-large terms were ending. This was not the case with Elliott, who was a resident of the newly created Second District. If she simply served out the term to which she had been elected in 2016, as that term came to an end in 2020, she would not be able to seek election, or reelection as it were, to the council, since the election for the Second District council member at that point would have taken place two years previously and the Second District post would not be up for reelection at that point until two years hence, i.e., 2022.

The ploy hatched by Thouvenell and Vagnozzi to lull Elliot into a sense of political complacency and inaction, however, did not work. Recognizing she would automatically lose her spot on the council in 2020 if she did not run in 2018, a mere two years after her maiden election to the council, Elliot did not fall into the trap that had been set for her. She ran for the Second District council position that year.

At that point, the chicks hatched during Thouvenell's 17 months as city manager and the time he had served as management consultant had come home to roost. Citizens opposed to the county's takeover of the fire department and the imposition of the fire tax as well as the sale of Memorial Park to San Antonio Hospital had taken legal action to block those moves, both of which would ultimately succeed. Ultimately, the major leadership initiatives undertaken during Thouvenell's reign as city manager which had been backed by the council majority were undone or dis-

credited. Intense resident resentment at what had gone on during Stone's two-years as mayor lingered throughout the city. Stone would not be up for election for two years, but her council allies Timm and Filippi were. Robinson, who had been appointed to a two-year term in 2016, saw the writing on the wall, and chose not to run against Elliott. In the November 2018 election, Elliott defeated Planning Commissioner Yvette Walker, who at that point was allied with the Stone, Timm, Filippi and Robinson. Filippi and Timm were defeated by newcomers Ricky Felix and Rudy Zuniga, respectively.

Following the election, the Upland City Council as it was then composed had two regularly scheduled meetings in November, on the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>. Thereafter, at the next meeting of the council, scheduled for December 10, 2018, the new members Felix and Zuniga would be sworn in and Robinson, Filippi and Timm would depart.

Word radiated from City Hall outward that the lame duck council was brewing a departure concoction that everyone in the city would need to take a swig of. Rumors abounded. On Wednesday, November 21, the day before Thanksgiving at 5:48 p.m., the Upland City Clerk's office released the agenda for the Monday November 26 meeting, revealing what it was that the outgoing council had in store for the City of Gracious Living. The council that night would consider hiring Jeannette Vagnozzi on a three-year contract as city manager.

The Upland community was blindsided by the development. From the time Butler had been given his walking papers in the summer of 2016 until that point, the previous and then-current city council had multiple opportunities to promote Vagnozzi into the city manager's position, but had declined. At that point, after more than two years of overlooking her, after concluding on multiple occasions that she was not the right fit for the job, Stone and the three council members

who were on the verge of leaving office decided that now was the time to saddle their successors with Vagnozzi.

Between the announcement of what was to occur with the release of the agenda and the meeting where the hiring was to be effectuated was the long Thanksgiving holiday and Monday morning and afternoon. A real opportunity for public discussion and assimilation of what was to take place did not exist. Still, despite the intervening holiday break, several Upland citizens sought out Vagnozzi in the days and hours before the city council meeting, appealing to her to decline the outgoing city council's elevation of her to the city manager's post and instead give what was then to be the incoming city council the option of either selecting her to serve in the city's top administrative post or keep her as assistant city manager. One of her friends pointed out that at that time it was not yet known who all five members of the council were going to be, as someone to serve out the remaining two years of Elliott's at-large term had yet to be chosen. By accepting the job, Vagnozzi's friend reasoned, she would run the risk of antagonizing at least two if not three and maybe even four of the members of the city council, making her tenure, as long as it might last, miserable, and likely dooming her to a very abbreviated run in the city's top staff spot. It would be better, Vagnozzi was counseled, if she were to remain in the acting city manager's post but not accept the city manager's appointment at that time, giving the city council the opportunity to judge her performance and determine on their own and on her merits whether she should be promoted by those she was going to have to work with over the next two and four years. If she failed to make the grade that the city council wanted in a city manager, it was pointed out, she would yet be able to remain in the assistant city manager post, which she was already deemed qualified for.

Vagnozzi responded that she had no illusions about having already burned her bridges with

Elliott, and that she could not risk her future on the whim of three new council members she did not know. Indicating that her appointment by the outgoing council was guaranteed, she said she was going to accept the appointment as city manager.

At the November 26 meeting, 21 members of the public, 18 of them Upland residents in addition to three current or former La Verne public officials, weighed in on the wisdom of hiring Vagnozzi as city manager.

Upland residents Ralph Cavallo, Terri Donaldson, Hyde Hall, Carolyn Anderson and Linda Biscardi, who is also Vagnozzi's cousin, spoke highly of her, giving glowing testimonial descriptions of her talents, and endorsed her hiring.

In addition, Jon Blickenstaff, a former mayor in La Verne, said he had known Vagnozzi for 30 years. He remarked that La Verne had made efforts to persuade her from leaving her position there to begin working in Upland in 2015. "It's my observation that all of Jeannette's work in both La Verne and Upland has been characterized by excellence, and she is the epitome of competence, dedication, civic experience, creativity, interpersonal skills and passion," Blickenstaff said, adding that a wider search for another city manager candidate would be unlikely to unearth anyone who would surpass her.

Don Kendrick, the then-current mayor of La Verne, lauded Vagnozzi as "an amazing leader" and "a great facilitator" with "great vision and the ability to see things as they need to be done and those people to get them done. She is a great facilitator of people."

Bob Russi, La Verne's city manager, said that while Vagnozzi worked for him, "She served La Verne very well. I will happily take her back if she is no longer wanted by the City of Upland. La Verne would love to have her come back and work for us."

Others were less confident that Upland was making the best choice in hiring Vagnozzi. Most were less critical of her than they were uncertain about her suitability for

the role being offered her. Most wanted the city to do a side-by-side comparison of her with other potential city managers.

Sharon Harden, a records clerk in the Upland Police Department who spoke on behalf of the Upland City Employees Association, which represented roughly half of the city's employees, and Vera Heilman, a code enforcement officer with the city, called upon the council to hold off on hiring Vagnozzi and carry out a nationwide recruitment of qualified candidates before hiring a city manager.

Larry Kinley, who was at that time Upland's treasurer, said, "The new city council should be given their own opportunity to select their own city manager. If they decide another city manager would be needed and they select another city manager, then we are going to be paying twice. We are going to be paying for Vagnozzi's compensation for one or two years, whatever her contract is, plus the salary and benefits for a new city manager. So, we would be up to half of a million dollars, probably, for that position."

Marla White, a 13-year resident of Upland, said, "It is clear the candidate that is being presented here tonight has high qualifications, but it seems it should be the new city council that should vote on such a critical matter. What is the rush to put in a permanent city manager until these people [the new council] have had a chance to get their feet wet?"

Steve Carvalho asked "What is the rush to appoint a new city manager? The recent election showed that the people of this city are paying attention. The residents want change of leadership. No financial or employment decisions should be made by the outgoing city council. The new city council should vet and hire the new city manager. A prudent employer has an interview process and a probationary period before committing to permanent employment. This protects the employer and the employee."

Barbara McJoynt said that she was concerned that city staff was violating the proper protocol by "adding an agenda item without full and pri-

or knowledge of the full council." Her reference in that regard was to the consideration that Elliott had not been informed about the proposal ahead of time.

"I am asking you to postpone action on this item, as I have serious concerns about this process," McJoynt said. "You have chosen to deviate from the norm with this move. I'm not in a position to render judgment about this individual, but as to the process, it is flawed."

David Wade said that rushing to hire Vagnozzi carried with it the risk of costing the city "hundreds of thousands of dollars. If it doesn't work out, like the six city managers we've had in as many years didn't work out, she's walking away with a huge bonus. That's what this appears to me to be. A huge bonus for no value added. I believe we should have a hiring process. I don't see any exigent circumstance whatsoever to do this tonight. I don't think you need to do anything tonight. I don't think you need to add to our exposure by giving a large bonus to somebody without proper vetting and the opportunity for other applicants to have a chance to fill this position."

Diane Fedele said, "The current council continues to spend without apparent regard for the impact it has." She said the council had made "more and more poor choices, ones you have not investigated nor researched thoroughly. You and previous city councils have been convinced to approve seven city managers in 13 years. For one reason and another, they have all left, and we the residents have paid their severance packages and are continuing to pay them their benefits and their California Public Employee Retirement System pensions to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Now there's an item tonight on the agenda to hire another. I don't know Jeannette. I don't know if she's good at her job. I hear she is. My concern isn't centered around that. My concern is: Why are you in such a big hurry to hire her, to promote her? In two weeks, the newly elected council members will be sworn in. Why then, do you feel it is your responsibility to hire

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Supervisor Dawn Rowe last year sold her longtime family home in Yucca Valley and purchased this house in Redlands.

**Rowe Purchased Her New Home In The Aftermath Of The Passage Of A Citizen Initiative That Reduced The Supervisors' Total Annual Compensation From \$260,000 To \$60,000** *from front page*

level. Frustrated, she approached Chad Mayes, then Yucca Valley's mayor, who took her at her word that she wanted to make changes and appointed her to the Yucca Valley Planning Commission. Thereafter Rowe ran successfully for the town council. In that capacity, she met Paul Cook, then an Assemblyman who had previously been Yucca Valley Mayor. Cook in 2012 successfully ran for Congress, and she went to work for him as his field representative. She left the town council in 2014, but in 2018, applied, along with 48 others, to serve out the final two years of James Ramos's term as Third District San Bernardino County supervisor following his election to the California Assembly that November.

Ultimately, Rowe was selected to the supervisor's post. She thereafter installed into key positions on her supervisory staff members of Congressman Cook's office with whom she had worked while on his Congressional staff.

Two of those included Matt Knox as her chief of staff, and Dillon Lesovsky, as her policy advisor.

Knox and Lesovsky

were ruthless political operatives, with extensive work experience on Cook's campaigns, who both understood the pay-to-play ethos in the nation's capital, by which defense contractors and other manufacturers and major government vendors trade contributions to politicians' electioneering funds for legislative action benefiting them. Two years later, when Rowe had to seek election in the 2020 race, Cook himself had decided to join her on the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors and he forsook his position in Congress to run for First District supervisor. With Knox, Lesovsky and two staffers that had remained in Cook's office when Rowe and Knox had departed in 2018, Tim Itnyre and Dakota Higgins, there was a collective involvement involved in the 2020 Third District and First District supervisory races.

That effort was joined by Bill Postmus, himself once a First District supervisor turned county assessor whose political career came to an end after he was indicted and convicted of 14 felony political cor-

ruption charges. Picking up on the way that Rowe and Cook were importing the large-scale selling of political influence that takes place in Washington, D.C. to San Bernardino County, Postmus, who had created his own independent political money laundering entity, a Wyoming corporation called Mountain States Consulting Group, brought himself into association with both Rowe and Cook. By doing so, Postmus calculated, he could ensure that when the time came Rowe and Cook would smile upon his clients, who were seeking to obtain no-bid county contracts and go-ahead on development projects oftentimes involving low interest or no interest government loans that needed approval from the board of supervisors.

In general, Postmus continued to prove himself as being adept at obtaining county cooperation in advancing the business undertakings of his clients, who were simultaneously complying with his instructions for them to make substantial political donations or kickbacks which he laundered to the elected officials voting to allow those projects to proceed.

Approved by the county's voters in the 2020 election cycle was Measure K, which reduced the supervisors' total an-

nual compensation from \$264,150.94, consisting of a \$166,235.67 salary, pay add-ons and perquisites of \$17,653.95 and \$80,261.32 in benefits to a substantially lower total annual compensation of \$60,000, consisting of \$50,000 in salary and \$10,000 in benefits, while limiting supervisors to a single four-year term. Measure K passed with 66.84 percent – a supermajority of more than two-thirds – in the November 2022 election.

While that the county was seeking a determination through the courts of whether Measure K could be set aside on legal grounds, the prospect that the supervisors would see a dramatic reduction in their pay going forward hung over the county and, in particular, the board members. At that point, on January 12, 2021, Rowe, who had not remarried following Alan Rowe's death and was the sole earner in her household, purchased a custom built, two-story, five bedroom with two master bedrooms, five bath 4,437 square foot home with a formal entry, living room, exercise room, two family rooms, maid's quarters, laundry, library, office, kitchen with a walk-in pantry, a master suite and a retreat on 1.61 acres in eastern Redlands.

As it was a private sale, no note of Rowe's acquisition of the mansion was

immediately made. In May, 2021, however, word leaked out, after which a round of speculation and conjecture followed. Rowe in multiple votes and actions as supervisor had joined with her board colleagues in assisting Postmus's clients in achieving goals that involved county governmental approval. In the Summer of 2021, the *Sentinel* initiated inquiries with Rowe relating to her purchase of the home, including reports that Postmus had assisted her, through the application of money provided by his clients, in purchasing the home. Rowe, made an initial, tentative and incomplete response to those inquiries, saying she would be willing to answer the questions about why she had left Yucca Valley, how she was able to afford the new home on a single salary that was being reduced to roughly \$50,000 per year, persistent reports that her pay as supervisor was being augmented by money provided to her by individuals and entities with business before the board of supervisors and what her relationship with Postmus was. When the *Sentinel* made follow-up efforts to conduct the interview Rowe said she was amenable to engaging in, she consistently, for the next five months, refused to take the calls or return them, and her staff formed

itself into a type of praetorian guard that made it impossible to approach her.

Last month, a crescendo of suggestions that Postmus was purchasing influence from three of the county supervisors – First District Supervisor Cook, Rowe and Fourth District Supervisor Curt Hagman – grew to an almost deafening dimension.

The *Sentinel* reinitiated the effort to reach Rowe, at which point she made a return call to the *Sentinel* on March 28.

Rowe spoke freely with regard to her purchase of the home and her interaction with Postmus until the conversation was cut short by her need to engage in a conference call. Subsequently, through an email exchange, Rowe allowed her statements with regard to her purchase of the home and quotes relating thereto to stand, but she requested that statements relating to the other issues the *Sentinel* had obtained from her during the interview not appear in the article as quotations.

The timing of the home's purchase, Rowe said, was driven by the consideration that there was no longer a need, practical or emotional, for her to remain in the Yucca Valley home she had lived in for nearly two decades. "My kids moved off to college, so I sold the home

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## Without Thouvenell To Bully The City's Employee's Into Line, Vagnozzi Did Not Have The Strength To Prevent City Hall From Descending Into Chaos *from page 4*

someone for them? The voters in the three districts made themselves pretty clear when they voted to have all of you replaced. They wanted their choices to speak for them. They wanted them to be an independent voice. They wanted them to do their research and investigation."

Steven Bierbaum said the item to hire Vagnozzi was put on the agenda only after it had become clear that Timm and Filippi would not be reelected, "with no forewarning whatsoever, no application or interview process, and most importantly, no communication with at least one of the current sitting members of this council, who, with respect, will be the only city council member seated here at the next meeting. The city council and senior city staff failed to notify or discuss the proposed hiring of a new city manager with all sitting city council members and city employee groups of their intended actions." Bierbaum decried the springing of the hiring announcement on the evening before the onset of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Brinda Sarathy said, "I believe that appointing Ms. Vagnozzi in this way, by an outgoing city council, casts a cloud over the hire, does a disservice to Ms. Vagnozzi's reputation, and furthers public distrust, which was clearly evident in the outcome of our recent election. An appointment in this manner might also lead to an atmosphere of toxicity within City Hall, if people feel that process was not followed. I also think the incoming city council should exercise caution and wisdom, so that they can give due time to see how competent Ms. Vagnozzi is and decide how to move forward, also in good faith."

Irmalinda Osuna called for "forming a selection committee, establishing a set of criteria in terms of the mission, vision, goals and objectives for the city, advertising the position opening, evaluating the candidates' statements of qualifications, documenting the candidates'

strengths and weaknesses and conducting interviews for a final evaluation" before filling the city manager's position.

April McCormick was the most critical voice with regard to Vagnozzi, stating that "In her role of city clerk she has been unable to answer a public records request. She's not working for the citizens. She's working against them at every single turn. To not submit this process to a bid, advertise it normally, take applications, interview people is a travesty of justice, democracy and everything else in this city that you just stepped on during your tenure here."

Councilman-elect Ricky Felix asked the council to defer the hiring decision with regard to Vagnozzi to those who would be on the council in the weeks, months and years ahead.

"I have nothing against her," Felix said. "She has always been very kind with me, very respectful toward me, but I do feel it would be a disservice to Upland if we didn't postpone this vote until after December 10, where we could actually do more, the new council can do research to make sure she is the best person for the job. As of right now, she's shown she is qualified, obviously. We've seen her qualifications. She's done a great job, but I feel we need to do our due diligence to make sure we have the best person on here."

Councilwoman Carol Timm, who was not at the meeting, sent from North Carolina, where she was still celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday with her parents, a letter to the city in which she said she endorsed Vagnozzi's hiring. It was read into the record.

Councilman Sid Robinson suggested that the incoming council would not be up to the task of properly selecting a new city manager, and that it was therefore incumbent upon the current council to do so for them. He said recruiting and evaluating city manager candidates was "a very long and tire-

some process," one which had already been carried out. "Let me assure you, it's an awful lot to ask a new council with at least two and maybe three new members who have never served in any municipal capacity to take this on, especially when the work has already been done," Robinson said. "It's a matter of providing them with the type of stability in office I believe they will need. She brings decades of experience as a city administrator along with a wealth of knowledge about how to run a city."

Robinson called selecting and hiring Vagnozzi "a gift to the next council. She's proven her worth and value and I don't think Upland can afford to lose her."

Councilman Gino Filippi said, "Some of the choices with city managers have been wrong. Upland needs a responsible and experienced person in that seat. In my view, Jeannette will continue to serve with dedication. She is very proficient. There is far more going on in this city than most people might be aware, and she knows what to do here. The new council will understand that, but it will take time, and if they're not satisfied with that, they can cut her loose."

Mayor Debbie Stone, obliquely referenced Thouvenell's previous recommendation against hiring Vagnozzi, which she indicated the council had blindly followed. "I'll be the first one to admit we missed the boat the first time around," Stone said. "Jeannette has done so much for this city. We are overlooking the fact that we have experience, we have knowledge, we have a person who cares about the City of Upland, we have the qualifications, we have compassion and we have a person who is dedicated to this city."

Like Robinson, Stone suggested the incoming council would not have the skill and sophistication to make the right hiring decision, so it was up to the current council to do so.

"This has nothing to do with disrespect to the new council, but they need her leadership," Stone said. "There is hardly anyone left here to lead here and that's what they need."

Janice Elliott said, "My

concern is not about the city manager but the timing and also the selection process." She said the city could keep Vagnozzi on as the acting city manager and that the selection should "take time. Haste makes waste." She said the hiring would be a "dis-service. Some cities have lame duck ordinances that wisely prevent irresponsible actions like these. The request to appoint the new city manager is irresponsible, since three of you will not have any accountability after tonight's action. This action is irresponsible because it ties the hands of the new city council for more than 90 days to make the most important decision that city councils have to make to affect the daily operations of our city. This action is fiscally irresponsible because it will cost us at least \$150,000 extra to terminate this contract once ratified if the new city council chooses to do so. Waiting until after the new city council is sworn in reduces significantly this risk."

Before voting on approving the contract, Elliott sought to amend it so that the restriction on firing Vagnozzi during the first 90 days after the new council was sworn in would be removed and that the element of the contract which conferred upon Vagnozzi six months' salary and benefits as a severance in the event she were terminated be changed so that if she were to be terminated during the first four months of her tenure under the contract, she would only be due a severance equal to one month's pay for each month she had served in the city manager's role. That motion died for lack of a second and the contract providing Vagnozzi with a \$205,368 salary, roughly \$66,000 more per year than the \$139,244.85 she had made as deputy city manager and some \$58,000 more per year than she was making as assistant city manager, along with \$28,200 in other pay and add-ons, \$66,000 in benefits and a \$68,599.21 contribution toward her retirement fund for a total annual compensation of \$368,167.21 was approved 3-to-1, with Elliott dissenting.

Thouvenell's management consulting contract with the city, which had

been initiated on January 2, 2018 with Manis's ascendancy to the city manager's position, ran until December 31, 2018. But with Manis's departure as city manager, the growing citizen discontent that manifested with the defeat of Filippi and Timm and the general course of events, he decided that the time for him to make his exit had come. He resigned his management consultancy in November, before Vagnozzi was hired as city manager. Vagnozzi thus took on the full-fledged city manager role utterly alone, without the support network of an assistant to the city manager, deputy city manager or assistant city manager, administrative services director or risk manager, roles she herself had filled previously. From the outset, she was overwhelmed in the city manager assignment, indeed overmatched, and unequal to the task.

Over the previous two years, as the 2014 recovery from the economic downturn of 2007 had sustained itself into a fourth and fifth year, the city's employees' bargaining units began to stir, floating increasingly bolder proposals as they sought substantial salary increases in collective bargaining exchanges with city leaders. Nevertheless, they had been held somewhat in check by the autocratic Thouvenell. With his resignation, however, it was as if city employees had been freed from their collective straitjacket. Enlivened, they began to push even harder. Moreover, it was not lost on the union leadership that Vagnozzi, having carried out assignments as deputy city manager and assistant city manager in keeping with Thouvenell's unpopular policies, was decidedly out of favor with a small but quite vocal and active group of citizen activists. Further, Vagnozzi's show of distrust and what was interpreted as a lack of respect for four of the council members under whom she thereafter served when she accepted the promotion to city manager weakened her. Reading the strong sentiment against Vagnozzi, the union leadership intensified efforts to achieve a new contract by personalized attacks upon her, believing their continuing pressure

would pay dividends. Before the calendar had run through December, the union members took to wearing pins emblazoned with "11," symbolic of the number of years they claimed to have worked since having last had a renewed contract or cost of living adjustment. The pins became a constant reminder of the tension at City Hall. The union leadership and its members were unrelenting, figuring that Vagnozzi sooner rather than later would cave and simply provide them with the raises in the five to six percent range they were demanding. If Vagnozzi held the line on that issue, then they were ready to escalate, sensing her firing would result if the council came to understand she did not have control of the troops she oversaw. Vagnozzi's departure would ultimately be in the employees' interest, the union leaders were convinced, since her replacement would come to the bargaining table knowing that his or her predecessor had lost her job, at least in some measure, because of not being able to keep peace with the city's employees.

Vagnozzi was already on the outs with Elliott. The two newcomers, Felix and Zuniga, didn't quite know what to make of the situation. Zuniga expected Vagnozzi to get a handle on things. When she did not, sensing that the situation was a reflection on the entire city as well as on him as one of its elected leaders, he became convinced that Vagnozzi was miscast in the role of city manager.

Sensing the discontent on the council and in the community toward Vagnozzi and smelling blood in the water, both the Upland City Employees Association and the Upland Police Officers Association in the second week of January 2019 cast overwhelming votes of no confidence in her.

On January 16, 2019, the city council settled on appointing Planning Commissioner Bill Velto to fill the empty at-large council position that was vacated so Elliott could serve as Second District Councilwoman.

Soon thereafter, City Hall was in chaos and

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## Police Union Endorsing Two Valdivia Allies' Electoral Efforts from front page

hint at or expose a level of dishonesty beyond that which even the jaded electorate in San Bernardino County has come to accept. According to three of his former staff members - Don Smith, Mirna Cisneros and Jackie Aboud - Valdivia has accepted cash payments from entities such as franchise holders, project applicants or those seeking city contracts, while simultaneously pressuring city staff to deny municipal services to those who do not support him.

Cisneros, Aboud and another former employee in the mayoral office, Karen Cervantes, along with Arts and Historical Preservation Commissioner Alyssa Payne maintain that Valdivia made unwanted sexual overtures to them.

Seven applicants for cannabis operation licenses in the city have stated that Valdivia took money from them in exchange for commitments, some of which he lived up to and some which he did not, that they would be provided with permits to operate

within the city.

Documentation has surfaced to indicate that in exchange for money provided to him by an applicant to renovate the city's downtown mall property, Valdivia acted to eliminate that company's main competitor for the contract.

All seven members of the city council in December voted to censure the mayor based upon a finding that he had utilized city funds to engage in travel and overnight stays at hotels and indulge himself and others in lavish meals both inside and outside California while he was engaged in activities unrelated to his mayoral duties.

According to one member of the police union, elements of both the rank and file in the department and the union leadership recognize that the police officers association cannot endorse Valdivia because of the widespread negative publicity about his behavior. Nevertheless, the officer said, the union collectively and its leadership believe that Valdivia will better serve both the police department and its officers than any of the six candidates running against him in this year's race because of his vul-

nerability to a potential criminal inquiry or investigation. For that reason, the officer said, Valdivia can be relied upon to support the union in its efforts to secure raises and benefit enhancements in the future.

The union member added that Valdivia is not likely to need the union's endorsement to remain in office, given his substantial fundraising advantage over the six other candidates, whose combined campaign funds are well under the more than \$380,000 the officer said Valdivia now has in his campaign war chest.

Valdivia, who holds no voting power as mayor other than being empowered to break a tie and to veto votes of 4-to-3 or 3-to-2, needs more support than the one vote from Third Ward Councilman Juan Figueroa that he can now count on, the police officer said. For that reason, the *Sentinel* was told, the union has endorsed Terry Elliott over incumbent Sandra Ibarra in the Second Ward and Teresa Parra Craig over incumbent Fred Shorett in the Fourth Ward.

Moreover, the union, which endorsed Ibarra in 2018, has what its members say is another moti-

vation to oppose Ibarra. In the aftermath of the June 2020 protests in San Bernardino that were sparked by the Minneapolis, Minnesota Police Department's killing of George Floyd, Ibarra was critical of the San Bernardino Police Department's response, saying it was not aggressive enough in protecting property and businesses that were under siege by protesters-turned-rioters-and-looters. She suggested that the department had too many upper management positions and too few uniformed officers on the streets. She said residents and business owners in the Second Ward had complained to her about "a lack of response out there." She questioned whether the sergeants, lieutenants and captains in the department were "helping the people who work and live in the city."

In response, the San Bernardino Police Officers Association in an open letter blasted Ibarra, saying she had "blatantly attacked the integrity of the men and women of the San Bernardino Police Department," asserting "Ms. Ibarra's claim that the San Bernardino Police Department was ineffective is... false."

Questions have been raised, however, about the police union's support of Elliott, whose residency status in the Second Ward has been challenged. A number of people have said that he is actually a resident of the Seventh Ward, and had changed his registration to an apartment he may or may not actually occupy in the Second Ward just prior to the filing deadline for candidacy.

Ibarra, upon whom Valdivia relied for support in the first six to eight months that she was in office following her 2018 election, parted ways with Valdivia by the fall of 2019. With only a few exceptions since that time, she has voted with First Ward Councilman Ted Sanchez, Shorett, Fifth Ward Councilman Ben Reynoso, Sixth Ward Councilwoman Kimberly Calvin and Seventh Ward Councilman Damon Alexander in opposition to the positions that Valdivia has taken on issues of substance or controversy.

The union is supporting Craig over Shorett in the Fourth Ward because Shorett has been, since even before Valdivia was mayor and was serving in the capacity of Third Ward Councilman from 2012

until 2018, Valdivia's most implacable opponent.

The union is backing Ted Sanchez in his run for reelection in the First Ward against Gil Botello, whom he beat in 2018. The police officer who spoke with the *Sentinel* said that while it is accurate that Sanchez has been out of step with Valdivia on a significant number of issues for nearly three years, he has been a steady supporter of the police department and its officers. On matters relating to the department, the officer said, Sanchez can be relied upon to side with Valdivia and others who hold the police department in high regard. Further, it was said, it is not beyond reason that Sanchez might make a reappraisal of his currently testy relationship with Valdivia after the election.

The *Sentinel's* effort to speak with Jon Plummer, the president of the San Bernardino Police Officers Association about the union's endorsements and its potential knowledge about Elliott's actual residency was unsuccessful.

The *Sentinel* is informed that Chris Jones, Valdivia's political consultant, is working to promote the candidacies of Botello, Elliott and Craig.

-Mark Gutglueck

## Judge Determined County & Upland Mugged San Antonio Heights By Forcing It Against Its Will Into A Fire Services Assessment District from page 3

whether to allow or disallow the assessment district expansion. If 50 percent plus one or more had voted in opposition, the district expansion would have been considered rejected. Less than three percent of the unincorporated county landowners returned letters of protest.

The county's action sparked outrage among a number of county residents and taxpayer advocates who were paying attention to what was going on. They raised objections and, in some cases, took legal or procedural steps to try to block the action. In no case, however, did a large enough bloc of the residents respond within the one-month protest period to prevent the assessment imposition from proceeding, with a singular exception. In well-heeled San Antonio Heights,

which is home to a well-educated and sophisticated populace and at 2.62 square miles small enough for activists to coordinate a concerted effort, more than 90 percent of the landowners/registered voters returned letters of protest to the annexation into FP-5. Nevertheless, county officials, having lumped San Antonio Heights into Upland in carrying out the annexation, did not recognize San Antonio Heights as a jurisdiction independent of Upland, and they concluded that the roughly 3 percent protest registration from the entirety of Upland and San Antonio Heights did not meet the threshold to force either an actual vote or prevent the annexation from occurring. Even before that happened, a group of politically astute San Antonio Heights residents, rec-

ognizing the county was determined to effectuate the Fire Protection Zone District 5 assessment district irrespective of citizen sentiment, formed the San Antonio Heights Homeowners Association and retained attorney Cory Briggs to file suit against the city, the county and the San Bernardino County Local Formation Commission in an effort to block the annexation. Briggs filed the suit before the July 12, 2017 deadline for the reception of protests of the annexation, pairing with it a petition for a temporary restraining order to prevent the implementation of the shuttering of the Upland Fire Department and the imposition of the special tax while the lawsuit was being litigated. At a hearing held on July 10, 2017, Judge David Cohn denied the request for the restraining order, and thereafter the city, county and the county fire department proceeded full bore with the takeover, and by August 1, 2017, the city

began implementing the changeover from the City of Upland's fire department to the county fire district, including imposing the assessments on Upland's and San Antonio Heights' residents.

Similar resistance efforts in Twentynine Palms, Needles and San Bernardino were initiated when the county fire department takeovers of their local fire departments were effectuated, but they were not as well coordinated as the one carried out by the San Antonio Heights Homeowners Association.

With the 2018 blanket annexation of the county's remaining unincorporated county areas into the FP-5 Assessment District, however, a core group of determined residents, many of them affiliated with the government reform nonprofit known as the Red Brennan Group, raised objections. Faced with the daunting task of informing at least 25 percent of the unincorporated county areas' residents of what was

happening, orienting them to the implication and then coordinating the en masse submission of protest letters within the one-month period specified by the county, those in opposition to the annexation that took place in October 2018 were unable to get organized in time to prevent the county's expansion of Fire Protection Zone 5. Still, the leadership of the Red Brennan Group, which had been formed and named after the late government efficiency and anti-tax advocate Kiernan "Red" Brennan, considered the protest process a backhanded method of securing support for Fire Protection Zone District 5's expansion. The Red Brennan Group resolved to qualify a ballot measure in which a referendum on the FP-5 fire tax would be subject to an actual vote.

In the meantime, in February 2019, Judge David Cohn rendered a decision that the inclusion of San Antonio Heights into the fire service zone

at the same time that Upland was annexed into the FP-5 was an overreach of the county's, the city's and the San Bernardino County Local Agency Formation Commission's authority. Cohn's decision left the 2017 dissolution of the Upland Municipal Fire Department and the accompanying assumption of fire suppression, fire prevention and emergency medical service duties in Upland by the county fire department in place, but declared the annual property assessment, which by that point had grown to \$148.68 per parcel, as impermissible under the law. The county was put in the position of having to refund to all of the property owners in Upland and San Antonio Heights the assessments that had been collected there and having to discontinue the collection of those assessments, such that for what was then the past 16 months and going forward for an undetermined amount of time the

*Continued on Page 15*

## Vagnozzi Was Discriminated Against Because She Was A Woman And Because She Was A Catholic, Her Attorney Says *from page 6*

Vagnozzi was a basket case.

By late February, Vagnozzi, the most powerful personage at City Hall, the top staff member to whom all city employees were, or theoretically were, answerable, was purposefully avoiding many of those employees, winding her way, in some cases, in an indirect route as she walked through City Hall so she would not have to come face to face with or have eye contact or any other interaction with certain employees.

Still, Vagnozzi's tenure as city manager continued, her continuing status intact and held in place by means of delicate political threads. The once-perceived displacement of the ruling coalition of which Mayor Stone had been an intrinsic part when the other three members – Timm, Robinson and Filippi – left the council, remarkably, had not been fully effectuated. Councilman Felix had not joined with Elliott and Zuniga to create a new ruling dynamic on the council. After Elliott in January, in an effort toward bridge-building and compromise, provided a crucial third vote to go along with installing Planning Commissioner Bill Velto, who was Felix and Stone's choice, to fill the gap on the council, Velto gravitated toward an alliance with Stone and Felix. The third vote Elliott and Zuniga theoretically needed to actually terminate Vagnozzi was not in place. That did not prevent Elliott and Zuniga from requesting and obtaining permission to discuss in closed session the quality of Vagnozzi's service.

At a specially called meeting on March 4, 2019 the council had a closed-door meeting for the purpose of a "public employee performance evaluation" relating to the city manager. Likewise, at a specially called meeting on March 17 the council had a closed meeting for the purpose of

a "public employee performance evaluation" relating to the city manager. Given that Vagnozzi's contract specified that her termination could not come until 90 days after a city council member had been sworn into office, the council could not have voted at either of those junctures to fire the city manager, given that Velto had taken his place on the council on January 28. The council scheduled yet another specially called meeting on April 29, the first point at which point Vagnozzi could be terminated under the terms of her contract, for yet another closed-door meeting for the purpose of a "public employee performance evaluation" relating to the city manager. Given the limitations of the description of what was to be discussed, the council at that point had not given itself the option of firing her. There was no action reported to the public after the April 29 meeting, meaning Vagnozzi was yet in place. There was no sign that either Velto or Felix was willing to join with Elliott and Zuniga in handing the city manager a pink slip.

At that point, however, Vagnozzi appears to have made a crucial error in judgment. Panicked or otherwise unnerved at the constant evaluations and their import, she retained the Woodland Hills-based law firm of Goldberg and Gage. Focusing on those recurrent evaluations, Goldberg sought to fire a shot across the city council's bow to convince its members that the city would run the risk of a wrongful termination suit if it did in fact let Vagnozzi go. Goldberg's methodology for doing so entailed a litany of errors which ultimately had the precisely exact opposite effect than what was intended.

Through his firm, Goldberg & Gage, Goldberg filed with the State of California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing a discrimination complaint on Vagnozzi's behalf on May 2. That complaint dated the city's action against Vagnozzi had taken place "on or about April 29, 2019." In a rapid turnaround, the State of California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing on the same day returned to Vagnozzi,

in care of the Goldberg & Gage firm, a document known as a notice of case closure and right to sue. That letter stated that because Vagnozzi, through Goldberg, had requested an immediate right to sue, the State of California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing would not itself pursue an investigation of the alleged discrimination but rather had cleared Vagnozzi to pursue a lawsuit against the city in a California court of competent jurisdiction on her own. The letter stated that Vagnozzi had one year from the May 2 date to file such a civil action. It further stated that if Vagnozzi intended to pursue a case against the city for discrimination in federal court, she must seek a federal right to sue letter within 30 days of receiving the May 2 letter or within 300 days of the alleged discriminatory act, whichever is earlier.

On May 6, Goldberg's assistant, Christina Lara, sent Upland City Clerk Keri Johnson a letter from Goldberg informing Johnson and the City of Upland that Vagnozzi had obtained a right to sue letter from the State of California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing. Upon receiving the letter, Johnson made general distribution of it, which included members of the city council. The upshot of Goldberg's communication – that Vagnozzi was contemplating suing the city – was startling in and of itself. Exacerbating the situation, the complaint to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing was included as an attachment to Goldberg's letter. In the complaint Goldberg stated that Vagnozzi had "suffered discrimination, retaliation, and harassment based on her protected characteristics/activities." Those characteristics consisted of, Goldberg stated, her "religious creed, dress and grooming practices, sex/gender, medical condition (cancer or genetic characteristic), age (40 and over), marital status," and other issues associated with her being a "member of a protected class."

Furthermore, the letter stated that Vagnozzi "was terminated, asked impermissible non-job-related questions" and "denied a

work environment free of discrimination and/or retaliation."

Based on the tortured language in the complaint, word spread throughout the city that the unmarried Vagnozzi was gay and suffering from cancer, and had been fired. In short order those reports were picked up and were being circulated by a cross section of Upland residents who had been at odds with her and City Hall for more than two years over the fire department shuttering, fire service assessments and parkland sell-offs.

Of crucial import to Vagnozzi was the impact of all of this upon the three members of the city council who until that point had not been sold on the wisdom of dispensing with her services – Stone, Felix and Velto. All three were rocked by the recognition that the city manager was on the verge of suing the city. Troubling as well was the consideration that her lawyer had moved to the conclusion, before the fact, that Vagnozzi had been fired.

Of the greatest significance was the inference that Felix drew from the tangle of circumstance. A devout and practicing member of the Upland congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with three young and impressionable daughters and whose public persona in Upland had been shot through with references to his religiosity, Felix was overwhelmed by the entire circumstance, unable to process Vagnozzi's attorney's accusation that he and his colleagues had engaged in a show of prejudice against the city manager, particularly given that he had no previous inkling about her sexual orientation one way or the other. He knew, as well, that Vagnozzi had not been fired. Her lawyer's assertion that she had been terminated, together with the threat of litigation, made it seem to him as if Vagnozzi was setting the city up for something it did not deserve. Seriously taken aback, he went along by the close of the business day on May 8, with Elliott, Zuniga and Velto in scheduling for the May 13 regular council meeting a closed session discussion that was to include a "per-

formance evaluation and consideration of public employee dismissal" relating to the city manager.

Somewhat belatedly, Vagnozzi appeared to recognize that events were moving beyond her span of control. In response to the *Sentinel's* inquiry on Thursday, May 9, she offered a terse and guarded statement, acknowledging that she had retained legal counsel, but downplaying the resultant legal threat to the city. "I have a right to representation, and I have retained a lawyer to make sure I am represented," she said.

She then moved to dispel the widespread misimpressions and misinterpretations engendered by the language Goldberg had used in his letter to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

The inference that some drew to the effect that she was claiming she was being ostracized because of her sexual orientation, her manner of dress or the church she attends, she said, "is incorrect information. Perhaps he [Goldberg] confused me with another client. I am not homosexual and do not actively have any sign of cancer though I do receive treatment from an oncologist. I attend a Catholic church. I have not been terminated at this time but have had numerous closed session 'evaluations.'"

She said she had only recently retained Goldberg and said there might have been some "miscommunication."

Whatever damage control her statements to the *Sentinel* represented along with any other efforts she might have made to ameliorate the members of the city council were insufficient to stave off the shelacking she took when the council met in the early evening of Monday, May 13, 2019.

Despite the best efforts of Mayor Stone, who in November was one of the key votes to install Vagnozzi as city manager at least through December 31, 2021, to convince Velto and Felix to stay the course with Vagnozzi, upon coming out of the meeting's closed session, City Attorney Jim Markman reported the council voted 4-1 to dismiss Vagnozzi, officially as of June

13, just one month shy of the four-year anniversary of her July 2015 hiring by Upland. Vagnozzi would not be permitted to remain at City Hall for the next month, however, and was placed on leave, as her departure from City Hall was considered to be immediate, in accordance with what is routinely done in such partings. She was locked out of her office at once, and her access codes to the city's information system were disabled.

It was as if Vagnozzi, who was riding the most attractive rising and falling steed on the merry-go-round, in reaching for the brass ring lost her grip on the pole and was propelled by the centrifugal force clear of the spinning ensemble to plunge face first onto the hard ground.

Acutely conscious of the issues raised in Vagnozzi's complaint to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the council elevated Public Works Director/City Engineer Rosemary Hoerning, a woman over the age of 40, to the post of interim city manager to take over from Vagnozzi.

In letting Vagnozzi go, the council conferred upon her a severance package in keeping with her contract, that being nine months of pay beyond her June 13 termination date. For the entirety of 2019, Upland paid Vagnozzi \$340,759.44, which included \$101,593.52 in salary through June 13, a \$179,470.03 lump sum which included her severance and add-ons for six months, \$26,856.09 in benefits and a \$32,839.80 contribution toward her retirement.

In the aftermath of Vagnozzi's departure from Upland, Bob Russi did not make good on his statement that he would rehire her in La Verne. After 2019, Vagnozzi began drawing the pension she is entitled to under the arrangement that both Upland and La Verne have with the California Public Employees Retirement System. She collected \$118,679.64 in 2020 and \$119,044.59 in 2021.

The right to sue letter that Goldberg had obtained from the Department of Fair Housing and Employment was dated *Continued on Page 14*

Public Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2201618

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: CHEN LIN, on behalf of minors EMMA ZHANG and ANNIE ZHANG filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
EMMA ZHANG to EMMA SHEN [and]

ANNIE ZHANG to ANNIE SHEN

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: April 18, 2022  
Time: 09:00 AM  
Department: S-17  
The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 02/14/2022  
John M. Pacheco  
Judge of the Superior Court.

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2202828

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: SAVANNAH STARNES filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SAVANNAH RENEE STARNES to ASPEN RENEE STARNES

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: April 14, 2022  
Time: 09:00 AM  
Department: S-17  
The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 03/01/2022  
John M. Pacheco  
Judge of the Superior Court.

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002009  
The following person is doing business as: INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM 14264 VALLEY BOULEVARD FONTANA, CA 92335: TRA-

Public Notices

CY J COFFMAN 3115 HEATHER DRIVE FULLERTON, CA 92835  
The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/07/2007

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ TRACY J COFFMAN  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 1, 2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220001529  
The following person is doing business as: GOLD STANDARD EVENTS 11100 4TH STREET G301 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730:

VISIONAIRE CONSULTING GROUP LLC 11100 4TH STREET G301 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Mailing Address: 11100 4TH STREET G301 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California 20201601125

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: February 13, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ JENNIFER JONES  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 02/18/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I8296

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002028  
The following person is doing business as: RP REAL ESTATE LLC 8280 ASPEN AVE., STE 175 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730:

RP REAL ESTATE LLC 1382 ELGIN WAY CORONA, CA 92879

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California 20220011463

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: February 7, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ RAINER PEDRAZ  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/07/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220001769  
The following person is doing

Public Notices

business as: TOO SWEET DESIGNS 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701:

ERIC LIU 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701 [and]

KIMBERLY M ROMERO 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701

The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: May 3, 2021

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ ERIC LIU  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/01/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002054  
The following person is doing business as: MOO MOO COWS 6870 ROVATO PLACE RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701:

BLUE WHALE LOGISTICS INC 1826 W MOSSBERG AVE WEST COVINA, CA 91790

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California as C4681738

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ YING GUAN  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/08/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

NOTICE OF HEARING  
DECEDENT'S ESTATE OR TRUST

MARK HARLAN JACKSON

Case Number: PROSB2101053  
Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 W. Third St., San Bernardino, CA 92415, Justice Center

IN THE MATTER OF: MARK HARLAN JACKSON

This notice is required by law. You are not required to appear in court, but you may attend the hearing and object or respond if you wish. If you do not respond or attend the hearing, the court may act on the filing without you.

1. NOTICE is given that: WILIAM V. LANDECENA has filed a PETITION TO ESTABLISH FACT, TIME, AND PLACE OF DEATH OF MARK HARLAN JACKSON

2. A HEARING on the matter described in 1 will be held as follows:

Hearing Date: 07/14/2022, Time: 9:00 A.M., Dept. S35.

NOTICE

If the filing described in 1 is a report of the status of a decedent's estate administration made under Probate Code Section 12200, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PETITION FOR AN ACCOUNTING

Public Notices

UNDER SECTION 10950 OF THE PROBATE CODE.

Requests for Accommodations

Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted real-time captioning, or sign language interpreter services are available if you ask at least five days before the hearing. Contact the clerk's office or go to www.courts.ca.gov/forms for Request for Accommodations by Persons With Disabilities and Response (form MC-410). (Civil Code section 54.8.)

J BENJAMIN SELTERS III (SBN 082786)

SELTERS & SELTERS ATTORNEYS AT LAW 399 W MISSION BLVD #K POMONA CA 91766

TELEPHONE NO.: (909) 622-2507  
FAX NO.: (909) 622-0545  
CN984774 JACKSON Mar 11,18,25, Apr 1, 2022

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2200161

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Carlos Eduardo Sarmiento filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Carlos Eduardo Sarmiento to Antonio Balcazar THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: 04/08/2022  
Time: 09:00 AM  
Department: 516

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 02/25/2022  
Judge of the Superior Court: John M. Pacheco

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/11/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022

AMENDED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: FBN20220000641

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: OUTSTANDING CONSULTING SERVICES, 8561 FOOTHILL BLVD SPC 106, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Mailing Address: TAMMO WILKENS, 8651 FOOTHILL BLVD SPC 106, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL

Signed: BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/TAMMO WILKENS  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 01/31/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: 01/02/2022  
County Clerk,

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

Public Notices

02/04/2022, 02/11/2022, 02/18/2022, 02/25/2022, 03/11/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LAURA DENISE LOCKETT aka LAURA D. LOCKETT aka LAURA LOCKETT  
Case No. PROSB2200363

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LAURA DENISE LOCKETT aka LAURA D. LOCKETT aka LAURA LOCKETT

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Christopher Michael Lockett in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Christopher Michael Lockett be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 18, 2022 at 9:00 AM in Dept. No. S35 located at 247 W. Third St., San Bernardino, CA 92415.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

The petition requests that the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S35 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on APRIL 21, 2022 at 09:00 AM

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections

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with the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in Dept. No. S-35 at 9:00 a.m. on APRIL 14, 2022 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: MICHAEL C. MADDUX, ESQ. 1894 COMMERCENT-ER WEST, SUITE 108 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350 Fax No: (909) 890-0106 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 18, 25 & April 1, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF GERALDINE HATCH, CASE NO. PROSB 2200301

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of GERALDINE HATCH, and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by ANITA R. HANSON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that ANITA R. HANSON be appointed personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests that the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S35 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on APRIL 21, 2022 at 09:00 AM

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections

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with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: HOWARD R. HAWKINS SBN 100875 LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD R. HAWKINS 2146 BONITA AVENUE LA VERNE, CA 91750 Telephone: (909) 593-1388 Fax: (909) 392-4554 law.hrh@verizon.net

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 18, 25 & April 1, 2022.

FBN20220002121  
The following person is doing business as: FOUR SEASONS GETAWAY 451 VICTORIA LN SUGARLOAF, CA 92386

OXANA L TEPPONE 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399

[and]  
DION A CUEVAS 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399

Mailing Address: 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399

The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JANUARY 17, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ OXANA L TEPPONE  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/08/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I5199

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/18, 3/25, 4/1 & 4/8, 2022.

AMENDED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO-FBN20210012330

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: SKYLINK INFOSYS, MBA BIZ SOLUTIONS, 15091 KITFOX LN, VICTORVILLE, CA 92394 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Mailing Address: 15091 KITFOX LN, VICTORVILLE, CA, 92394, MBA BAGGA ENTERPRISES LLC

Business is Conducted By: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Signed: BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/RAGHBIR BAGGA  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 12/15/2021

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

**Public Notices**

12/24/2021, 12/31/2021, 1/7/2022, 1/14/2022, 02/11/2022, 02/18/2022, 02/25/2022, 03/04/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DANIEL G. CISNEROS, JR., CASE NO. PROSB 2200376**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of DANIEL G. CISNEROS, JR., and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by DELIA HERNANDEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that DELIA HERNANDEZ be appointed personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S36 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT - PROBATE DIVISION 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on MAY 3, 2022 at 09:00 AM Filed: MARCH 16, 2022 Aspen Jackson, Deputy Court Clerk's Office San Bernardino County Superior Court

**IF YOU OBJECT** to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

**IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR** or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

**YOU MAY EXAMINE** the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: HOWARD R. HAWKINS SBN 100875 LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD R. HAWKINS 2146 BONITA AVENUE LA VERNE, CA 91750 Telephone: (909) 593-1388 Fax: (909) 392-4554 law.hrh@verizon.net

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 25, April 1 & April 8, 2022.

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2205209**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: JIEYING YU filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JIEYING YU to EILEEN JIEYING YU

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must ap-

**Public Notices**

appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: May 2, 2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S-17

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415,

San Bernardino District-Civil Division

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 03/21/2022 John M. Pacheco Judge of the Superior Court.

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/25, 4/1, 6/8 & 4/15, 2022.

FBN20220002407 The following person is doing business as: MOUNTAIN SURF COMPANY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315:

THOMAS BRADLEY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

[and] JENNA BRADLEY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 120821 BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MARCH 1, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/THOMAS BRADLEY Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/15/2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/25, 4/01, 4/08 & 4/15, 2022.

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIVSB2200319**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: DIRKE LAINE EDMOND filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

DIRKE LAINE EDMOND to DIRKE DURRETT LAINE EDMOND **THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: April 18, 2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S-17 The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 01/26/2022 Judge of the Superior Court:

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JOHN M PACHECO Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE CASE NO. PROPS 2100493**

In the Superior Court of the State of California, for the County of San Bernardino: In the matter of the Estate of Elton A. Rayburn SR., aka ELTON RAYBURN aka ELTON ANTHONY RAYBURN aka ANTHONY RAYBURN, SR., Decedent

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at Private Sale, to the highest and best bidder, subject to confirmation of said Superior Court, on or after the 25th day of April, 2022, at 9:00 am in the office of the San Bernardino County Superior Court Department S35, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, California, 92415-0212, all of the right, title and interest of said decedent at the time of his death, in and all the certain real property, situated in the City of San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, State of California, particularly described as Assessor's Parcel No.0146-152-15. More commonly known as 1572 Belle Street, San Bernardino, California, 92404.

Term of sale are cash in lawful money of the United States on confirmation of sale, or part cash and balance upon such terms and conditions as are acceptable to the personal representative. Ten percent of amount bid to be deposited with bid. Bids or offers to be in writing and will be received at the office of the attorney for the personal representatives at any time after first publication hereof and before date of sale.

Dated: March 16, 2022 Angela Dietrich Personal Representatives of the Estate

RICHARD G. ANDERSON, ESQ. ANDERSON & LEBLANC, A.P.L.C.

1365 West Foothill Boulevard, Suite 2 Upland, CA 91786

(909) 949-2226 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2201618**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: CHEN LIN, on behalf of minors EMMA ZHANG and ANNIE ZHANG filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

EMMA ZHANG to EMMA SHEN [and]

ANNIE ZHANG to ANNIE SHEN

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: April 18, 2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S-17

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 02/14/2022 John M. Pacheco Judge of the Superior Court. Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

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**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2202828**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: SAVANNAH STARNES filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

SAVANNAH RENEE STARNES to ASPEN RENEE STARNES

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: April 14, 2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S-17 The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 03/01/2022 John M. Pacheco Judge of the Superior Court. Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002009

The following person is doing business as: INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM 14264 VALLEY BOULEVARD FONTANA, CA 92335: TRACY J COFFMAN 3115 HEATHER DRIVE FULLERTON, CA 92835

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/07/2007

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/TRACY J COFFMAN Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 1, 2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220001529

The following person is doing business as: GOLD STANDARD EVENTS 1100 4TH STREET G301 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: VISIONAIRE CONSULTING GROUP LLC 1100 4TH STREET G301 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California 20201601125

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: February 13, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to

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be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ JENNIFER JONES Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 02/18/2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I8296

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002028

The following person is doing business as: RP REAL ESTATE LLC 8280 ASPEN AVE., STE 175 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: RP REAL ESTATE LLC 1382 ELGIN WAY CORONA, CA 92879

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California 202200111463

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: February 7, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/RAINER PEDRAZ Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/07/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220001769

The following person is doing business as: TOO SWEET DESIGNS 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701:

ERIC LIU 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701 [and]

KIMBERLY M ROMERO 7154 DAYBREAK PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701

The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: May 3, 2021

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ERIC LIU Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/01/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

FBN20220002054

The following person is doing business as: MOO MOO COWS 6870 ROVATO PLACE RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701:

BLUE WHALE LOGISTICS INC 1826 W MOSSBERG AVE WEST COVINA, CA 91790

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California as C4681738

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A

By signing, I declare that all infor-

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mation in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

S/ YING GUAN Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/08/2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy I1327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 & 4/1, 2022.

**NOTICE OF HEARING DECEDENT'S ESTATE OR TRUST MARK HARLAN JACKSON**

Case Number: PROSB2101053 Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 W. Third St., San Bernardino, CA 92415, Justice Center

**IN THE MATTER OF: MARK HARLAN JACKSON**

This notice is required by law. You are not required to appear in court, but you may attend the hearing and object or respond if you wish. If you do not respond or attend the hearing, the court may act on the filing without you.

1. NOTICE is given that: WILLIAM V. LANDECENA has filed a PETITION TO ESTABLISH FACT, TIME, AND PLACE OF DEATH OF MARK HARLAN JACKSON

2. A HEARING on the matter described in 1 will be held as follows:

Hearing Date Date: 07/14/2022, Time: 9:00 A.M., Dept. S35.

**NOTICE** If the filing described in 1 is a report of the status of a decedent's estate administration made under Probate Code Section 12200, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PETITION FOR AN ACCOUNTING UNDER SECTION 10950 OF THE PROBATE CODE.

Requests for Accommodations

Assistive listening systems, computer-assisted real-time captioning, or sign language interpreter services are available if you ask at least five days before the hearing. Contact the clerk's office or go to www.courts.ca.gov/forms for Request for Accommodations by Persons With Disabilities and Response (form MC-410). (Civil Code section 54.8.)

J BENJAMIN SELTERS III (SBN 082786) SELTERS & SELTERS ATTORNEYS AT LAW 399 W MISSION BLVD #K POMONA CA 91766 TELEPHONE NO.: (909) 622-2507

FAX NO.: (909) 622-0545 CN984774 JACKSON Mar 11, 18, 25, Apr 1, 2022

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2200161**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: Carlos Eduardo Sarmiento filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Carlos Eduardo Sarmiento to Antonio Balcasar THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 04/08/2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: 516

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

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Date: 04/08/2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: 516 The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 02/25/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: John M. Pacheco

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/11/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022

**AMENDED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO-FBN20220000641**

The following person(s) (is/are) doing business as: OUTSTANDING CONSULTING SERVICES, 8561 FOOTHILL BLVD SPC 106, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Mailing Address: TAMMO WILKENS, 8651 FOOTHILL BLVD SPC 106, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL

Signed: BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/TAMMO WILKENS

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 01/31/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: 01/02/2022 County Clerk,

**NOTICE-** This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

02/04/2022, 02/11/2022, 02/18/2022, 02/25/2022, 03/11/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LAURA DENISE LOCKETT aka LAURA D. LOCKETT aka LAURA LOCKETT**

Case No. PROSB2200363

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LAURA DENISE LOCKETT aka

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or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:  
JAMES L LEESTMA ESQ  
SBN 207311  
LAW OFFICE OF  
JAMES LAMBERT LEESTMA

7301 TOPANGA CYNBL  
STE 202  
CANOGA PARK CA 91303  
CN985396 LOCKETT Mar 18,  
25, Apr 1, 2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WANDA PAT SAWYER CASE NO. PROB2200341 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of WANDA PAT SAWYER A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ALEXANDER EDWARD PANATTONI in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ALEXANDER EDWARD PANATTONI be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in Dept. No. S-35 at 9:00 a.m. on APRIL 14, 2022 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: HOWARD R. HAWKINS SBN 100875 LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD R. HAWKINS 2146 BONITA AVENUE LA VERNE, CA 91750 Telephone: (909) 593-1388 Fax: (909) 392-4554 law.hrh@verizon.net  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 18, 25 & April 1, 2022.

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1894 COMMERCENTER WEST, SUITE 108 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350 Fax No: (909) 890-0106 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 18, 25 & April 1, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF GERALDINE HATCH, CASE NO. PROB2200301

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of GERALDINE HATCH, and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by ANITA R. HANSON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that ANITA R. HANSON be appointed personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests that the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S35 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT - PROBATE DIVISION 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on APRIL 21, 2022 at 09:00 AM

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: HOWARD R. HAWKINS SBN 100875 LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD R. HAWKINS 2146 BONITA AVENUE LA VERNE, CA 91750 Telephone: (909) 593-1388 Fax: (909) 392-4554 law.hrh@verizon.net

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 18, 25 & April 1, 2022.

FBN FBN20220002121 The following person is doing business as: FOUR SEASONS GETAWAY 451 VICTORIA LN SUGARLOAF, CA 92386 OXANA L TEPPONE 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399 [and] DION A CUEVAS 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399 Mailing Address: 40100 PINE BENCH RD OAK GLEN, CA 92399 The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JANUARY 17, 2022 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code

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179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ OXANA L TEPPONE Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/08/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By: Deputy 15199 Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/18, 3/25, 4/1 & 4/8, 2022.

AMENDED FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO-FBN20210012330

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: SKYLINK INFOSYS, MBA BIZ SOLUTIONS, 15091 KITFOX LN, VICTORVILLE, CA 92394 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Mailing Address: 15091 KITFOX LN, VICTORVILLE, CA 92394, MBA BAGGA ENTERPRISES LLC

Business is Conducted By: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Signed: BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/RAGHBIR BAGGA

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 12/15/2021

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: N/A County Clerk,

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

1/24/2021, 12/31/2021, 1/7/2022, 1/14/2022, 02/11/2022, 02/18/2022, 02/25/2022, 03/04/2022, 03/18/2022, 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DANIEL G. CISNEROS, JR., CASE NO. PROB2200376

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of DANIEL G. CISNEROS, JR., and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by DELIA HERNANDEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that DELIA HERNANDEZ be appointed personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S36 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT - PROBATE DIVISION 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on MAY 3, 2022 at 09:00 AM

Filed: MARCH 16, 2022 Aspen Jackson, Deputy Court Clerk's Office

San Bernardino County Superior Court

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by

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your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: HOWARD R. HAWKINS SBN 100875 LAW OFFICES OF HOWARD R. HAWKINS 2146 BONITA AVENUE LA VERNE, CA 91750 Telephone: (909) 593-1388 Fax: (909) 392-4554 law.hrh@verizon.net

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on March 25, April 1 & April 8, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2205209

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: JIEYING YU filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JIEYING YU to EILEEN JIEYING YU

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: May 2, 2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S-17

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Civil Division

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 03/21/2022 John M. Pacheco Judge of the Superior Court.

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/25, 4/1, 6/8 & 4/15, 2022.

FBN20220002407 The following person is doing business as: MOUNTAIN SURF COMPANY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

THOMAS BRADLEY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315 [and] JENNA BRADLEY 39031 WATERVIEW DR BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 120821 BIG BEAR LAKE, CA 92315

The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MARCH 1, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ THOMAS BRADLEY Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 03/15/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By: Deputy 11327

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it

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was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 3/25, 4/01, 4/08 & 4/15, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIVSB2200319

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: DIRKE LAINE EDMOND filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DIRKE LAINE EDMOND to DIRKE DURRETT LAINE EDMOND THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 06/21/2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S17

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino San Bernardino District-Civil Division 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 01/26/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE CASE NO. PROPS 2100493

In the Superior Court of the State of California, for the County of San Bernardino: In the matter of the Estate of Elton A. Rayburn SR., aka ELTON RAYBURN aka ELTON ANTHONY RAYBURN aka ANTHONY RAYBURN, SR., Decedent

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at Private Sale, to the highest and best bidder, subject to confirmation of said Superior Court, on or after the 25th day of April, 2022, at 9:00 am in the office of the San Bernardino County Superior Court Department S35, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, California, 92415-0212, all of the right, title and interest of said decedent at the time of his death, in and all the certain real property, situated in the City of San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, State of California, particularly described as Assessor's Parcel No.0146-152-15.

More commonly known as 1572 Belle Street, San Bernardino, California, 92404.

Term of sale are cash in lawful money of the United States on confirmation of sale, or part cash and balance upon such terms and conditions as are acceptable to the personal representative. Ten percent of amount bid to be deposited with bid. Bids or offers to be in writing and will be received at the office of the attorney for the personal representatives at any time after first publication hereof and before date of sale.

Dated: March 16, 2022 Angela Dietrich Personal Representatives of the Estate

RICHARD G. ANDERSON, ESQ. ANDERSON & LEBLANC, A.P.L.C.

1365 West Foothill Boulevard, Suite 2 Upland, CA 91786 (909) 949-2226

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO-FBN20220002761

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The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LEVEL UP REALTY GROUP, 10390 COMMERCE CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 250, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Mailing Address: JORGE J BARAJAS 10390 COMMERCE CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 250, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL Signed: BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/JORGE A BARAJAS, OWNER/REALTOR This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 03/30/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: 03/16/2022 County Clerk,

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CIVSB2204630

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Anthony Keao Alani filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Anthony Keao Alani to Aizek Xyniir THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 05/02/2022 Time: 09:00 AM Department: S16

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino San Bernardino District-Civil Division 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 03/17/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: John M. Pacheco

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 4/1/2022, 4/8/2022, 4/15/2022, 4/22/2022

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Numero del Caso): 20STCV49727

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): RODRIGO FRANCISCO MANUEL

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): MACK GOLDSBURY and JANET GOLDSBURY

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the

name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):

Los Angeles Superior Court 111 N. Hill Street Los Angeles 90012

The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

J. Derek Pakiz, Esq. (SBN 140605) THE REEVES LAW GROUP 200 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 600

Santa Ana, CA 92701 800-644-8000 877-491-7860

Date: December 30, 2020 Sherri R. Carter, Clerk By: /s/ R. CLIFTON, Deputy

Published in the San Bernardino Sentinel on 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)

To: RODRIGO FRANCISCO MANUEL Plaintiff: MACK GOLDS-

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court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know any attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papales legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formalo legal correcto si desea que procesan su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que la quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):

Los Angeles Superior Court 111 N. Hill Street Los Angeles 90012

The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

J. Derek Pakiz, Esq. (SBN 140605) THE REEVES LAW GROUP 200 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 600

Santa Ana, CA 92701 800-644-8000 877-491-7860

Date: December 30, 2020 Sherri R. Carter, Clerk By: /s/ R. CLIFTON, Deputy

Published in the San Bernardino Sentinel on 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)

To: RODRIGO FRANCISCO MANUEL Plaintiff: MACK GOLDS-



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KCHIS KITCHEN, 1316 N LASSEN AVE ONTARIO, CA 91764311 W CIVIC CENTER DR STE B SANTA ANA, CA 92701 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO KRISTIAN ROMERO 1316 N LASSEN AVE ONTARIO, CA 91764. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ KRISTIAN ROMERO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 17, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 03/25/2022, 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202201HR

FBN 20220002478 The following person is doing business as: LUXE PLAY WORLD 10163 CARRISSA AVE HESPERIA, CA 92345 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; [ MAILING ADDRESS 311 W CIVIC CENTER DR SANTA ANA, CA 92701 ] LUIS F MONTOYA DELGADO 10163 CARRISSA AVE HESPERIA, CA 92345 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MAR 01, 2022 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ LUIS FERNANDO MONTOYA DELGADO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 17, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202201SB

FBN 20220002471 The following person is doing business as: KOCHIS KITCHEN 1316 N LASSEN AVE ONTARIO, CA 91764 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO [ MAILING ADDRESS 311 W CIVIC CENTER DR SANTA ANA, CA 92701 ] KRITIAN ROMERO 1316 N LASSEN AVE ONTARIO, CA 91764 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ KRISTIAN ROMERO OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 17, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202202SB

FBN 20220002521 The following person is doing business as: LONGSTREET LANE RESIDENTIAL CARE 7398 LONGSTREET LANE FONTANA, CA 92336 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; GIFTED HEALTH INC 7398 LONGSTREET LN FONTANA, CA 92336 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ TAMEKA DYCE-WATSON, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 11, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this

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state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202203MT

FBN 20220002663 The following person is doing business as: WOW WHOLESAL 1435 N WATERMAN AVE STE D SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; DANI MHANA 1434 N WATERMAN AVE STE D SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ DANI MHANA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 25, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202204MT

FBN 20220002475 The following person is doing business as: AUTO GLASS PROS 287 W EASTON ST RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; JUAN G BACA CAMORLINGA 287 W EASTON ST RIALTO, CA 92376 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ JUAN G. BACA CAMORLINGA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 17, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202205MT

FBN 20220002748 The following person is doing business as: B & A PAINTING 1015 DEBORAH ST UPLAND, CA 91784 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; EUN S AN 1015 DEBORAH ST UPLAND, CA 91784; VINCENT T LEE 1015 DEBORAH ST UPLAND, CA 91784 The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: NOV 29, 2005 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ EUN S. AN, GENERAL PARTNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 29, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202206MT

FBN 20220001886 The following person is doing business as: ALL PRO CONSTRUCTION SERVICES 657 W 34TH ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; MIKEL J GUSTAFSON 657 W 34TH ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: FEB 22, 2022 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MIKEL J GUSTAFSON, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 03, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires

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pires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202207MT

FBN 20220002601 The following person is doing business as: OLIVAR READY MIX 11153 SPRUCE AVE BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; T.B.C. TRANSPORT, INC. 11153 SPRUCE AVE BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ CELIO OLIVAR, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 24, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202208IR

FBN 20220002598 The following person is doing business as: PALACIOS BARBERSHOP & BEAUTY SALON 15191 7TH ST. #10 VICTORVILLE, CA 92395 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; MARIAN DEL ROSARIO P MENENDEZ 15191 7TH ST. #10 VICTORVILLE, CA 92395 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MIRIAN DEL ROSARIO PALACIOS MENENDEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 24, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202209SD

FBN 2022000256 The following person is doing business as: BACKYARD AUDIO & TINT 127 W. OLIVE ST. SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; MAILING ADDRESS 1136 W. KING ST. SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410; MOISES MEJIA 1136 W. KING ST. SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MOISES MEJIA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 22, 2022 Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202210IR

FBN 20220002527 The following person is doing business as: DATASKIP 222 N. MOUNTAIN AVE. #109B ONTARIO, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; MAILING ADDRESS 12150 CASPER CT RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739; MSM PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT 12150 CASPER CT RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

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s/ MICHAEL MARTINEZ, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 22, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202211UR

FBN 20220002472 The following person is doing business as: ALL AROUND AUTO GLASS 5509 B ST CHINO, CA 91710 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO; JESUS A DIAZ 5509 B ST CHINO, CA 91710 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

Consistent Votes In Favor Of Her Donors Have Nothing To Do With The Money They Give Her, Rowe Says from page 5

where I raised them,” she said. “I still have property in Yucca Valley I hope to build a house on, which has now been complicated by the Joshua tree protections imposed by the state.”

Redlands is a preferable place of residence for her in terms of her function as a member of the board of supervisors, she said.

“As Third District supervisor, my territory is nearly 10,000 square miles,” she said. “From where I live now it is 15 minutes into the office in San Bernardino, and I am able to reach all areas of my district in a more timely manner. By no means am I abandoning the Morongo Basin or my district at all.”

Insinuations that she has improperly enriched herself through abusing her position of trust as a supervisor to obtain the financial means to purchase her present home have no basis, she said.

“Regarding my ability to afford my home, my late husband was in the Marine Corps and we moved often,” she said. “We purchased homes wherever we were stationed, and we kept them knowing there was a likelihood that we would one day be stationed in those places again and would live in them upon our return. They were rental properties in the meantime, which supplemented our income. At the time my husband was killed in Iraq, I had three homes in areas like Fallbrook and just outside of Washington, D.C. that had appreciated quite a bit. The capi-

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s/ JESUS A. DIAZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 17, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202212IR

FBN 20220001955 The following person is doing business as: KIDS FUN CUTS 9359 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE F RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; SUSIE ROMERO 9359 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE F RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAXIMO H ROMERO 9359 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE F RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP

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The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ SUSIE ROMERO, GENERAL PARTNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 07, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202213IR

FBN 20220001912 The following person is doing business as: BEAUTIPRO 14911 MERRILL AVE FONTANA, CA 92335 COUNTY

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OF SAN BERNARDINO; KENRY T ALVAREZ 14911 MERRILL AVE FONTANA, CA 92335; ENRIQUE VACARIVEROS 14911 MERRILL AVE FONTANA, CA 92335 The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: AUG 17, 2016 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ KENDRY T. ALVAREZ, WIFE Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 04, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/01/2022, 04/08/2022, 04/15/2022, 04/22/2022 CNB-B13202214IR

Supervisor, Rowe maintained that she is not a politician. She claimed she often did not know who many of those she is dealing with in the political realm are, including other elected officials and politicians, donors, business owners and operators, and movers and shakers in general. She claimed at least some of the entanglements she has fallen into were an outgrowth of her naivete. In explaining her nonchalance and ease in voting on matters impacting her donors and those who are investing in her political career, she maintained she did not make connections that others plainly see. She said she did not know how she was supposed to keep track of who her donors are, who her donors’ affiliates are, who their partners are or who their silent partners are.

Rowe tacitly acknowledged that in her fundraising efforts she had far outdistanced her opponents. She at least partially attributed that to her essentially pro-development philosophy, and she pointed out that she was a strong believer in private property rights and that she had one opponent who did not share that approach and believed that government has or should have the ability to control what landowners can do with their property. She was not able to cite a donor against whose interest she had voted, but she said there was no correlation between any of her campaign donors and any vote she had ever cast. She said she evaluated all issues that come before her on a case by case basis. Money was not a motive in her public decisions, she said, and there was nothing she had done in office that she had horrible regrets about. She said she harbored no bad feeling or pangs of conscience about any vote she had made.

The *Sentinel* is honoring Rowe’s request that it not quote her statements with regard to other related issues surrounding the home purchase and the rumors and reports it spawned. Rowe acknowledged attending a fundraiser Postmus hosted for her, Cook and Hagman held at the Tartan of Redlands last year and meeting him in passing at another fundraising event. She said she did not have a relationship with him otherwise, either politically or personally.

The *Sentinel* sought to suss out from Rowe how it was that through her votes on the board of supervisors she had entangled herself in a pattern of consistently supporting Postmus’s clients and others who have provided her with campaign funding. In specific regard to her vote to approve a project undertaken by one of Postmus’s clients, Eagle 55, a company in which Postmus is also a minority partner, she said she knew little of the project and that based on a county staff report she had voted to approve it, which entailed Eagle 55 being the recipient of a \$5.5 million low-interest government loan.

She did not dispute voting right down the line in lockstep with Cook and Hagman in supporting development projects in general and in particular ones by proponents who had donated in common to the electioneering funds of all three of them, with some of those donors being Postmus’s clients. As an elected official who has won both of the elections she has competed in and successfully vied against 47 others to obtain the appointment in 2018 as Third District

## Upland Failed To Accommodate Vagnozzi's High Blood Pressure & Paid Her In One Lump Sum, Her Attorney Asserts *from page 8*

May 2, 2019 and informed Vagnozzi that civil action against the City of Upland “must be filed within one year of the date of this letter.”

As of May 2, 2020, Vagnozzi had not initiated a lawsuit against Upland.

Subsequently, however, Goldberg's partner, Bradley Gage, submitted another complaint with the Department of Fair Housing and Employment on Vagnozzi's behalf in which he reiterated all that had been alleged in the complaint filed on Vagnozzi's behalf by Goldberg in 2019 while Vagnozzi was yet employed. In that complaint, the city's action against Vagnozzi was dated as having had taken place “on or about June 20, 2020,” which was one year and a week after Vagnozzi officially left the employ of the city. The Department of Fair Housing and Employment responded with a right to sue letter dated August 3, 2020. That letter directed Vagnozzi to initiate a lawsuit against the City of Upland within one year of the date of the letter.

On August 4, 2021, Gage, in conjunction with Goldberg and another member of their firm, Milad Sadr, sued Upland on Vagnozzi's behalf, alleging discrimination, harassment retaliation and failure to accommodate and failure to take corrective action.

According to Gage, who signed the suit, Vagnozzi was discriminated against and fired “because of her sex, age, medical condition, and in retaliation for protected activities.”

The suit states that Vagnozzi was subjected “to a variety of other adverse employment actions, including but not limited to [being] circumvented or entirely cut out of the flow of information or communications intrinsic to her essential job duties, enhanced scrutiny, exclusion from meetings, negative performance reviews reduction in authority, administrative leave, and

termination.”

As a woman over 40 with a medical condition, Vagnozzi was entitled to special accommodations, according to the suit. “Defendants were aware of these facts, and fired her when [she was] out on [a] medical condition. Before being fired, plaintiff helped to eliminate a hostile work environment, including those created by the chief of police and by a city councilwoman, who worked as a volunteer.”

The suit identifies Elliott as having “created a hostile work environment. Janice Elliott as councilwoman then retaliated against Vagnozzi, wrongfully firing her. The police chief made comments about Vagnozzi's sex and medical condition calling her ‘the fatest (sic) vegetarian (sic) I have ever seen.’ The chief referred to plaintiff as “vegie (sic) fat” in reference to her gender and medical condition. Other comments made to Vagnozzi from another council member made references to [the] plaintiff being single and not having any children. He made comments about her salary as single woman and that she should not have been given a raise. Vagnozzi also was associated with another woman over 40, Luz Barrett, and with the prior chief, Goodman, who was over 40. Managerial level employees of defendants treated Vagnozzi differently because of her age, sex, medical condition, marital status, religion and association with other protected characteristics.”

Among the causes of action delineated in the lawsuit is that the city conferred Vagnozzi's severance upon her in one lump sum, such that she incurred an “increased tax liability by having recovery paid all at one time, rather than over a period of time.”

The suit is marred, in some cases, by a lack of clarity, and in others by factual inaccuracies. References are made to a councilman, but the text does not spell out whether that is Velto, Zuniga or Felix. At one point, a councilman is referenced by the initials, RF, apparently meaning Felix. The suit cites Vagnozzi's medical condition and the city's failure to accommodate

it, but does not specify the medical condition nor what accommodation could be made for it. In referencing age discrimination, which the suit intimates is a factor when an employee has eclipsed the age of 40, it mentions Police Chief Darren Goodman. While Goodman is over 40, he has not lodged any accusations of being discriminated against on the basis of his age. In referencing a “police chief” at one point, the suit's narrative does not reveal which police chief this pertains to, either Goodman or his predecessor Douglas Millmore or his predecessor Brian Johnson. The suit, filed in August 2021, refers to Goodman as the former police chief. At that time, as he is now, Goodman is the current police chief, though this week it was announced he will be leaving the city for a position as chief in San Bernardino in May.

There are further problematic elements of the suit. While it cites a hostile work environment, it states or implies that it was Vagnozzi who was the victim of that atmosphere. City employees, however, have laid the responsibility for the hostile work environment at Vagnozzi's feet. Employees relate that on multiple occasions, Vagnozzi, upon being informed of difficulties, challenges or complications, would grow irate and loudly profane. On January 22, 2019, a little more than a week after the Upland City Employees Association registered its no confidence vote in Vagnozzi, Steve Dukett, Upland's development services manager, confronted Rami Asad, the former president of the Upland City Employees Association who worked within the city's information technology division, and made clear that in the divide between management and labor, he came down on the side of management. Dukett's line of authority as the city's contract development services manager did not extend to supervision of Asad. Dukett offered his prediction that the union's tactics would not succeed, saying that they could count on having to invest in union pins with the number 12. The exchange grew heated, and according to wit-

nesses and a video of the incident caught on the cell phone of a city employee, Dukett tapped Asad several times on the chest with his index finger as he expressed his views. City employees claimed that Vagnozzi failed to rein in Dukett, and had herself failed to reduce or eliminate hostility in the workplace.

There are further examples, city employees said, of Vagnozzi engaging in activity she is alleging against the city. While her lawsuit asserts she was cut off from communications and information she needed to do her job, employees say Vagnozzi lacked communication skills, which resulted in miscommunications of the sort such as with her own lawyer, Goldberg, which resulted in mischaracterizations being put into the complaint on her behalf lodged with the California Department of Fair Housing and Employment, which upon being made public mushroomed into the circumstance that led to her termination. This is not the city's fault, they say, but rather an outgrowth of Vagnozzi's overreaction and a failure on the part of her attorneys to fully understand the circumstance before they began their advocacy on her behalf.

Gage identified high blood pressure as the medical condition that Vagnozzi was dealing with. He did not confirm a report that Vagnozzi was also in cancer remission.

Asked what accommodations should have been made for her, Gage said, “Well they certainly should not have subjected her to a hostile work environment and then fired her.”

He identified Felix as the councilman who had made comments regarding Vagnozzi being unmarried and that a single woman should not have been provided with a salary increase.

Gage dismissed any suggestions that the circumstance of Vagnozzi's hiring, in which she actively participated in accepting the city manager's posting two weeks before two new council members were installed and less than two months before a third councilman was selected, played a part in her eventual termination.

“The city needed a city manager,” Gage said. “The city had to keep running through the transition period to the new council coming on. Her selection was done in a fair, proper and legal manner.”

The fact that Vagnozzi's hiring had been effectuated on the votes and recommendations of three council members who left the council shortly thereafter “had no bearing at all on the validity of her hiring. If they had a valid contract in place, they had to at that point honor the contract they entered into.”

Failing to abide by Vagnozzi's contract after those who voted for the contract left the council would be no more excusable than if any city abrogated a contract after an election resulted in a change on its city council, Gage said. “There are elections all the time,” he said. “You don't cancel a contract just because someone different has been elected.”

By accepting her appointment, Gage said, Vagnozzi “had done nothing wrong.”

Asked how it was that the city had violated Vagnozzi's contract given that it had adhered to the contract's terms by paying out the severance specified in it when she was terminated, Gage said the lawsuit wasn't brought for failure to meet the city's contractual obligations but because she had been wrongfully terminated and because of discrimination, harassment and retaliation she had experienced and because the city had failed to make proper accommodation for her in her workplace and did not stem the unacceptable circumstances she was subjected to.

Gage did not accept any responsibility for the way in which his law firm drove both Velto and Felix out of the three-council member camp that was opposed to firing Vagnozzi into a 4-to-1 majority that cashiered her when it prematurely sent the complaint to the California Department of Fair Housing and Employment, which threw the gauntlet down by threatening the city with legal action and created an erroneous impression that Vagnozzi was alleging she was claiming to have been discriminated against because she was

an Islamic lesbian. Gage said that the language in the complaint asserting she was “harassed [and] discriminated against” because of her “creed... dress and grooming habits... sex/gender... marital status [and] association with a protected class” was misinterpreted. Her membership in or association with a protected class and the reference to sex/gender and marital status did not classify her as a lesbian, Gage said, but as an unmarried woman, he said. The reference to creed and dress did not translate into her being a Muslim either, he insisted. Without explaining why the reference to Vagnozzi's dress and grooming had been included, he said that she was a Catholic. He did not explain how that had been held against her, given that two of the members of the city council are Catholic.

Instead, he doubled down, suggesting the misimpression that had spread among the city residents to the effect that Vagnozzi was a lesbian Islamist could in some fashion be imputed to the city government. “There is nothing about sexual orientation in there [the complaint to the Department of Fair Housing and Employment],” Gage said. “Even if that was true, it would be illegal for them to go after her because she was gay or a Muslim. Her religion was a reason we cited. We did put down her sex, her gender and that she is unmarried. That they wanted to misinterpret that is a sign they are now trying to cover what they did up.”

Gage insisted that Vagnozzi had been subjected to a hostile work environment and he said what had occurred between Dukett and Asad was an irrelevancy.

“That is one of the most ridiculous defenses I have ever heard,” he said, asserting that as city manager Vagnozzi was not responsible for breaking up fights between her employees.

“The people responsible for protecting employees from physical attack are the police,” Gage said. “As a woman, she would not be able to stop two men that are younger and stronger than she is to control that. You can't expect the city manager to engage *Continued on Page 16*

## Well After Abatement Deadline, County Tolerating Accumulation Of Cargo Containers On Rural Property *from page 3*

ainers at those places in the Long Beach, San Pedro and greater Los Angeles area it had previously. One alternate spot Walmart found was an unheralded yard management company in Colton located at 101 E. Mission Street in east Colton located between the railroad tracks and the I-10 freeway near the Mt. Vernon off ramp that has served as a holding spot for trailers left at the Union Pacific Railroad's East Colton Rail Yard about three miles away. Ultimately, space constraint issues manifested at the Colton facility and late last year Earl Graham agreed to take the overflow of Walmart trailers from the Colton storage facility.

In doing so, he initiated a bootleg operation. By January, complaints were registering with both the Town of Apple Valley, which does not have jurisdiction over that county area, and the county.

Graham had no permit for the trailer storage operation. Originally, Graham did not apply for a conditional use permit or land use application. When nearby landowners approached the county to inquire about the Grahams' container storage operation, county officials said they were unaware of the activity on the property. At that point, local residents lodged a complaint with the county's code enforcement division. On January 13, the county issued a notice of violation for improper use of land and the Grahams were given until February 13, 2022 to remove the containers.

In early February, roughly 340 trailers were stacked on the property.

The importation of the storage containers did not cease, even after the complaint went to the county code enforcement division.

Graham did initiate an application for a zoning change on Assessor's Parcel Number 0438163240000 – the 23-acre property – with San Bernardino County's planning division within the land use services division for a proposed outdoor cargo/freight container storage yard, which is incongruent with any use within a wide radius of the property. Action on such an application requires processing and a public hearing. No public hearing has taken place and none is scheduled.

As February turned into March, the containers kept coming onto the Graham property. From beyond the property, it was observed that some of the trailers were being painted solid white, and it appeared that this was obscuring the Walmart logos.

In mid-March, according to nearby landowners, the flow of trailers onto the property ceased and five dump trucks came to the property for roughly three days early in the lull during which the arrival of trailers had stopped, picking up mounds of manure and heading north with them, ultimately headed to the Kemper Campbell Ranch in Victorville where those loads were deposited. After removal of the manure, for the next week or so, earth was brought in by double trailers and considerable grading was done on the half of the 23-acre parcel that did not have containers yet stacked on it. Though county regulations require a permit on any operations in which more than 100 yards of material is removed, there is no such record of any such permit having been issued.

The placement of the containers onto the property has resumed. In recent weeks, neither county

code enforcement, county land use services nor First District Supervisor Paul Cook, whose supervisory jurisdiction includes all of the Victor Valley, will address why Graham has been allowed to not only continue warehousing the trailers earlier brought onto his property, but increase their number. Cook's office staff at various times has blurred the distinction between a zone change and conditional use permit when discussing what is either lacking, called for or in the works with regard to the Grahams' property, while indicating that behind the scenes at the county an effort to "carve out" an exception to the land use limitations in the Deep Creek Road district is being sought to permit container storage to take place on the Grahams' property.

While it is difficult to get an exact count of the number of trailers on the Graham property, from a distance it appears that

well over 1,000 of them are there now. One report is that the total number of trailers there has eclipsed 2,000.

Some have suggested that Graham's political connections might explain the favorable treatment he is being allotted.

The Grahams have been, as a couple or by means of their businesses, active sponsors of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Rodeo Fundraiser in Devore for decades.

Al Vogler, a High Desert landowner, told the *Sentinel*, "In my opinion, the owner of the property must be involved in political protection and funding of some sort for the use of his property at the ire of his neighbors. Information that we have requested from the First District office is not forthcoming and emails that we have sent after first meeting with staff there are not being answered."

-Mark Gutglueck

## County Forced Citizens Group To Gather More Than Three Times The Actual Number Of Signatures Required To Qualify Anti-Tax Measure Onto The 2020 Ballot *from page 7*

county would be paying to provide fire protection for the entirety of Upland and San Antonio Heights.

This had, for the county, dire implications with regard to the FP-5 regime. The idea of layering the assessments on virtually every parcel on 95 percent of the land within the county had been to generate money to engage in fire department operations. By cutting a few corners and not holding an actual election before imposing that tax, the county had been caught out. County officials anticipated further efforts by county residents to rescind the Fire Protection Zone District 5 assessments outside of Silverlakes and Helendale. Indeed, the Red Brennan Group was charging ahead with just such an effort to qualify for the ballot an initiative in which just such a vote would take place, and by the summer of 2019 was up and ready to begin the drive to gather sufficient signatures to qualify that measure for the ballot.

In an attempt to derail the Red Brennan Group's effort, the county government's legal representa-

tives in the summer of 2019 imposed on the repeal petitioners a requirement that they obtain more than three times the number of signatures set by California's Constitution as the threshold requirement to force a vote on the matter. Just as the county had misapplied the law in undercutting the residents of Upland and San Antonio Heights in the summer of 2017, the county misapplied the California Government Code in the summer of 2019 when it told the Red Brennan Group that it would need to gather the signatures of ten percent of the 261,831 voters living in the county's unincorporated areas to qualify the ballot petition they were requesting, i.e., 26,184 signatures. In actuality, there was a signature gathering threshold that under the California Constitution should have been applied, one which would have required far fewer signatures. That threshold was ten percent of the voters who had participated in the most recent county-wide vote, that being the November 2018 election, when 546,041 voters throughout San Bernardi-

no County, including ones living within incorporated cities and towns as well as within the county's unincorporated areas, had gone to the polls or sent in mail ballots. Of those 546,041 voters casting votes in November 2018, 472,515 of them lived in the county's cities and incorporated towns. In the county's unincorporated communities, where Fire Protection Zone 5 was to be overlaid, 73,526 voters had taken part in the November 2018 election.

Thus, instead of the Red Brennan Group being told it needed to gather the valid signatures of 27,303 residents to qualify the measure, it should have been held to the standard of gathering 7,353 signatures. Ultimately, after a substantial degree of going back and forth between the Red Brennan Group's attorneys, San Bernardino County's office of county counsel and the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, county counsel in February 2020 acknowledged the analysis provided by the Red Brennan Groups' legal team was correct and 10 percent of the of the voters who fell within the confines of where the FP-5 District was applied who voted in the last gubernatorial election was the correct standard.

While the determina-

tion/admission by both county counsel and the registrar of voters' office that the number of signatures needed to qualify the measure for the ballot was far below the 27,303 figure quoted in August, that acknowledgment came too late to prevent the Red Brennan Group's expenditure of well beyond quadruple the funds and resources necessary to qualify the tax rescission measure for the November 2020 ballot. In April 2020, the county, reluctantly, conceded that the measure would have to go onto the November 2020 Ballot. It was designated Measure U and asked county voters if they wanted to repeal the enlargement of Fire Protection Zone District 5 and end its taxing authority. County officials, working outside the channels of government, created a committee which called itself the Good Government San Bernardino Committee. The Good Government San Bernardino Committee raised \$579,569.14 to conduct a campaign opposing Measure U, and expended \$582,409.85 doing so.

The thrust of that campaign was that Measure U would compromise public safety, particularly in the county's unincorporated areas. Ultimately, Measure U was defeated in the November 2020 election,

with 109,483 votes or 47.97 percent in favor of it, and 118,772 votes against it, or 52.03 percent.

The Red Brennan Group, believing the electorate's focus had been diverted from the issue of the way in which county officials had bypassed state constitutional requirements in imposing the tax, worked with five affiliated public issue advocates – Robert Cable, David Jarvi, Ruth Musser-Lopez, Charles Pruitt and Albert Vogler – and again collected sufficient signatures to place another measure seeking to free all of the county other than Helendale and Silverlakes from inclusion in Fire Protection District 5 and the imposition of its annual assessment, which at this point has grown to \$161.98 per parcel.

On October 26, 2021, Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group submitted the signed initiative petition to the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters. On December 14, 2021, the registrar of voters certified the number of signatures on the initiative petition as sufficient to qualify the initiative for the June 7, 2022 ballot. On January 11, 2022, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, being bound by the California Government Code, voted

to place the initiative on the ballot and to consolidate the election with the June 7, 2022 gubernatorial primary election.

Prior to doing that, however, the board of supervisors began casting about for a way in which the county could act procedurally or legally act to prevent the vote on the initiative from taking place. On February 8, 2022, the county board of supervisors, acting in its capacity as the governing board of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, had the Los Angeles-based Sutton Law Firm and three of its attorneys, Bradley Hertz, James Sutton and Nicholas Sanders, file a petition for a writ of mandate naming San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters Bob Page as a defendant and Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler as real parties in interest. The petition for the writ of mandate, filed with the San Bernardino County Superior Court, sought an injunction preventing the initiative from being placed on the ballot.

According to Hertz, Sutton and Sanders, in circulating the petition, Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group violated the "full text doctrine" principle contained in California law regarding *Continued on Page 16*

### Council Heeded Citizens Urging The City To Go To Trial With Vagnozzi from page 14

in vigilante justice. That is not the way city government works. When there is a physical issue between two employees, you call the police. Beyond that, you bring in human resources. All the city is doing is creating a bunch of untrue situations and excuses to get out from under the fact that they were not protecting my client from a hostile working environment. What is being said is not true in any event.

“A lawsuit like this is how you deal with discrimination against women,” Gage continued. “What they are doing is they are making things up. What they are doing is wrong and they are going to pay a lot of money for that.”

The council at Monday night’s meeting was

scheduled to discuss in closed session the lawsuit brought against the city by Vagnozzi.

There was some speculation around town that the council was going to settle the case.

Before the council adjourned into the closed session, Upland resident Lisa Nicely spoke. She referenced the Asad/Dukett situation. Nicely said that Asad “reported it [Dukett’s altercation with Asad] and no action was taken. So, he actually pulled the security footage to prove he was assaulted by a city contractor. Ms. Vagnozzi took no action. Months went by and, in fact, he no longer works for us. We probably lost a really good employee due to her mismanagement of City Hall. In my opinion, the only injustice that has occurred is the waste of taxpayer money on her salary. I really hope that you decide that the best way to handle this injus-

tice is to fight on behalf of our city and to not settle this lawsuit.”

Upland City Treasurer Greg Bradley followed Nicely.

“Previously, city finances were damaged by a group of people working for themselves and against the interest of the citizens,” Bradley said. “Look at how many people were hired or promoted into a position of higher pay, even when it was obvious that person was not suited for the position and would be fired quickly, how many CMs [city managers] that lasted just months. The lame duck city council of 2018 promoting Jeanette Vagnozzi to CM is an obvious example. Her employment contract designed by the lame duck and [then-City Attorney] James Markman was punishing to the new council and a ruse to get an employee made CM when she was in imminent danger of losing her existing position. It

was designed to extract money from the city and redirect it to an employee via pay, severance and CalPERS [California Public Employees’ Retirement System] pensions. It was dishonest at best, and should be illegal. Perhaps we should consider an ordinance limiting the ability of lame ducks to vote on important matters. The way the group forced Vagnozzi on a newly elected council pretty much guaranteed her to be fired. She participated in her own firing by taking a job she knew she would lose almost instantly. Upland has developed a reputation for being an easy target for lawsuits. We became a target for every frivolous lawsuit by opportunists. It is time to stop it. When you look at the cost of defending a frivolous lawsuit, it is frequently cheaper in the short run to pay a nuisance fee for the problem to go away. The problem is this encourages more frivolous

lawsuits. Let’s make them pay. We’re owed payment for damages by Vagnozzi, Markman, [subsequent City Attorney Steven] Flower and the lame duck council and their leaders. I would love to see a long witness list, including the members of the council, Markman, Flowers, and I’ll be happy to prepare a list of questions for them or even depose them myself. It will save us a lot of money once the parasites understand that we stand on what is right and fair and will tolerate no further damage.”

After its closed-door discussion, the council returned to the dais, at which point City Attorney Stephen Deitsch stated that the council had taken no reportable action, meaning, essentially, that the council had not consented to settling the suit brought by Vagnozzi.

Later in the meeting, the city council agreed to extend by \$434,000 its

contract with the law firm of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, which the city hired on a \$50,000 retainer on September 22, 2021 to represent it with regard to the suit brought by Vagnozzi. Acknowledged in a report accompanying the item was that “the current amount of the legal services has exceeded the original amount of fifty thousand dollars.”

The extension of the arrangement with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo was widely interpreted as an indication the city will defend itself in the face of Vagnozzi’s suit, all the way to trial.

Today, Gage told the *Sentinel* that the city need not go to trial.

“I am always willing to discuss a reasonable resolution to any lawsuit and am certainly willing to discuss a reasonable resolution in this case,” he said.

-Mark Gutglueck

### Court Of Appeal Orders Tax Rescission Initiative Be Printed On June Ballots from page 15

voter initiatives because they “failed to include the full text of their initiative, and included materially false and/or misleading information” in it. Moreover, according to Hertz, Sutton and Sanders, petition circulators working on behalf of Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group “intentionally misrepresented and/or intentionally made false statements concerning the contents, purport or effect of the initiative petition to persons who signed, desired to sign [or] were requested to sign.”

According to Hertz, Sutton and Sanders, the petition should have included a report dated August 1, 2006 from then-County Fire Chief/Fire Warden Pat Dennen that laid out the reasons and rationale along with the recommendation to adopt the 2006 resolution to create Fire Protection District 5 in Helendale and Silverlakes, and it should also have included a June 9, 2020 report by current San Bernardino County Fire Chief/Fire Warden Dan

Munsey, which “provided certain background information and made certain recommendations regarding the special tax for service zone FP-5.”

According to the petition for a writ of mandate, “In the absence of this court’s injunction, respondents will allow the legally invalid initiative to appear on the June 7, 2022 ballot, thereby causing petitioner and others to suffer irreparable harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law. Because the initiative is legally invalid, petitioner is entitled to a declaration stating this, so that respondents will not take any action that would enable the initiative to appear on the ballot.”

On March 29, 2022, Judge Cohn, while rejecting Hertz’s, Sutton’s and Sanders’ contention that the petition circulated to county voters violated the “full text doctrine” principle, yet made a finding that the Red Brennan Group’s claim that imposing the tax through a protest validation rather than a normal vote of the people to pay the tax was unlawful was inaccurate.

“[B]ased only on the information provided—again recognizing that other important information may be included in the missing page of the op-

position and in the missing declarations—the court’s tentative ruling is that the initiative contains false and misleading information,” Cohn wrote on March 29 in his tentative decision. “The initiative implies that the tax is unconstitutional and was improperly adopted. The court has already determined in a previous case that the annexation argument advanced as a ground for constitutional invalidity of the tax is incorrect. Therefore, the court’s tentative ruling is to grant the petition.”

Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group at that point, faced with Cohn’s ruling tentatively preventing the registrar of voters from placing the initiative on the June ballot and with the registrar of voters’ office’s deadline for finalizing the ballot contents little more than two weeks away, concluded that time constraints would practically prevent appealing Judge Cohn’s ruling. Nevertheless, C.C. Michel, Joseph Di Monda and Alexander Frank, the attorneys representing Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group, advocated that they lodge a request with the Fourth District Court of Appeal in Riverside for

a fast track decision, recognizing that the Court of Appeal might not grant it. Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group consented to seeking such a fast track appeal.

Appeals Court Justice Art McKinster, the current acting presiding judge of the Fourth District Court of Appeal in Riverside and a former San Bernardino County Superior Court Judge, considering the long history of the State of California courts’, its appeals courts’ and its Supreme Court’s unwillingness to quibble with the expressed desire of the state’s voters, agreed to hear the appeal, simultaneously staying Judge Cohn’s ruling, meaning that as of right now, the registrar of voters’ office is on course to put the initiative on the ballot. Judge McKinster invited Michel, Di Monda and Frank, on behalf of Cable, Jarvi, Musser-Lopez, Pruitt and Vogler and the Red Brennan Group, to make a case that Judge Cohn was in error in his ruling preventing the measure from being placed on the June ballot, while simultaneously inviting the county, meaning Hertz, Sutton and Sanders, to offer convincing reason why the initiative should not be on the ballot.

“Good cause appearing therefor, respondent and real party in interest are invited to file a response to the petition for writ of mandate/prohibition on file herein on or before April 11, 2022,” McKinster wrote in his order, dated March 30 at 3:56 p.m. “The proceedings are stayed pending determination of the petition on its merits or further order of this court.”

On Thursday, Deputy County Counsel Jolena Grider submitted a brief to the Fourth District Court of Appeal on behalf of the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters. In her brief Grider stated, “The registrar has certain federal and state statutory deadlines for preparing and mailing the ballots for the June 7, 2022 election which require the ballot to be finalized for processing by the registrar by April 1, 2022 and sent to the vendor for printing by April 13, 2022.” Grider went on to query the appeals court. “The San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters requests clarification from the court on whether the order issued on March 30, 2022 is intended to stay the printing of ballots for the June 7, 2022 statewide election. If the order was not intended to stay the printing of ballots,

the registrar is requesting clarification as to whether the Court of Appeal is ordering that the initiative to repeal the special tax associated with Fire Protection Service Zone Five should or should not be included in the ballot and associated materials (such as the voter information guide) for the June 7, 2022 statewide election.”

This request was followed by an extensive 41-page brief from the fire district’s legal team. The brief argued that the petitioners “do not meet the legal standards necessary for the extraordinary relief they request” and that “Petitioners do not present an adequate legal basis to find that the trial court failed to act in compliance with the law.”

Late today, Friday afternoon April 1, the Red Brennan Group received unofficial feedback from attorney Alexander Frank. In a short note, Frank indicated that the Court of Appeal had ordered that Measure Z be printed on the ballot. Frank acknowledged that this simply meant Measure Z would be physically printed on the ballot. He cautioned that the Court of Appeal could still invalidate the measure based on a merits argument.

-Mark Gutglueck