

Friday, August 19, 2022 A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with Countywide News Service 10808 Foothill Blvd. Suite 160-446 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 (951) 567-1936

## Board Member's Daughter's Charter School One Of District's Familial/Associational Entanglements Erwin Sacking & Board Election Trigger SBCUSD Cronyism, Nepotism Focus

The opening of the 2022-23 School Year in the San Bernardino City Unified School District has revector attention to the sheer number of charter schools being sponsored by the district. Coupled with the upcoming November election in which four positions on the school board are up for election or reelection, the issue of the efficacy of at least

some if not all of those charter schools and their cost-effectiveness is being raised, particularly as one of the charter schools is run by the daughter of one of the board members up for reelection.

Scrutiny of that relationship has given rise to the larger issue of the degree to which the members of the school board, either directly or

indirectly through their associates, political supporters or family members, have an interest in entities that are involved in providing educational or other support services to the district and its students.

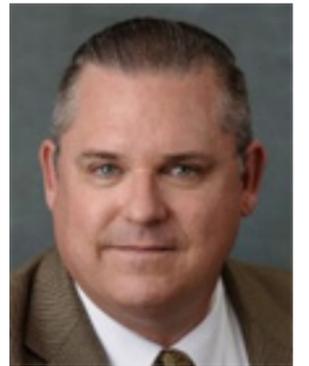
Some have suggested that the conflicts or potential conflicts inherent in these relationships have compromised the educational mission and

commitment of those running the district, as the financial interest of those supplying the services or goods overrides those commitments.

In May, the district's superintendent since June 1, 2021, Harry "Doc" Erwin, was forced out of his position by board members Barbara Flores, Abigail Medina and Danny Tillman. There was an ef-

fort to window dress the situation and represent Erwin's departure as one which he was making voluntarily. Nevertheless, on May 3, 2022, during the meeting when Erwin announced his pending departure at the close of the school year, Board Member Mayra Ceballos openly stated that she was being pressured to "show a united front and say See P 2

## Big Bear Lake Brings In City Manager From San Clemente



Erik Sund

The City of Big Bear Lake has succeeded in luring San Clemente City Manager Erik Sund to take on the position of the mountain municipality's city manager, some five months after Frank Rush departed.

Sund is to move into the position, which in the interim has been filled by Jeff Mathieu, who was city manager of Big Bear Lake prior to Rush assuming the post in 2019.

The hiring comes during what is arguably the most contentious period in the city's 42-year history. Differences between the city's residents and the proprietors of tourist-related enterprises have manifested in a citizen-inspired initiative aimed at instituting regulations on short-term rental units being placed on the November 8 ballot, which is countered by a recall effort against the odd-man-out on the pro-tourist-industry city council.

Sund, who has been serving as San Clemente's city manager since May 2021, has one-third of a century experience in local government in Southern California. He previously served as the finance manager/director for the City of Long Beach, the purchasing manager for the City of Downey, and as senior See P 3

## Controversy & Contraction To Five Enlivens 2022 Colton City Council Race

The 2020 Colton Municipal Election holds promise as being one of the most contentious, hard fought and impactful elections in the Hub City over the last half century, one that will rank along with the 1994 election in which short-lived Mayor George Fulp managed to outmaneuver Frank Gonzales and the 2010 election in which Mayor David Zamora

brought the curtain down on the Chastain Political Dynasty.

Accompanying the kick-off of this year's electioneering were charges that the regime now in place – that of Mayor Frank Navarro, is using the political/governmental machinery at City Hall to preserve itself. This triggered a refutation of those charges from City Hall.

The backdrop to the current situation is Colton voters' 2018 passage of Measure R, which called for reducing the seven-member Colton City Council from a mayor elected at large and six council members elected by the constituents in a half dozen districts to a council consisting of an at-large mayor and four council members

from as many districts. Measure R passed with 5,321 votes in favor and 4,469 opposed, a margin of 54.35 percent to 45.65 percent. At present, the Colton City Council consists of Mayor Frank Navarro, First District Councilman David Toro, Second District Councilman Ernest Cisneros, Third District Councilman Kenneth Koperski, Fourth District Council-

man Luis González, Fifth District Councilman John Echevarria and Sixth District Councilman Isaac Suchil.

In accordance with the terms of Measure R, in the November 2020 election, districts 3, 5 and 6 were up for election, but only for 2-year terms. Districts 1, 2, and 4 were not up for election in 2020. In the upcoming November See P 4

## After Five Years, Aguirre, Accused Triggerman In The SB Rodriguez Revenge Murder, Acquitted

Isaac Paul Aguirre, who was charged with involvement in a conspiracy in the 2017 revenge murder of the wife of a prominent member of the Mexican Mafia in San Bernardino, was acquitted last month on all charges against him.

Prosecutors for five years pressed forward with investigators' theory that five people with extensive criminal his-

tories and gang affiliation, including Aguirre, were involved in killing Carmen Gutierrez Rodriguez, the wife of Andrew Rodriguez, as she was walking in the parking lot outside Gaby's Cafe on North Mount Vernon Avenue on January 18, 2017.

According to investigators, Eric Moreno, Matthew Manzano, Robert Fernandez Jr.,

Richard Garcia and Aguirre worked in concert to send a message to Andrew Rodriguez, a fellow gang member who had been convicted of armed robbery and was contemplating cooperating with authorities as part of a deal to see his sentence reduced. Maria Del Carmen Gutierrez Rodriguez, a mother of five who lived in the North Hills neigh- See P 5

## Nursall Seeking District 2 Berth On Rancho Cucamonga City Council



Joanne Nursall

Joanne Nursall said her religious conviction is the primary motivat-

ing factor in her run for city council representing District 2 in Rancho Cucamonga.

"I am running for city council because God put it in my heart to be more involved in my city to make a positive difference," she said.

Nursall is running against the incumbent, Kristine Scott, and another challenger, David VanGorden. See P 6

## Grace Vargas, First Hispanic And First Woman Mayor Of Rialto, Gone At 85

By Steve Lambert  
The 20/20 Network

Rialto City leaders are mourning the passing of former Mayor Grace Vargas, whose nearly 35 years of service to the community left a lasting legacy that will be felt for decades to come.

Vargas, who passed away on Sunday after a long illness, served as mayor from 2000-2012 and was the first woman

and first Latina to hold that position. Her many contributions to the city were memorialized in 2016 with the naming of the Grace Vargas Senior Center, located at 1411 South Riverside Avenue.

Flags are being flown at half-staff at City Hall and other locations.

"Grace Vargas was a trailblazer and an inspiration to women and women of color through-

out our region. We will miss her passion, her strength and her commitment to our city," said Mayor Deborah Robertson, who served on the city council during Vargas' tenure as mayor.

Said Mayor Pro Tem Ed Scott, "Grace had a heart of gold and was determined to help make Rialto a great city. She embodied the best of

what public service is."

Vargas began working for Rialto in the late 1970s in the city clerk's office. She would later become a clerk in the Rialto police department and the city treasurer's office, and in 1979 became the city's licensing inspector. Vargas was elected to the city council in 1998, and was elected mayor in 2000, 2004 and 2008.

Born in Yuma, Arizona, Vargas moved to California in 1959 as a 22-year-old single mother. While living with her sister in Fontana, she joined the California Employment Training Act (CETA) program, which became a major turning point in her life as she acquired the skills to take on new responsibilities within the city.

During a See P 3

## When Superintendent Erwin Began Looking Into District's Contractual Arrangements, Tillman, Flores and Medina Reflexively Moved To Fire Him from front page

that 'Nothing's happening. Mr. Erwin's deciding to retire early.' Well, he's not. This is a forced retirement. Make no mistake about it." Indeed, despite the board as it existed in the Spring of 2021 having unanimously endorsed Erwin's June 1, 2021 hiring to head the district in the aftermath of former superintendent Dale Marsden's unexplained December 2019 decision to depart from the district in the middle of his contract in March 2020, within three months of his arrival, Erwin had put three of the board members on edge because of his insistence on examining the full range of the district's programs, educational services and contracts. As early as July of 2021, Erwin had begun in earnest to evaluate the efficacy of the district's myriad arrangements for the provision of services and supplies. He had undertaken those examinations quietly and without fanfare, concluding tentatively that some were ineffective, overpriced or unnecessary. Thus, still relatively early in his tenure as superintendent, while he yet had the full confidence of the board, Erwin asked for and was given authorization, at the August 17, 2021 school board meeting, to contract with the Great Gains educational approach advising firm to conduct an audit of the district's financials and performance with regard to the Creative After-School Programs.

The board granted him permission to make the arrangement with Great Gains to carry out that analysis. In years past under Erwin's predecessor Marsden, those contracts were routinely approved. Some of those contracts were with

companies owned by individuals who were personal and political associates of members of the school board.

With that examination under way, Erwin held off on reinitiating some of those contracts with the advent of the 2021-22 school year.

Erwin did not fully understand or appreciate the long-existing relationships between some of the purveyors of those contracted-for services and both members of the school board or other influential and politically-empowered members of the community. Three members of the board in particular – Abigail Rosales Medina, Barbara Flores and Danny Tillman – had gone along with Erwin's examination under the assumption that the contracts would remain in place while his inquiry was ongoing and that the audit Erwin was conducting would ultimately conclude that the work being done by the district's contractors was legitimate in intent, conception and scope, and was being competently rendered.

By Erwin's withholding of the extension of the contracts, Flores, Tillman and Rosales-Medina felt he had overstepped his authority. By September 2021, the *Sentinel* is informed, at least two members of the school board were irate over the district's foot-dragging in committing to the continuation of those contracts. The *Sentinel* was told that Erwin, who had arrived in San Bernardino less than four months before and as such was unfamiliar with the political lay of the land, was given a relatively explicit warning at that time that at least a few of the programs he was calling into question were ones which were buttering the bread of some of the board's associates and backers. Intrepidly, however, and because he rightfully, for the most part, perceived that he had the solid backing of four members and thus a majority of the board – Margaret Hill, Mayra Ceballos, Gwendolyn Dowdy-

Rodgers and Scott Wyatt – Erwin believed he could stand by the principle of making sure that whatever programs the district sponsored would provide positive results and that it should not squander resources and funding on questionable programs, the value of which could not be demonstrated.

As early as October 2021, as was demonstrated at the October 5 meeting, three votes had emerged – those of Tillman, Rosales-Medina and Flores – to sack Erwin and thereby shut down the program audits Erwin was pursuing and protect the contracts with benefactors and confederates of some of the board's members. The requisite four votes to fire Erwin were not available, and he remained in place.

In December 2021, Board Member Margaret Hill died. This put Erwin's continuing tenure with the district in jeopardy, as he could be removed as superintendent or fired by a simple majority vote of the board. Nevertheless, as the board at that point was deadlocked 3-to-3 in favor of and against Erwin, the requisite majority to fire him did not exist. For more than two months, the district looked to make an appointment to replace Hill, interviewing Joshua Augustus, Roland Horsh, Robert Nowosielski, Robert Silva, Alex Avila, Travon Martin, Tawnya Rhoades-Hensley, Elsa Valdez, Tressy Capps, Guillermina Mirelez, Viviana Romero, Francesca Villarreal, Leticia Garcia, Pamela Montana, Michael Santos, Teran Zappia, Rachel Garvin, Henry Nickel, Tracie Scherzer and Leticia Garcia, all of whom applied for the appointment. The board gave serious consideration to Martin, Valdez, Avila, Montana and Garcia, but none was able to obtain a crucial fourth vote for the appointment because, ultimately, either Tillman, Rosales-Medina and Flores were not convinced the addition would agree to terminate Erwin or the other three

board members – Wyatt, Ceballos and Dowdy-Rodgers – were unconvinced that the person to be appointed would be willing to keep Erwin in place.

At the May 3 board meeting, Erwin announced he was departing from the district as of July 1, 2022.

Despite his scheduled leaving and the seeming victory that handed to Tillman, Flores and Medina, it kept Erwin in place long enough for him to make certain that the Great Gains audits were completed and presented to the district.

In its report titled "CAPS Providers Governance Report" dated June 23, 2022, Great Gains examined seven Creative After-School Program service providers, one of which was the Center for Youth and Community Development, of which Tillman's wife, Tracy Tillman, was the chief financial officer.

According to that report, "As it relates to the CAPS Extended Learning Program, as noted in the section on the Center for Youth and Community Development, there may be an undisclosed economic interest between the Center for Youth and Community Development and Board Member Danny Tillman. In 2019, 2020 and 2021, Board Member Tillman completed the Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests required of public officials. In all three documents, Mr. Tillman selected 'None' in terms of the number of economic interests he has in relation to the district. The report further relates, "According to the board documents sent over by district staff, since 2018, the board has voted on contracts for the Center for Youth and Community Development on the following dates: 09/04/18, 05/21/19, 06/18/19, 07/16/19, 08/04/20, 06/22/21 and 10/19/21."

The Great Gains report states that "According to the board minutes, Board Member Tillman recused himself for the Center for Youth and Community Develop-

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ment board votes taken on: September 4, 2018, May 21, 2019, June 18, 2019, [and] July 16, 2019." Nevertheless, the report goes on to say, "Even though Mr. Tillman did recuse himself from these votes, staff intimidated Mr. Tillman continued to informally influence district officials and other board members on behalf of these entities. Mr. Tillman did vote in favor of the Center for Youth and Community Development contracts on 08/04/20, 06/22/21 and 10/19/21."

The *Sentinel* on June 24 of this year published a 2,619-word article pertaining to the Great Gains report under the headline "Outgoing SB School District Superintendent's Audit Caught Board Member Tillman's Conflict." That article noted the findings with regard to Danny Tillman, Tracy Tillman and the Center for Youth and Community Development.

Previously, at the July 19 school board meeting and this week in an exchange with the *Sentinel*, Tillman registered objections to several of the characterizations made in that article. He noted that his wife served as the chief financial officer of the Center for Youth and Community Development in 2018 and 2019, but had discontinued her employment with that entity thereafter, well before Erwin became the district superintendent. Initially, Tillman referenced the May 3 joint statement from the district and Erwin which held that Erwin was vol-

untarily retiring, and asserted he was making no assertions that Erwin had acted improperly in his role as superintendent.

"I'm not saying anything about him," Tillman said. "Legally, I can't talk about personnel issues. He left to go on to someplace else."

Ultimately, however, Tillman charged that Erwin had purposefully "set me up. And that document [i.e., the Great Gains report dated June 23] was part of the scam. Those people got hired to do a hit piece on me. And you [i.e., the *Sentinel*] went along with them. You were looking for something that was controversial. You were trying to sell newspapers. That [his wife's one-time employment with the Center for Youth and Community Development] isn't controversial. I recused myself from any votes on CYCD [the Center for Youth and Community Development] or the Boys and Girls Club [a forerunner of the Center for Youth and Community Development]. When that [voting to approve the district's contract with the Center for Youth and Community Development] happened, I walked out of the room. There was no controversy. My wife did not work for the Boys and Girls Club or CYCD while Erwin was there."

Tillman insisted that the *Sentinel* was working in league with either Erwin or someone acting on his behalf to write and publish articles that

*Continued on Page 6*

## Eschewing Insider Status, Council Candidate Barton Says His Talents Will Benefit Big Bear

In this year's District 4 Big Bear Lake City Council race, Robert Barton, an attorney licensed to practice in California, New York and Washington, D.C., is seeking to employ his training and expertise in the legal realm to guide municipal operations in the mountain tourism hamlet.

"Lawyers have a duty to use their education on behalf of the public when appropriate," Barton said. "I believe I have talents and experience that can be beneficial to the community."

He is qualified to hold the position of city councilman, Barton suggested, because "I'm not a politician and I have



**Robert Barton**

nothing to gain financially by running for this office. Thus, I can do what I believe is in the best interests of all residents and business owners."

He is running against incumbent Councilwoman Perri Melnick, herself an attorney who was appointed to the council in July 2021, and Cory Blake Miholich, an engi-

neering contractor who runs a restaurant in the city. Barton said he is not running against them in any way except the technical sense, as they are in opposition to one another on the ballot for the same position.

"I'm told that I have two opponents," he said, "and I know very little about either. At this point I will leave it to the voters to decide what distinguishes each candidate."

He is not steeped, Barton said, in the pointed differences that divide the community, but has a basic understanding of the tension between the permanent residents, homeowners and cabin owners in the rustic mountain resort on one

side and on the other the entrepreneurs and elements of the tourism industry and the short-term renters and guests who frequent the city for a day, weekend or a relatively short period of time while vacationing or making a quick getaway from Southern California's urbanized areas.

"I'm not an insider, so I only know what's generally known, and I take it all 'with a grain of salt,'" Barton said. "At a minimum, I believe that the city needs 1) a better balance between short-term rentals and residents/vacation homes; 2) less redundancy in city offices, departments and retained vendors; and

(3) more funding for law enforcement, fire and emergency services."

He will redress these issues, Barton said, through research and sensitivity.

"I will start by gathering the facts... and listening to my constituents," he said. "Among other things, I am told that residents pay for a disproportionate share of emergency services. I would hope that reducing governmental redundancy and increasing the transient occupancy tax would have a positive effect on the taxes paid by residents."

The city can generate the money it needs to deal with the issues it faces by increasing the

transient occupancy tax he referenced, which is also known as a bed tax or motel/hotel tax.

Barton, who has lived in Big Bear Lake for six years, emphasized that he has no previous experience relating to government outside of his professional function within courts of law. He asserted this was an advantage rather than a drawback.

"As stated previously, I am not a politician," he said. "I am an attorney, a marketing professional and a local business owner with my law office."

He attended and obtained his high school diploma from Culver Mili-

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### Big Bear Hires New City Manager, Making Him One Of The County's Highest Paid Municipal Executives from front page

purchasing agent for the City of Irvine. He began with San Clemente in 2013, when he was hired as assistant city manager, a position he held until his elevation to city manager last year. Sund has a Bachelor of Arts degree in social ecology from the University of California, Irvine.

He is moving from one environment of controversy to another.

In recent weeks, San Clemente was roiled by a resolution introduced by San Clemente City Councilman Steve Knoblock that called for recognizing San Clemente as a "sanctuary of life" in which abortion is to be banned. After considerable vitriolic public discussion of that proposal, it was rejected by the council 3-to-1 during a specially-called meeting, with a number of city residents, some on both sides of the issue, criticizing Sund for letting the issue get out of hand.

On previous occasions, some San Cle-

mente residents, albeit a minority, had opined that Sund was inadequate for the task of managing the 64,293-population city. In particular, Sund has had a rather rocky relationship with current Councilwoman Laura Ferguson. Ferguson previously served in the capacity of San Clemente's public information officer under Sund when he was assistant city manager. She has maintained that Sund is secretive, and has consistently prevented or obstructed the release of relevant information to the public.

Despite the perception of some that Sund was responsible for certain difficulties at San Clemente City Hall, the four members of the Big Bear Lake City Council who voted to hire him perhaps see his ability to exist within a contentious environment to be a plus rather than a minus.

Beginning about two years ago in Big Bear, the community found itself caught between on one side a more numerous contingent of full-time residents who want tough restrictions imposed on both tourists and the owners of vacation rental units and on the other side the wealthier landowners and landlords who

are making a substantial amount of money by renting or leasing their properties out on a temporary basis and want nothing in place that will discourage renters from coming to Big Bear Lake.

Over the last 19 to 20 months, three of the members of the four-person majority of the city council – consisting of Mayor Rick Herrick, councilman Randall Putz and Councilwoman Bynette Mote – along with Councilwoman Perri Melnick, who was appointed in July 2021, have proven more responsive to those with a stake in the tourist industry, and responded to the calls for a strict ordinance by instituting what many local residents consider to be watered-down measures to create a regulatory regime that involves a modest licensing requirement and fines on cabin owners on whose properties problems manifest, with the potential for revocation of those licenses if the nuisances persist on a given property.

A contingent of city residents who did not believe that City Hall had gone far enough formed in April 2021, eventually calling themselves Big Bear Lake United to Limit Short Term Rentals.

They lobbied for more vigorous regulation, making a concerted call for a cap on vacation rentals and pushed the city to increase the transitory occupancy tax – i.e., the city's bed tax or hotel tax – from 8 percent to 12 percent, based on their argument that 35 percent of the calls for service from the fire department or sheriff's department in Big Bear Lake involve short term rental properties and/or visitors to the city. In August 2021, the Big Bear Lake City Council voted 4-to-1, with Councilman Alan Lee dissenting, against a proposed cap on vacation rental permits, with the controlling council majority members saying they wanted to give the regulations that exist an opportunity to work. If those did not achieve the desired results, they said they might then put more restrictive measures into place.

That was not good enough for the group of residents animated about the issue of vacation rentals. Thereafter, member of Big Bear Lake United to Limit Short Term Rentals embarked on an effort to bypass the city council, setting about gathering signatures on a petition to place on the upcoming October 2022 ballot an initiative calling for

a limit on the number of vacation rentals in the city. In that same election, Herrick, Putz and Melnick are up for election.

Herrick, Putz, Melnick and Councilwoman Bynette Mote, who were previously less than convinced that the resident discontent with the behavior and imposition of tourists on the locals was of a critical dimension, were a bit taken aback when the group was able to get 762 of the city's 2,887 registered voters to endorse the petition to put the measure on this year's ballot.

If, indeed, the effort to see the measure passed drives large numbers of voters of the polls, given Herrick's, Putz's and Melnick's previous opposition to tough tourist regulations, their reelection prospects could be in jeopardy. Herrick is being challenged in the city's District 2 by Omar Torres Cazares and Kirk Seigel. District 3 Councilman Randall Putz is opposed this year by Paul Sokoloff and Kirk Seigel. Melnick in District 4 is to face Robert Barton and Cory Blake Miholich.

An enmity pitting Herrick, Putz, Melnick and Mote against Councilman Lee has developed, both on the basis

of Lee's championing of the city's full-time residents on the short-term rental reform movement and other issues. An effort to recall him has qualified for the ballot in November. Thus, four of the council members are up for election this year.

Rush, whose performance was deemed as more than satisfactory by Herrick, Putz, Mote and Melnick, claimed that he was being poorly treated by Lee and tendered his resignation earlier this year. On April 4, 2022, the city council voted to enter into a contract with Peckham & McKenney for the recruitment of a city manager. Peckham & McKenney sought and invited candidates with what was deemed a desirable level of skill and experience to consider moving into the post, obtaining 67 applications for the job, roughly 40 percent of which were from city management professions from outside the state. More than 15 of those who applied were sitting city managers. The field was reduced after an initial vetting from 67 to 30, then to 18, after which, in July, the city council conducted interviews of the candidates. The pool

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## Corresponding To Colton's Reduction Of Its City Council From Seven To Five Positions, Discontent With City Hall Is Brewing Among Some Residents *from page 4*

2022 election, all districts in Colton will be contested, with the new districts 3 and 4 being conducted with 4-years at stake and districts 1 and 2 involving 2-year terms. Thus, by 2024 the elections for the districts will be staggered, with district 1 and 4 candidates competing in elections corresponding with U.S. Presidential elections and districts 3 and 4 being held in connection with the California gubernatorial elections.

As a consequence of the district confections, councilmen Toro and Cisneros now live within the new District 1. Councilman Koperski lives in District 2. Councilmen González and Suchil reside in the new District 3. Councilman Echevarria resides in District 4.

As it turned out, Cisneros opted out of running against Toro in District 1 and no others have emerged to challenge him, such that Toro is on a trajectory to remain on the council until 2026, at least.

In District 2, Kelly Chastain, who from 1996 until 2006 represented what is now District 3 and was mayor from 2006 until 2010, is challenging Koperski. In District 3, González and Suchil, who have developed the makings of a bitter rivalry, are vying against one another. In District 4, Gem M. Montes and Robert Wilson have emerged to challenge Echevarria.

Mayor Navarro faces a single challenger, Mark Garcia.

Just as those matchups were being confirmed by the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters this week, rumblings in the city of 55,198 were heard. On Tuesday night, the Colton City Council provided City Manager Bill Smith with a \$5,200 annual raise, increasing his base pay from a \$202,052.56 salary annually to \$207,252.56.

While it would be inaccurate to say that resi-

dent discontent with the city's elected leadership and city staff is at a level at present that is higher than at several other points in the city's 135-year history, there are a number of issues that have citizens riled up as this year's election approaches.

Residents of South Colton contacted the *Sentinel*, vectoring its attention to a social media posting on the *Colton All Facts* Facebook page that read, "Who is running the City of Colton? City Manager Bill Smith, who is trying to leave the city and cares nothing about Colton? The same Bill Smith who does nothing about city issues or employee issues? Stacey Dabbs the finance director who costs the city over a million dollars in your ratepayer money in FSLA [Fair Labor Standards Act] mistakes? The same inexperienced finance director who did not include the shop maintenance in the fiscal year budget last year? Why did the council not question the fiscal year budget missing an entire department? Why is the council not questioning the leadership of the city? These are the type of people running your city."

According to the posting, Smith was receiving \$203,189 prior to July 1 and is now at a salary before benefits of \$207,252. The latter figure comports with figures provided by the city. There was a discrepancy between the pre-July 1 salary figure for Smith given on the posting and that provided by the city.

Dabbs, the posting said, was at \$172,580 on June 30 and \$176,031 as of July 1.

Fire Chief Tim McHargue saw his pre-July 1 salary increase from \$184,717 to \$188,411, according to the social media posting.

Development Services Director Mark Tomich was at \$172,580 prior to July 1 and \$176,031

thereafter, according to *Colton All Facts* posting.

Human Resources Director Thomas J. Cody's annual salary of \$172,580 moved up to \$176,031 as of July 1, according to the information provided.

Police Chief Henry Dominguez saw his pay jump from \$184,717 to \$188,411.

Public Works and Public Utilities Services Director Brian Dickinson was given a raise to \$188,411 from the \$184,717 he was previously making, per *Colton All Facts*.

Community Services Director Deb Farrar saw her \$172,580 yearly salary increased to \$176,031, the social media posting said.

"This is ridiculous," a La Loma Hills resident complained. "How can a city that is populated with middle-to-low-income residents provide these kind of salaries? To make matters worse, Bill Smith received a raise last night. In the last two years, the city manager has been given three raises. The city workers lost medical insurance and received only a one percent raise."

Smith told the *Sentinel*, "I have received two salary increases within the past two years – one this past Tuesday, which was a 2 percent salary increase, and one in December 2021, which was a 2.3 percent salary increase. The salary increase this past Tuesday was triggered by my contract, which calls for my salary to remain at least 10 percent above that of any other city employee. Recent employee salary increases, effective July 1 of this year, triggered the need for this contract amendment. It had nothing to do with anything else."

The *Sentinel* inquired if it was accurate that city employees were given a one percent raise and if some or all of their medical benefits were being taken away.

Smith said, "Every employee in the city has received a salary increase over the past year. These increases range from 7 percent over 3-4 years for miscellaneous employees, to 12.5 percent

for safety employees. Medical insurance has not been reduced for any city employees. In fact, the city's contribution to the cafeteria plan for all employees increased with the latest contracts. The only impact to medical benefits to employees was in the form of a cap to the medical benefit for retirees. This was an attempt to control increasing city expenses related to retirees, and is a common strategy with municipalities. The "cap" was agreed-to by every employee group during the same negotiations that netted the aforementioned salary increases. Additionally, every city employee received bonuses, ranging from \$7,000 to \$13,000 for their great work during the recent pandemic."

As to the insinuation that he does not care about the City of Colton, its employees and its residents, Smith said, "I've been a Colton employee for over 21 years, and a municipal employee for over 35 years. I have had multiple opportunities to leave Colton, but have not, because I genuinely care for this community. And while not everyone will always be happy with decisions that are made, I get to work with a staff in Colton that is second-to-none. They are a great group of people, who likewise care a great deal about this community."

The *Sentinel* explored with Smith the accusations leveled at Dabbs.

"The FLSA [Fair Labor Standards Act] matter being referenced is presumably the city's obligation to make FLSA back-payments to employees, pursuant to the *Flores v. San Gabriel* case, which affected many cities across the nation," Smith said. "There were no 'mistakes' made by anyone. In fact, eligible employees received back-pay as a result of the ruling, and as finance director, Ms. Dabbs oversaw the legal process to make our employees 'whole.' Additionally, the 'Shop Maintenance' budget for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$794,550. Not including capital replacement of vehicles and equip-

ment, there is only a \$21,235 difference in this budget from Fiscal Year 2022, so I have no idea what is the basis for this assertion."

The *Sentinel* asked Smith about the accusation that through his function as city manager, he is militating in support of the reelection of the city council, notwithstanding that two of the current councilmembers are running against one another.

"My International City/County Management Association ethics preclude my involvement in election issues, and I take these ethics very seriously!" Smith said. "If you have factual questions about this year's election, I will do my best to answer them. It is a noteworthy election for Colton, because the city council is decreasing in size from seven members to five members. The city council voted to put this action on the 2018 ballot, in the form of Measure R, and the measure was passed by voters. The slate of candidates for this year's election is still being finalized, but once it is, I'm happy to provide details if you wish."

Because of the transition back to five council members and the consideration that all five members of the council are up for election this year, this year's race carries with it the potential for a dynamic makeover of the council. Such a change came about in 1994 and in 2010.

Colton was one of the cities in California where the long dormant Hispanic political giant first awakened. First, in the 1940s and then in the 1950s, Latinos in Colton were elected to the city council. By the late 1970s, two distinct Latino political factions in the city had formed, one led by Frank Gonzales and the other led by Abe Beltran. Gonzales had acceded to the position of mayor, while Beltran occupied the Third District Council post, the election for which was staggered two years before and after the mayoral elections in Colton. Thus, Beltran would find himself reli-

ably able to be reelected in the Third District and then run, two years later, for mayor without risking losing his position on the council. Gonzales by that point had a well-developed political machine, one strengthened by his skillful use of political patronage, and he consistently bested Beltran in the mayoral contests.

In 1994, George Fulp, who had consistently failed in his previous efforts to be elected to the Colton Joint Unified School District Board, set his sights on the mayoral honorific. Knowing that Beltran would again be seeking to unseat Gonzales, Fulp persuaded Jesse Valdivia, who was otherwise nonpolitical, to run for mayor as well, promising to buy him a pick-up truck if he did so. With three Latino candidates in the race, the Hispanic vote was diluted and split three ways. This allowed Fulp, the only Caucasian in the race, to eke out a narrow victory over Gonzales.

Unrecognized by a large segment of those in Colton at that time was that the bombastic Fulp was an unrepentant, indeed raging, alcoholic. Empowered by his election as mayor, he took to drinking himself into a state of incandescence, liberally spraying himself with cologne to mask the tell-tale alcohol vaporific that oozed from his pores and engulfed him, and then gallivanting about the city in his bright-red late-model Cadillac, correctly calculating the police would not stop, cite, ticket nor arrest him for being under the influence, given his new-found political preeminence. Throwing his authority around, engaging in confrontations with residents as well as city staff members from the lowest levels right up to the city manager and verbally sparring with members of the council during the course of meetings, Fulp amassed enemies at a prolific pace. This triggered an unprecedented, for Colton, effort to recall him from office, which succeeded with a special measure placed on the

*Continued on Page 6*

## From The Peace Corps To Building Roads, Bridges & Dams

# Berg Has Now Set His Sights On Redlands City Council's First District Position

Tom Berg is one of three candidates in this year's Redlands District 1 election vying against the incumbent, Denise Davis.

"It's my firm belief no incumbent should run unchallenged," Berg said. "I believe I'd be the better candidate for the voters to choose from."

Also competing in the District 1 race are Andrew Hoder and Rodgir Cohen.

Berg said, "As a registered civil engineer in California involved in over 40 years of managing large public works projects for governmental agencies, I believe I can serve Redlands well in contrast to the experience levels offered by my opponents."

Berg said that "Real life and practical experience in the business world and the world of public works; plus, my



Tom Berg

long-held belief public works are a public trust" distinguishes him from his opponents. In sizing up what he considers to be the major issues facing the city, Berg listed "debt and growth management; the potential of infrastructure overload, i.e., our water and sewer systems cannot handle continued poor planning from the top; the potential loss of our small businesses in the downtown area which contribute significantly to the uniqueness of

Redlands; preservation of Redlands' historic character, and the lean support and appreciation of Redlands first responders who work with our homeless population."

He said he believed those issues should be redressed "carefully with a balanced approach that won't leave Redlands with red ink in years to come."

The city can mitigate some of its financial challenges and pay for the solutions he is advocating, Berg said, by advance planning that both minimizes and eliminates costs and careless and indiscriminate spending of meager public resources.

"Brick and mortar can be very expensive; as we all know, these days it's often not the answer to a city's problems," he said. "For example: the

so called 'lack of parking' in our city. As illustrated by the City of Inglewood with their new stadium, their parking 'problem' is addressed by use of 'on-line-reserved' parking spaces located throughout the city. The success of this idea is being practiced throughout the nation; Redlands can benefit greatly by following that model, thus avoiding investment in large parking structures, typically, an eyesore and venue for vandalism. Since this idea can be developed, implemented, and paid for by outside contracting, the city can benefit greatly with minimal brick and mortar expenditures."

Berg said, "Regarding our homeless: the city once had the foresight of constructing dog parks with minimal expense but has basically ignored our homeless. Why can't we have small pocket parks within our city so that our homeless population have a source of water, sanitation, and safety? Our residents and small businesses shouldn't solely have that burden, and neither should our first responders. The newly implemented idea of a 99-room hotel for the homeless represents a management nightmare and, I believe is

impractical, unworkable, and likely to be of great expense to the city of Redlands in days and years to come."

Berg said he had extensive previous experience relating to government.

"I've worked solely with government agencies the past 40 years on public works projects which are always subject to audits, public scrutiny, traffic management and public safety," he said. "As the residing project engineer it's always been my responsibility to work and strive to bring such projects in on-budget and on-time."

While he has resided in Redlands, Berg said, "quite a long time," he insisted "I'm not an old timer. Prior to Redlands my wife and I raised our family while in Arrowhead for 18 years. We started our business of 40+ years here in the Inland Empire."

Berg attended Sanger Union High School, located in Fresno County. He matriculated at Cal State University, Fresno, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in social science in 1967 and a Bachelor of Science in Civil and Agricultural Engineering in 1973.

He is self employed

as a civil engineer, working for Berg & Associates, Inc.

He has been married "for the past 48 years, same wife too," he said. He has three children and three grandchildren.

"I was raised on a family dairy farm in central California and have a deep appreciation for the agricultural community," Berg said. "I served in the U.S. Peace Corps, 1967 to 1970; trained in Wisconsin and Tuskegee Institute Alabama, served as an agricultural officer in charge of the construction of small earthen dams in the bush of Kenya East Africa."

Subsequent to that, Berg said, "I contracted with an American company as a water engineer and worked in the country of Iran, 1975 to 1977. I contracted with an American company as a civil engineer in the country of Egypt, 1978 to about 1980."

Berg said, "I'm a born-again Christian since 1995 and a Gideon from 1998. My wife and I recently restored a dilapidated Victorian farmhouse built in 1891 here in Redlands, which, before our purchase, was scheduled for demolition. It's now our home in the heart of District One."

-M.G.

## Colton Has Long Had Contentious Politics *from page 4*

November 1996 ballot. Ultimately, 53.52 percent of those who went to the polls voted in favor of his removal from office and 46.48 percent were opposed.

In 2010, Kelly Chastain, who as Colton mayor the previous year

tolerated elevating then-Assistant City Manager Mark Nuami, who was also the mayor of Fontana, into the position of acting city manager when Darryl Parrish had departed as city manager to take a job with the City of Covina, was challenged by former Colton Community Development Director David Zamora in that year's election. Zamora defeated Chas-

tain, who had been a fixture on the city council for ten years, from 1996 until 2006, when she was elected mayor. The 2010 election, which also saw Frank Gonzales make something of a political comeback when he was elected to the council to represent the city's Second District, precipitated a sea-change in Colton politics.

-Mark Gutglueck

## Accused Gangland Triggerman Acquitted *from front page*

neighborhood of the Sepulveda District in the San Fernando Valley, was lured to San Bernardino where she was gunned down, shot four times

in the upper torso in the early evening of January 18, 2017.

It was the contention of prosecutors that Andrew Rodriguez, a member of the westside San Bernardino Verdugo gang who graduated into the Mexican Mafia while in he was serving a

115-years-to-life, three-strike armed-robbery sentence in Pelican Bay State Prison, possessed information that was highly prejudicial to the prison gang, which has ties of the Verdugos, and he was about to give it up. Prosecutors contend that while they were yet

in prison, Moreno, Garcia and Manzano plotted and orchestrated Carmen Rodriguez's killing.

Fernandez and Aguirre were accused of being the triggermen in Carmen Rodriguez's death. In addition to murder, Aguirre was accused of being a felon in possession of a handgun the night of the shooting.

Subsequently, the Mexican Mafia took out a contract on Andrew Rodriguez, according to prosecutors, and he was slain just a little more than three months after his wife's death, while incarcerated at Pelican Bay on April 20, 2017.

On July 11, 2018, the San Bernardino County

District Attorney's Office filed murder charges against Moreno, Garcia, Manzano, Fernandez and Aguirre.

Four days later, on July 15, 2018, Moreno, then 30 and in custody as an inmate at Kern Valley State Prison in Delano, was killed by his cellmate, Daniel Olguin, 36, who was likewise a gang member from San Bernardino then serving a life sentence for torture-murder.

Fernandez pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and street gang terrorism in 2018. Richard Garcia pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in 2019 and was sentenced to 30 years. Manzano was

convicted of murder in the case in 2020 and was sentenced to 25 years to life.

Aguirre resisted multiple plea bargain overtures from prosecutors, electing to roll the dice and go to trial, in the course of which it was demonstrated that Aguirre was not, as the prosecution contended, in good standing with either the Mexican Mafia or the Verdugo gang at the time of Carmen Rodriguez's slaying, which gangland expert witnesses said would have made it highly unlikely that he would be entrusted with the assignment of assassinating the victim.

-Mark Gutglueck

## Vargas *from front page*

2012 cable TV interview, Vargas identified freeway expansion, economic development projects such as Renaissance Rialto and the senior center as major accomplishments during her tenure. Looking ahead to postretirement, she said her intentions

were to be "an ambassador to the city, to bring in new businesses and continue to help the people."

City Clerk Barbara McGee, who has served in that position for 28 years, described Vargas as someone whose positive impact will be felt by generations of Rialto residents and businesses. "She earned the name

'Amazing Grace' for a reason. I was proud to work alongside her, and to call her my friend," McGee said.

"Our 'Amazing' Grace, as we frequently referred to her, was a good mentor and a role model for all of us. We already miss her," said Councilmember Rafael Trujillo.

## Do You Have Information Of Public Interest?

Call the *Sentinel* at (951) 567 1936

The *Sentinel* is always looking for information to inform our readership and keep our readers abreast of newsworthy developments.

The *Sentinel* devotes itself to what is happening in and around San Bernardino County. Social events, political news, issues pertaining to education, medicine, industry, commerce, development, real estate, history, culture and entertainment are of interest to us.



San Bernardino County  
**Sentinel**

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### Nursall In Rancho Cucamonga Council Run from front page

Nursall said, "I feel I am qualified simply because I am a citizen of Rancho Cucamonga and care about the quality and integrity of the city."

"Among the major issues in the city right now is overdevelopment," Nursall said. "The city is becoming

extremely overcrowded and with overcrowding comes more crime. To redress these issues, we must listen and communicate with the citizens, our taxpaying citizens who deserve to be heard and deserve to live in a safe and clean community."

Rancho Cucamonga is currently generating enough municipal revenue to provide the

means to address the challenges facing the city, Nursall said.

"The city receives tax dollars that are meant to take care of the city," she said. "We must support local and small businesses so our city can continue to serve its citizens."

Nursall emphasized, "I am not a politician," but noted, "I have served on the Fontana school

board in the past."

Nursall has lived in Rancho Cucamonga since 1999.

She is a graduate of Don Antonio Lugo High School in Chino.

"My higher education is the school of hard knocks and reality," Nursall said. "I also attended a trade school and received and still maintain a cosmetology license, and made a liv-

ing with it."

She was formerly the proprietor of A Kid'salon in Rancho Cucamonga. She now describes herself as "a housewife. I have been married to my high school sweetheart for 37 years. Together we have raised three children to become outstanding, responsible adults. We love and enjoy three beautiful grandchildren."

Nursall said, "Not only have I lived and worked in Rancho Cucamonga, I know what it's like to own a small business in this city. I am a very strong-willed, determined person who, when I believe in something, will fight 100 percent for what I believe. I rely on my faith in Jesus Christ to always guide me and protect me."

-M.G.

### Barton Seeking Election To Big Bear Lake City Council from page 3

tary Academy in Culver, Indiana, whereupon he attended Columbia College, Columbia University, obtaining his Bachelor of Arts degree as a pre-med student and thereafter moving over to the Columbia University Graduate School of Business where he obtained a master's in business administration while studying marketing, finance and international business. He obtained a law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. He passed the Cal-

ifornia Bar in 2001.

He was with the Law Firm of Dewey Ballantyne from 2001 to 2005 as a litigation associate and the firm of DLA Piper as a litigation associate from 2005 to 2009.

Previous to becoming a lawyer, he worked with the Compton Advertising Agency in New York City from 1970 to 1973, was a management supervisor with the SSC&B Lintas, Erwin Wasey advertising agency from 1973 to 1981, and served in the capacity of management supervisor with Young & Rubicam from 1982 to 1989, Asher-Gould in 1989 and 1990, returned to Lintas which was then in association with Campbell-Ewald from

1990 to 1993 and with Smith/Magee/Huss from 1994 to 1998.

He is at present the proprietor of the Law Office of Robert O. Barton, located in Big Bear

Lake. His "big law firm experience" Barton said, "was high-dollar real estate litigation. Currently, I am a sole practitioner focusing on family law."

Barton is married to

Chi Kemp, who previously worked with the U.S. Attorneys' Office and retired in 2017 from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

He is licensed as a real estate broker, a notary public and as a single engine aircraft pilot and aircraft airframe and powerplant mechanic.

-M.G.

### Tillman Insists Focus On Nepotism In The School District Was "Sick Stuff" & A Manifestation Of Erwin's "Evil" Intent from page 2

made him look bad.

"You didn't quote one source in that story," Tillman said. "As a reporter you should have a little bit of integrity."

When it was pointed out to him that the article was largely based

upon and had quoted extensively from the Great Gains report dated June 23, Tillman doubled down, saying "That document was never released. There were nothing but whoppers in that. You repeated the lies in that [Sentinel] story. That story was meant to railroad me."

It was then pointed out that the Great Gains report was obtained through a public records request lodged with the district and that Lou Galvin in the district's

business services division had processed the request.

"Don't lie, dude," Tillman said. "You didn't do any verification. All that crazy stuff in there was from the same person who made up stuff. There ain't nothing on me. These fools spent tens of thousands of dollars investigating me and came up with nothing. I never voted for nothing when she [his wife] was working there. What they have is some information from some fired

people and people who are disgruntled. You don't give me any names. Whatever article you write, you are not going to quote anyone. You aren't willing to say who it is that is telling lies on me so you can keep people from knowing who it is behind all this. That's sick stuff. That's not journalism. You won't take the time or effort to verify what people are telling you you should write. You can sit back and deny it but you get to

*Continued on Page 11*

## Public Notices

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENT - CHILD RELATIONSHIP

CASE NUMBER JS21265  
SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA IN MARICOPA COUNTY

Juvenile Department  
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAMES: Tiffany Araujo - Mother; Malik Russell Etheridge - Father

Petitioner Tiffany Araujo In the Matter of Minor: Delani Nicole Van Damme (10/30/2012)

This is an important notice from the court. Read it carefully.

A petition about termination of parent-child relationship has been filed with the court, and a hearing has been scheduled related to your child. Your rights may be affected by the proceedings. You have a right to appear as a party in the proceeding.

If you fail to participate in the court proceedings, the court may deem that you have waived your legal rights and admit to the allegations made in the petition. Hearings may go forward in your absence and may result in the termination of your parental rights.

Facility Assignment: Durango Juvenile Court Center 3131 W. Durango St, Phoenix, AZ 85009.

Judicial Officer: Honorable Lauren R. Guyton

Hearing Date/Time: October 13, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

Hearing Type: Severance-Initial Hearing Location - Court Connect Remote Appearance

Court Connect Hearing: Yes

Video: <https://tinyurl.com/jbazmc-juc02>

Phone: (917) 781-4590, Participant Code 312 434 5#

How can I prepare for the hearing? Any supporting documentation must be filed with the Clerk of Court at least seventy-two hours in advance of the set hearing date.

If I have questions or concerns who can I contact?

For questions concerning filing, please contact the Clerk of Court at (602) 372-5375. For questions about the hearing, contact the Juvenile Department at (602) 506-4533, Option 2 to reach the assigned Judicial Officer's staff. If you have legal questions, seek legal counsel.

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel July 29, August 5, August 12 & August 19, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MICHAEL C. MADDUX aka MICHAEL CHARLES MADDUX CASE NO. PROSB2201012 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of MICHAEL C. MADDUX aka MICHAEL CHARLES MADDUX A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SHAYNA STEWART in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SHAYNA STEWART 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

## Public Notices

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 AUGUST 18, 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.

Filed: July 14, 2022  
Sabrina Felix, Deputy Clerk of the Court  
Pro Se:  
Shayna Stewart  
3260 Little Mountain Drive  
#A

San Bernardino, CA 92405  
Telephone No: (951) 941-9878  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on July 29, August 5 & August 12, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JAVIER RAMIREZ aka JAVIER MAGALLAN RAMIREZ CASE NO. PROSB2200901 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JAVIER RAMIREZ aka JAVIER MAGALLAN RAMIREZ has been filed by VICTOR PATROCINIO RAMIREZ MONROY in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that VICTOR PATROCINIO RAMIREZ MONROY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that the decedents wills 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

## Public Notices

shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held NOVEMBER 3, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S35 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JUNE 15, 2022  
NICOLE CARTWRIGHT, Deputy Court Clerk  
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.

Filed: JUNE 15, 2022  
Attorney for VICTOR PATROCINIO RAMIREZ MONROY  
R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603  
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC  
300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620  
REDLANDS, CA 92373  
Phone (909) 328 7000  
Fax (909) 475 8800  
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOHN T. CHRISTENSON CASE NO. PROSB2201056 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JOHN T. CHRISTENSON has been filed by SUSAN PEDERSON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SUSAN PEDERSON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that the decedents wills 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.

## Public Notices

A hearing on the petition will be held AUGUST 30, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S36 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 18, 2022  
Sasha Rodriguez, Deputy Court Clerk  
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.

Filed: JULY 18, 2022  
Attorney for Susan Pederson  
R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603  
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC  
300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620  
REDLANDS, CA 92373  
Phone (909) 328 7000  
Fax (909) 475 8800  
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: GEORGE SCHAUT CASE NO. PROSB2201068 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of GEORGE SCHAUT has been filed by CHRISTINA CARREON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CHRISTINA CARREON 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 AUGUST 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
SASHA RODRIGUEZ, Deputy Court Clerk  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or

## Public Notices

GUEZ, Deputy Court Clerk  
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.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
Attorney for Christina Carreon  
R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603  
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC  
300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620  
REDLANDS, CA 92373  
Phone (909) 328 7000  
Fax (909) 475 8800  
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARY LEE WARREN CASE NO. PROSB2201069 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of MARY LEE WARREN has been filed by SHELIA DAVIS in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SHELIA DAVIS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that the decedents wills 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.

A hearing on the petition will be held AUGUST 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
SASHA RODRIGUEZ, Deputy Court Clerk  
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or

## Public Notices

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.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
Attorney for SHELIA DAVIS  
R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603  
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC  
300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620  
REDLANDS, CA 92373  
Phone (909) 328 7000  
Fax (909) 475 8800  
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BRANDON BRIGHT CASE NO. PROSB2201074 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of BRANDON BRIGHT has been filed by ANDREA BRIGHT in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANDREA BRIGHT 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 AUGUST 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S36 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
JENNIFER SALDANA, Deputy Court Clerk  
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

## Public Notices

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.

Filed: JULY 22, 2022  
Attorney for ANDREABRIGHT  
R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603  
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC  
300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620  
REDLANDS, CA 92373  
Phone (909) 328 7000  
Fax (909) 475 8800  
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 5, August 12 and August 19, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2213752  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: DEBORAH STROTZ OBETSANOV and CHARLES STROTZ, JR. filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CHARLES KURT STROTZ, III to KIRKY CHUCK STROTZ 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: September 6, 2022  
Time: 10:00 AM  
Department: S36

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: 08/03/2022  
Judge of the Superior Court: MICHELLE H. GILLEECE  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 & 08/26/2022

FBN 20220006980  
The following person is doing business as: LAW OFFICE OF JON F. HAMILTON 700 E. REDLANDS BLVD., SUIT U #165 REDLANDS, CA 92373  
JON F HAMILTON 1320 GARDEN STREET REDLANDS, CA 92373

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JULY 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

## Public Notices

crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ JON F. HAMILTON, Individual Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 07/26/2022

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 G8420

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 8/5, 8/12, 8/19 & 8/26, 2022.

FBN 20220006199

The following person is doing business as: BIMA SERVICES 3837 N SILVER TREE CT RIALTO, CA 92377: URSULA MACIAS 3837 N SILVER TREE CT RIALTO, CA 92377

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MAY 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/ URSULA MACIAS, Owner  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 06/27/2022

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 J1677

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 7/1, 7/8, 7/15 & 7/22, 2022. Corrected on 8/5, 8/12, 8/19 & 8/26

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

DEBORA JENNINGS aka DE'BORA JENNINGS

Case NO. PROSB2200398

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of DEBORA JENNINGS aka DE'BORA JENNINGS

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Polly Mallett in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Polly Mallett 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 in Dept. S37 at 09:00 AM on 10/13/2022 Room: at Superior Court of California, County of San

## Public Notices

Bernardino, Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino District-Probate Division at 247 West Third Street, 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.

George M. Halimi  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90067

Telephone No: 310.553.5562  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on: 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, & 08/26/2022.

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DAVID MICHAEL MOLINO CASE NO. PROSB2201106

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of DAVID MICHAEL MOLINO, and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by STEVE MOLINO in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that STEVE MOLINO be appointed special administrator to administer the estate with general powers.

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 SEPTEMBER 6, 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

## Public Notices

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: MARY M. BADER 9227 HAVEN AVENUE, SUITE 368 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 Telephone: (909) 945-2775 Fax: (909) 945-2778

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 12, 19 & 26, 2022.

FBN 20220007079

The following entity is doing business as CUNNING DENTAL GROUP 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

RONALD CUNNING, DDS, INC. 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

Mailing Address: 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the state of California as C0605742

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: AUGUST 24, 1970

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/ KEITH CUNNING, Secretary

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 07/29/2022

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 D5511

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 August 12, 19, 26 & September 2, 2022

FBN 20220007224

The following entity is doing business as MOOMUCCA 12714 HILLTOP DR REDLANDS 92373 SOPHIA R FRYE 12714 HILLTOP DR REDLANDS 92373 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Principal Place Of Business

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/ SOPHIA R FRYE  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 08/03/2022

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 G8420

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of

## Public Notices

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 August 12, 19, 26 & September 2, 2022

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB2206514 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: DYCIE RANSOM filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ZI'AHN KHARI SKIPPER to ZI'AHN KHARI MCCALL 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: 09/12/2022  
Time: 08:30 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 California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 07/27/2022

Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022\

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: LAWRENCE CARL TURNER CASE NO. PROSB2201119

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of LAWRENCE CARL TURNER has been filed by LEIGHTON MYHENGAN TURNER in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LEIGHTON MYHENGAN TURNER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that the decedents wills 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. A hearing on the petition will be held SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at

## Public Notices

Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 29, 2022

BRITTNEY SPEARS, Deputy Court Clerk

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.

Filed: July 29, 2022  
Attorney for Leighton Myhengan Turner: R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603 PRICE LAW FIRM, APC 300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620 REDLANDS, CA 92373

Phone (909) 328 7000 Fax (909) 475 8800 sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 19, 26 and September 2, 2022.

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2212918 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: RANIA BISHAY filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ANDREAS USAMA GIRGES BOLEUS GIRGES to ANDY USAMA GIRGES BOLEUS GIRGES

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: September 19, 2022  
Time: 8:30 AM  
Department: S17

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 California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 06/21/2022  
Judge of the Superior

## Public Notices

Court: JOHN M. PACHECO  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 & 09/02/2022.

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2215473 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner RICHARD GARCIA CERA filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

RICHARD GARCIA CERA to RICHARD CERA GARCIA

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: September 20, 2022  
Time: 8:30 AM  
Department: S16

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 California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Filed: July 18, 2022

Order Dated: 08/09/2022

Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 & 09/02/2022.

## SUMMONS - (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO): CIV SB 2128482

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

(AVISO DEMANDADO): DAVID ALAN BOUCHER, MERCEDES MARTINEZ, AND DOES 1 to 10, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): MTC FINANCIAL INC. dba TRUSTEE CORPS

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 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

## Public Notices

call an attorney right away. If you do not know an 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.lawhelpcalifornia.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 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen 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 información 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 le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida si secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corta le podrá 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 remisión 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 poniéndose 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 gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación da \$10,000 o mas de vaior recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corta antes de que la corta pueda desechar el caso.

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

San Bernardino Justice Center  
247 West Third Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0210

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

John C. Steele, Steele LLP,  
17272 Red Hill Avenue,  
Irvine, CA 92614  
Phone: (949) 222-1161  
DATE (Fecha): November 12, 2021

Clerk (Secretario), by Karina Venegas, Deputy (Adjunto)  
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on: 08/19/2022, 8/26/2022, 9/02/2022 & 9/09/2022.

# The San Bernardino County Sentinel Offers The Lowest Prices For The Publishing Of Legal Notices Among All Of The Newspapers In San Bernardino County

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**The Sentinel is a legally adjudicated newspaper of general circulation for both the City of Rancho Cucamonga and San Bernardino County.**

**Main Business Address & Editorial Office: 10788 Civic Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730**



# San Bernardino County Sentinel

News of Note from Around the Largest County in the Lower 48 States

**Public Notices**

FBN 20220007622  
The following person is doing business as: E's POWER OAT BARS 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELAINE M CRAWFORD 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 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/ ELAINE M. CRAWFORD Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 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 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 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022, 09/02/22 & 09/09/22.

FBN 20220006752  
The following person is doing business as: TEAM SANCHEZ TRANSPORT. 383 E MESA DR RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JOSE M. SANCHEZ 383 E MESA DR 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: OCT 19, 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/ JOSE M. SANCHEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 19, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

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ment 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 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202206MT

FBN 20220006583  
The following person is doing business as: J&R HEATING AND AIR COND. 2255 S. SAN ANTONIO AVE ONTARIO, CA 91762 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO WILLIAM R SCIMONE 2255 S. SAN ANTONIO AVE ONTARIO, CA 91762. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUL 12, 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/ WILLIAM R SCIMONE, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 12, 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 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202204IR

FBN 20220006799  
The following person is doing business as: MONTCLAIR EXPRESS CAR WASH. 10973 S CENTRAL AVE WINNETKA, CA 91306; MAILING ADDRESS 19812 LULL ST WINNETKA, CA 91306; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MONTCLAIR EXPRESS CAR WASH LLC 10973 S CENTRAL AVE MONTCLAIR, CA 91762 The business is conducted by: A

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LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. 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/ MUSTANSIR CADERBHOY, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 20, 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 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202204IR

FBN 20220006764  
The following person is doing business as: YOLMA'S. 27445 MAIN ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO YOLANDA HARO 27445 MAIN ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346; NORMA A HARO 27445 MAIN ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346. The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUL 26, 2017 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/ YOLANDA HARO, GENERAL PARTNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 19, 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 com-

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mon law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202203IR

FBN 20220006849  
The following person is doing business as: OVERFLOWING WATER PRESSURE WASHING. 636 E RALSTON ST ONTARIO, CA 91761 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MICHAEL MURILLO 636 E RALSTONS ST ONTARIO, CA 91761. 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/ MICHAEL MURILLO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 20, 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 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202202MT

FBN 20220006959  
The following person is doing business as: YE TRANSPORT. 213 E JACKSON ST APT B RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO EMMANUEL QUINONES 213 E JACKSON ST B RIALTO, CA 92376; YURIKO QUINONES 213 E JACKSON ST B RIALTO, CA 92376. The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE. 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/ EMMANUEL QUINONES, HUSBAND Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 26, 2022

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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 07/29/2022, 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 CNBB30202201IR

FBN 20220006727  
The following person is doing business as: BERSH CONSTRUCTION INC. 5483 HEATH CREEK DRIVE WRIGHTWOOD, CA 92397; MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 2624 WRIGHTWOOD, CA 92397; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO BERSH CONSTRUCTION INC. 5483 HEATH CREEK DRIVE WRIGHTWOOD, CA 92397 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUL 18, 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/ MICHAEL BERSHEE, VP Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 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 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 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 CNBB31202213IR

FBN 20220006942  
The following person is doing business as: LABOR FORCE SERVICES LOGISTICS. 213 E. GRANADA CT. ONTARIO, CA 91764 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MONICA M MANCILLA 213 E. GRANADA CT. 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: JUL 24, 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/ MONICA M MANCILLA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 25, 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 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 CNBB31202214IR

FBN 20220006936  
The following person is doing business as: NORTHLAND DRIVING SCHOOL. 876 N. MOUNTAIN AVE. SUITE 200H UPAND, CA 91786; MAILING ADDRESS 9908 PRADERA AVE MONTCLAIR, CA 91763; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JOSE A GARCIA 9908 PRADERA

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AVE MONTCLAIR, CA 91763. 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/ JOSE A GARCIA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 25, 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 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 CNBB31202213IR

FBN 20220007007  
The following person is doing business as: MODISH THREADING & WAX CENTER. 16960 E FOOTHILL BLVD STE D FONTANA, CA 92335; MAILING ADDRESS 2640 DEL ROSA AVENUE APT 213 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; JAGAN NATH 2640 DEL ROSA AVENUE APT 213 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404. The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUL 21, 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/ SARVJIT KAUR, WIFE Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 27, 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 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 CNBB31202211MT

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FBN 20220007022  
The following person is doing business as: DIVERSIFIED RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES. 7265 ISABELLA VILLA COURT HIGHLAND, CA 92346 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO NANCY C STATER 7265 ISABELLA VILLA COURT HIGHLAND, CA 92346. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JAN 20, 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



## Tillman Says Questioning, Investigating & Reporting On The District's Nepotistic Arrangements Constituted Lies, A Set-Up & A Hit Piece Targeting Him from page 2

say whatever you want to say because you're making up lies. What you are writing is full of lies."

The *Sentinel* again endeavored to show Tillman that the essence of the June 24 article was based upon the Great Gains report dated June 23. Tillman said using the report as the basis for an article was "unethical. That was not an audit. Auditors do audits. That company does not do audits. Look at when that company came into existence," he said. "He [Erwin] hired a company which was created to do a BS report that never found anything after he [Erwin] got pissed off. Greater Gains did not come into existence until somebody hired them to do a hit piece on me. It's a scam. The only question is why are you going along with them. It's a scam. It's a lie. That is what you have to ask yourself: 'Why are you going along with them?'"

The *Sentinel* in response offered that the issue, boiled down to its quintessence, was that members of the board had relationships – financial, personal, familial or through campaign donors – with entities that had contracts with the district. The question was, the *Sentinel* sought to point out, whether those contracts represented conflicts of interest or not, that is whether they were entered into because the services or goods to be provided as a consequence of those contracts represented a benefit and a positive learning opportunity for the district's students or whether the contracts were entered into to financially benefit the board members, their family members, their associates or their political donors.

The *Sentinel* refer-

enced relationships beyond that of Tillman's wife to the Center for Youth and Community Development, which included the district's contract with Lilia's Interpreting Services, which was not renewed by Erwin last year; the Parent Organization Working for Education Rights, known by its acronym POWER, which had a seven-month not-to-exceed \$18,000 contract running from December 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022 to provide support and guidance in the district's English learning program; and Educational Achievement Services Incorporated, which is a Nevada Corporation headquartered at 8255 South Las Vegas Boulevard Unit 415 in Las Vegas, Nevada and doubles as the Family Leadership Institute or FLI. FLI last year had a \$165,000 contract, paid in six \$27,500 monthly installments to provide what was referred to as a "comprehensive parent leadership program."

Lilia's Interpreting Services is owned by Lilia Cisneros-Felix, a friend and associate of School Board Member Barbara Flores. Teresa Alba is the president and CEO of Parent Organization Working for Education Rights. Alba is a friend and close associate of Flores. Consuelo Martin is the chief operating officer of Educational Achievement Services Incorporated. It is believed that Consuelo Martin is an alias of Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch, who is another friend and associate of Barbara Flores.

The reference to conflicts of interest provoked Tillman. He said that equating a board member recusing him or herself on a contract involving someone with whom he or she is associated as a conflict of interest is a fallacy, since, he said, the recusal alleviates, avoids or cures the conflict. If the standard that is applied is that he was involved in a conflict of interest because of his having recused himself on the vote to approve a

contract with the Center for Youth and Community Development, then current Board President Scott Wyatt, former Board Member/Board President Margaret Hill and current Board Member and former Board President Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers are all guilty of conflicts of interest because, he said, they have recused themselves on certain votes.

The *Sentinel* inquired nonetheless about the recurrence of those recusals, pointing out that in a larger context, that several members of the board have potential conflicts that they cure or avoid through recusals. While those recusals might serve to insulate them legally and additionally might serve to vindicate each of them on one level, at the same time, the context cuts the other way because what it potentially implies is that a majority of the board's members have or might have direct financial interests in the district's business or indirect interests in the district's business through family members or associates who have contracts or other arrangements with the district. That brings into question what those board members' motivations are collectively and what each members motivation is individually in assuming a position of authority over the district. At issue is whether the board members are there to serve the district's students or whether by their presence on the board they serve their cronies and family members by ensuring that the contracts and arrangements involving their family members or associates are approved. The district serving as a cash cow for board members' family members or their personal or political associates raises that question. While board members have consistently recused themselves from votes involving their family members and their associates, their colleagues have consistently voted to approve those contracts. That raises the question as to whether the board mem-

bers are trading votes of approval among themselves to ensure that these conflict-laden issues are approved all around. Thus, it appears, the board members will vote to approve an item upon which another board member has a conflict and is recusing him or herself with the understanding that when he or she is faced with a conflict which requires a recusal on his or her part, he or she can count on his or her colleagues voting to approve the contract or arrangement. The question is whether members of the board are scratching the backs of their colleagues so that they can themselves get their backs scratched?

Such a question is unwarranted, Tillman insisted, and to the extent that the Great Gains report raised that issue, the report was not only unwarranted and impertinent, but malicious. He rejected a question as to whether he bore responsibility for the perception of a conflict when it came to his family members having a financial relationship with the district.

"I had an evil person working in my district and they did some evil shit the first time they used district funds to do a hit on me," Tillman said. "I dealt with sickos. I accept responsibility, yes. I hired some sick people and when I hire sick people, it is my responsibility. When you hire someone like that, you see what you did, and you fire them."

The *Sentinel* confronted Tillman with the consideration that the contract with the Center for Youth and Community Development, for whom his wife once worked, was not the only matter upon which he had recused himself. Last year, the district renewed its contract with the Savant Charter School, also known as the Savant Preparatory Academy of Business, of which Tillman's daughter, Eva Tillman, is the principal.

Charter schools exist as efforts in public asset privatization, and are

semi-autonomous public schools that operate using public funds with only minimal oversight by the state school system. They are granted operating permits or are "chartered" under a written contract with a state, a school district or county school superintendent, which are referred to as the authorizers or sponsors. Such a contract – or charter – details how the school will be organized and managed. The ostensible justification for charter schools is that charter schools can function outside the normal parameters of normal schools and can offer a curriculum and educational smorgasbord unavailable in traditional public schools while meeting the requirements of both special needs students and accelerated scholars.

In the case of the San Bernardino City Unified School District, it is sponsoring 15 charter schools, including ASA Charter School, Ballington Academy, Entrepreneur High School, Hardy Brown College Prep, iEmpire Academy, New Vision Middle School, Options for Your SB-1, Options for Your SB-2, Options for Your SB-3, PAL Charter Academy, PAL Charter Academy Middles School, Public Safety Academy, Savant Preparatory Academy of Business, SOAR Charter Academy and Woodward Leadership Academy.

Attention was brought to the Savant Preparatory Academy of Business and its relationship to Tillman through his daughter when the school reopened with the beginning of the school year this month.

The *Sentinel* asked Tillman to straightforwardly address the suggestion that while he has been serving as a San Bernardino City Unified School District board member, his wife and daughter have benefited by working for companies or entities that have contracts or arrangements with the district.

Asked what he could say about that circumstance to allay that per-

ception and how he might reassure his constituents – the parents of the children attending the schools he oversees as a board member – that his concern lies foremost with their children being educated so they are armed to move into adulthood with necessary life skills rather than seeing to it that his wife and daughter were or are able to profit by their professional relationships with the district, Tillman said, "I have absolutely no legal or other way of controlling my daughter. She and others filed a petition for a charter school. Any time that it came up for a vote, I left the room and did not vote. Their petition for their charter school was approved. I make it a point to never talk to district staff about Savant Prep."

Tillman added, "I recently interacted with a new high-level administrator in our district who brought up the subject of Savant Prep. Each and every time, I told the administrator that I would not talk about that institution. That is an example of my normal practice separating myself from district staff and the operation of Savant Prep."

Tillman said, "I am very proud of my daughter and the amazing work that she does at Savant Prep. She loves and educates her students the same way that I love her and valued her education. Savant Prep has turned out to be one of the highest performing schools in the State of California."

Tillman noted that the objections to his family's relationship to the district reflect political rivalry.

"It is election season," he said. "I believe the statement made by someone else: 'Politics are the peaceful substitution for warfare.' Election season is wartime."

He is a decent man fighting for what is right while being maligned by others, Tillman said. He will press on, he vowed.

"I don't mind fighting a good fight that benefits children," he said.

## Big Bear City Manager Hired In The Midst Of A Contentious Election Season

from page 3

was then reduced to 12. That group was halved to six and thereafter reduced to two finalists, including Sund.

After settling upon Sund, the council directed City Clerk/Human Resources Director Erica Stephenson to extend him a contract.

There is less than perfect transparency with regard to what the city offered Sund, what he countered with and what has ultimately been arrived at. As city clerk, Stephenson authored the staff report for the special meeting held on August 11 at which Sund's hiring was to be considered and during which he was ultimately selected to serve in the city manager's post. In that report, Stephenson wrote that Sund's "completed employment agreement will be made available for public review at the time of convening open session." Eight days later, however, that agreement has yet to be posted to the city's website.

The *Sentinel* is given to understand that Sund, who was provided with a salary of \$250,000, \$50,323 in pay add-ons and perquisites, \$71,553 in benefits and a roughly \$13,000 annual contribution toward his pension for a total annual compensation of \$384,776 while he was employed in San Clemente, is to receive \$265,000 in salary, benefits of around \$75,000, an approximate \$17,000 contribution toward his retirement account and an indeterminate amount of money in pay add-ons and perquisites while serving in his capacity as Big Bear Lake City manager.

Director of administrative services Kelly Ent is to serve as interim city manager until September 19, as Jeff Mathieu was determined to end his fill-in assignment and return to retirement. As of September 19, Sund is

to officially begin as city manager.

According to City Attorney Steven Deitsch, Sund will be provided with a base salary of \$265,000. Deitsch did not quantify Sund's benefits. Deitsch said Sund and his eligible dependents will be provided with a health plan and dental and vision insurance coverage and that the city will pay for a \$250,000 term life insurance policy. He is to accrue, Deitsch said, 80 hours of vacation time per year with 40 hours of accrued vacation to be placed into his leave bank immediately. He is to be provided with 12 paid holidays annually. He is to accrue 88 hours of sick leave per year and can accrue that sick leave without limits. After five years, he is eligible to cash out his accrued sick leave at 25 percent of its value. He is also to be allotted 56 hours of paid administrative leave annually with a maximum accrual of 112 hours. The city is also to contribute annually toward his retirement deferred compensation benefits, not to exceed three percent of his basic salary. He is also to be enrolled in the San Bernardino County Employees Retirement Association. The city is to provide him as well with the unrestricted use of an automobile for which the city is to pay for comprehensive liability and damage insurance as well as pay to cover the operational and maintenance costs. The city will also pay for any professional dues and subscriptions for affiliations Sund has related to his managerial duties and the city is to pay for any city related travel seminars and professional development opportunities he attends. Sund is also to be provided with a laptop computer and a stipend of \$100 per month toward a cell phone. If the city terminates the contract, Sund is due a six-month severance.

Councilman Randall Putz said that what the city has agreed to pay Sund is "consistent with

what other city managers make. It is my hope that as a council and as a community we will be fair and reasonable to this city manager and welcome him and give him every opportunity to succeed and avoid running him off like the last one."

Councilman Alan Lee said, "The hiring of a city manager is perhaps the most important role of a city council and is not and should not be taken lightly. We received 67 applications, 30 of which were deemed to be qualified. So, certainly there is great interest and a great applicant pool. I thought that it was important for the city council hopefully to vote unanimously and set the tone on a new city manager, but based in part on the shenanigans at the last meeting, the gamesmanship at the last meeting, it informed me and reinforced in me that this is not a decision we should be making hastily. It is not a decision which should be viewed in politics. To do so would be a disservice to Erik and a disservice to the community. The reality is that four of us, and if you listen to the word on the street, all five of us will be up for election. I don't think we should be rushing to hire a city manager, when we might not even be here. In fact, I would suggest and believe that at least some of us, potentially all of us, will not be here."

Lee said those challenging Herrick, Melnick and Putz and those who have applied to replace him if he is recalled could potentially be running the city after the November election. He said those who might be elected "should have a voice in the direction of this city. It smacks as politics for us to appoint a city manager, which is one of the most profound things we do. We have less than 90 days for an election. My remarks have nothing to do with the capabilities, competence of Erik. That's one concern I have. This coun-

cil should do like other councils and wait."

Lee said, "The other issue is I am concerned about the finances. I'm very familiar with what other city managers make. \$265,000 is more than what [former City Manager] Frank [Rush] made, more than what the governor makes, more than what other comparable city managers make, more than what most city managers in San Bernardino County make, more than most city managers that manage tourism communities."

Lee pointed out that Sund has far greater responsibilities in San Clemente which is much larger geographically and population-wise than Big Bear Lake, employed a staff of 200 as compared to 60 employees, a \$120 million budget as compared to a \$20 million budget. "I just don't think it is fiscally responsible. I cannot support the package, nor can I support the timing of this appointment."

The vote was 4-to-1 to hire Sund.

Upon his hiring, Sund will surpass more than half of the city and town managers overseeing the 23 other municipalities in San Bernardino County in terms of salary. This will be the case despite the consideration that at 6.24 square miles, Big Bear Lake is the third smallest of San Bernardino County's 22 cities and two incorporated towns geographically, ahead of 5.53-square mile Montclair and 3.5-square mile Grand Terrace. With 5,231 residents, Big Bear Lake is the second-smallest municipal entity population-wise in the county, ahead of Needles with its 4,959 occupants.

Of note is that Sund is to make roughly as much money as Edward Starr, the city manager of Montclair, a city of near comparable physical dimension to Big Bear but with a population of more than times that of Big Bear at 40,041. Starr, has been city manager of Mont-

clair, which has the most dynamic sales tax-to-land area ratios of all of San Bernardino County's cities and one of the most dynamic sales tax-to-per capita population ratios of all of San Bernardino County's cities, for 12 years. Starr, who is considered by many to be the county's leading municipal management professional, was paid a salary before benefits and add-ons of \$265,801.80 in 2021.

Frank Luckino, the city manager of Twentynine Palms, which counts 28,669 residents within its 59.14-square mile confines, was provided with a \$196,846.39 salary in 2021.

Colton, a 16.04-square mile jurisdiction within which 54,198 people dwell, pays its city manager, Bill Smith, \$207,252 annually.

Benjamin Montgomery, the city manager of 82,213-population, 44.75 square miles Chino Hills, was provided with a before-benefits-and-perquisites salary of \$238,042.27 last year.

Michael Blay, the city manager of 77,140-population and 15.62 square mile Upland is currently being paid a \$251,407.01 salary.

Nils Bentsen is currently being paid \$242,690.42 in salary to manage 101,746-population and 73.21-square mile Hesperia.

Keith Metzler, the city manager of 127,086-population, 73.74-square mile Victorville, was paid less money in 2021 – \$253,488 – than Sund was paid to begin as city manager in Big Bear this year.

Theeravut Thaipujr, who serves as both the city manager and public works director/city engineer for the 25,097-population, 7.52 square mile city of Loma Linda, is being paid \$248,081.68 this year.

There are a handful of city managers in San Bernardino County presently being paid more than Sund will earn in Big Bear Lake.

Charles Duggan,

the city manager of 73,168-population, 36.43 square mile Redlands, has a salary of \$269,984.

Robert Field, San Bernardino's city manager, was paid a salary of \$295,332 in 2021. In addition to being the county seat, 59.65-square mile San Bernardino is the county's largest city population-wise at 222,101 and is beset with social and economic challenges that have rendered it one of the most problematic governmental operations in California, indeed throughout the United States for an urban area of its size.

John Gillison last year was provided with a \$314,592 salary to run 46.5-square mile, 174,628-population Rancho Cucamonga.

Matt Ballantyne, who was hired earlier this year to manage 217,237 population, 42.4-square mile Fontana, is being paid a \$315,000 salary.

Scott Ochoa, Ontario's city manager, is provided \$338,566.16 to manage that 197,886-population, 50.01-square mile city. Ontario is the county's most economically advantaged city, with approaching two-thirds of a billion dollars running through all of its municipal funds on an annual basis, outdistancing both Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana, the county's second-ranking and third-ranking municipal economic powerhouses.

Big Bear Mayor Rick Herrick used the radio station KBHR-FM 93.3, which he owns and operates, to state to the Big Bear Lake community, "We are thrilled to announce that the city council has selected a new city manager. Erik Sund will help lead our city as we plan and build for our future. I feel strongly and I'm sure that you'll agree, Erik is a great fit for Big Bear, being a Southern California native and along with his wife and family, they have spent much time enjoying our mountain community."

-Mark Gutglueck