

Sheriff Accedes To Russian Cyber Hacking Racket’s Data Ransom Demands

By Mark Gutglueck

In what officials hope will be a “total and final” extortion payment, San Bernardino County and its sheriff’s department have delivered \$1.1 million in cryptocurrency to a team of Russian and Belarusian hackers after they successfully perpetrated a cyberattack that commandeered virtually all of the sheriff’s department’s data files and compromised

the department’s ability to freely access the data bases shared by other state and national law enforcement agencies. The \$1.1 million is the second largest known ransom payment by a governmental entity and the tenth largest acknowledged monetary exchange ever made to resolve a cybernetic interruption perpetrated by underworld computer system hijackers.

Typically in a ransomware attack, a criminal phantom uses stealth, beguilement, deception, misrepresentation, fraud or the remote pirating of a keyboard to enter a data storage and retrieval system to obtain unauthorized access to the data therein, thereafter commandeering it by downloading it, altering it, corrupting it or encrypting it. The latter leaves the legitimate

owner and operator of the system unable to access the data. Such encryption is generally followed by an extortionary demand in the form of an offer to either unlock the data or provide the original owner of the data with a decryption key to allow the data to be accessed once again. What appears to have occurred is that on April 6 or April 7, an employee using one of the sheriff’s

department’s terminals was baited into clicking on a malicious link, which created a wormhole by which the hackers were provided access to the system, including its programming files. As a consequence, the department’s own specific data base, known as the Central Name Index but quite often referred to by deputies as the “criminal name index,” was compro- See P 8

Upland Leasing
Parkland Near
Homes To Tesla
For Use As A
Parking Lot

Upland city officials have once more triggered the distrust of a cross section of politically active residents in the City of Gracious Living by making preparations to lease for commercial/industrial purposes more than two acres of current open space/potential future park land that is adjacent to an existing residential subdivision in the northwest quadrant of the city.

Attending the controversy are questions about whether the full city council or a quorum of its members violated the Brown Act, California’s open public meeting law by signaling to city staff to proceed with the deal with Tesla, Inc. prior to taking any official action relating to the lease.

Reports are that the city’s highest ranking staff members complied with Mayor Bill Velto’s insistence that the city accommodate the management of the Upland Tesla dealership by clearing the way, both physically and procedurally, for the creation of what officials maintain will be a temporary parking lot for the overflow vehicles to be sold by the dealership. At present, the Upland Tesla dealership does not have a sufficiently large sales lot for the vehicles in its inventory.

The *Sentinel* is told that Councilwoman Shannan Maust, the elected representative of the First District in which the temporary parking lot has already been created, was bypassed in the decision-making process for preparing the permitting of the facility. A potential is- See P 5

San Bernardino Buys Out Consortium’s Carousel Mall Redevelopment Contract

At a cost of \$100,000, the City of San Bernardino has bailed on its contractual arrangement with Huntington Station, New York-based Renaissance Downtowns USA and Los Angeles-based ICO Real Estate Group for the redevelopment of the Carousel Mall. That action comes not quite two months after the California Department of Housing

and Community Development took public issue with the criteria by which the city arrived at a determination to give the joint Renaissance Downtowns/ICO venture the exclusive development rights to revitalize the downtown site, which has been in decline for more than two decades and which has been largely fallow for nearly ten years.

The mall, a portion of which includes the Harris’ building first established in 1927 and which has existed in the form of a modern shopping venue since 1972, is proximate to San Bernardino City Hall, which has itself been shuttered for seismic considerations since 2017. In 1972, the two-floor Central City Mall opened with 52 stores and in

1973 an addition directly linked the mall to the Harris Company. Improvements to the mall were made, including a 36-foot colorful carousel near one of the entrances at the bottom floor, artistic façades and trendy interior decorations. At one point the number of stores and shops it contained grew to 117. By the late 1970s, the mall was facing the challenge of local gangs having

settled upon it as a hangout, particularly during the peak shopping hours of Friday night until Sunday. Management of the mall twice changed hands over the next decade. Despite efforts by city officials, the mall’s owners, developers and outside investors that began in the late 1980s to maintain it as a major regional shopping draw, it was dealt See P 2

With Yucaipa Recall Advancing, Mobile Home
Rental Rate Stabilization Looming Larger

The move by Yucaipa municipal officials to close out the Yucaipa Mobile Home Rent Control Board is looming as a much larger political issue in the context of the recall movement against three of the 55,496-population city’s councilmen. With some 4,200 mobile home spaces in the City of Yucaipa, mobile

home residents were a force to be reckoned with in any event. The discontinuation of the rent control board likely in and of itself was going to force no major reckoning on the city council, though, to be sure, the change was not one welcomed by those living in those semi-permanent dwellings. In January, however, three mem-

bers of the city council – Mayor Justin Beaver, Bobby Duncan and Matt Garner – forced the departure of City Manager Ray Casey and City Attorney David Snow. It does not appear that the council majority appreciated the degree to which a cross section of the Yucaipa community had come to appreciate having what See P 4

San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Deputies Now Outfitted With Fentanyl Counteractant

In the face of the overwhelming epidemic of fentanyl overdose deaths, the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department has instituted a policy of outfitting all of its patrol units with Narcan. Narcan is the brand name of an opioid counteractant known as Naloxone. Taken in time, Naloxone/Narcan will effec-

tively reverse or reduce the effects of opioids. Most notably, the medication is used to counter decreased breathing that comes with opioid overdose. When given intravenously, the substance can go into effect within two minutes. Narcan also be injected into a muscle, but the effect in such cases can be delayed up to five minutes. The medicine can also

be administered by aerosol spray, predominantly into an overdose victim’s nose. Fentanyl was first synthesized in 1960 and made available for medical use in the United States in 1968. It is on the order of 50 times more potent than heroin by weight and 100 times more potent than morphine by weight. So powerful are its effect

that Fentanyl can prove deadly in very minute quantities. The strict standardization applied by pharmaceutical companies in its processing into usable forms and protocols relating to its prescription by physicians was intended to prevent the substance from proving fatal. For some three-and-a-half decades it was used, primarily beneficially, in

into a vacant lot near the area of Paradise Way and Maltby Boulevard in Big Bear City on May 1 were 60-year-old Stormie Seibold of Temecula, 62-year-old Jimmy Fitzpatrick of Perris and 79-year-old Robert Carthy of Lake Havasu. Reports are that a distress signal went out from the plane but that it was not received by the tower at Big See P 6

3 Killed In Big Bear Airplane Crash

The National Safety Transportation Board and the Federal Aviation Administration are carrying out dual investigations of the fatal crash of a single-engine, fixed-wing, Beechcraft A36 with two seasoned pilots aboard that came down Monday afternoon in a populated area about a mile short of the Big Bear Airport. Killed in the crash

into a vacant lot near the area of Paradise Way and Maltby Boulevard in Big Bear City on May 1 were 60-year-old Stormie Seibold of Temecula, 62-year-old Jimmy Fitzpatrick of Perris and 79-year-old Robert Carthy of Lake Havasu. Reports are that a distress signal went out from the plane but that it was not received by the tower at Big See P 6

Combined With The Historic Harris Department Store, The Carousel Mall Was A Splendid Shopping Venue Until The Closure Of Norton AFB Threw It Into Hard Times Worsened By City Mismanagement & Graft-Driven Efforts To Exploit It For Political Payoffs *from front page*

what was ultimately a death blow in 1994 when the U.S. Department of Defense closed Norton Air Force Base, which severely hampered San Bernardino economically. In 1981, Spanish retailer El Corte Inglés, S.A. acquired the Harris Company and its nine stores, including the stately but old-fashioned Harris' Department Store in San Bernardino. In 1997, the Harris Company undertook a \$27 million effort to update its nine-store chain. The City of San Bernardino, yet committed to keeping its downtown core alive, put up some money toward that renovation effort. Those chain-wide improvements completed, the Harris Company merged with Gottschalks in 1998, and the stores were initially renamed Harris-Gottschalks. Most of the original Harris' stores eventually dropped the name Harris', and the original Harris' in downtown San Bernardino, which was in direct competition with the Gottschalks at the Inland Center Mall, was closed on January 31, 1999.

After the closure, ownership of the downtown San Bernardino Harris' building remained with El Corte Inglés, S.A. In 2001, Montgomery Ward went out of business, entailing the closure of its Carousel Mall store. JC Penney, the sole anchor at the Carousel Mall, closed in 2003. On March 29, 2005 the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors approved a ten-year lease agreement with two five-year options for 28,892 square feet of office space at the Carousel Mall for use by its children and family services division. The original term of the lease was from September 1, 2005 through August 31, 2015. Other portions of the mall's cavernous

interior were filled with San Bernardino City School District offices.

LNR Property Corp. purchased the property in February 2006, declaring an intention to convert the existing structure into a high density residential and commercial project through tenant improvements. That effort stalled out, and in January 2008, LNR Corp sold all of the Carousel Mall property, minus the Harris Company building which remained in the possession of El Corte Inglés, S.A. and the JC Penney's building which was owned by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, to Lynwood-based developer Placo San Bernardino LLC, for \$23.5 million. Placo expressed serious designs on reinvigorating the mall and obtaining short-term financing to undertake improvements, signaling it was on a crash schedule to do just that. But that same year, CinemaStar shuttered its theater on the mall's grounds. Placo, with a \$16.5 million loan from Center Bank, pressed ahead but in May 2010 failed to make its payments to Center Bank. The plan stalled. The City of San Bernardino's economic development agency swooped in and bought the property's note and deed of trust from Center Bank for slightly over \$13.1 million. The city, based on backroom discussions with county officials, had visions of filling large portions of the mall with county offices.

Relations between Placo and the city had entirely broken down by that point. Placo, which claimed it was still intent on making a go of revitalizing the mall, said it was being undercut by the city, which was militating to tenantize it with county government offices. The city pressed Placo to pay it the \$5

million difference between the amount it had paid for the mall and the amount of money loaned it by Center Bank with interest.

In 2011, there were 33 shops in the mall. In April 2014, San Bernardino County signaled that it would not renew its lease on the space within the mall, and its children and family services division would leave the premises when its ten-year lease expired the following year. Its bridges burned with Placo, the city in November 2014 began to look for another operator of the mall. Then-San Bernardino Mayor Carey Davis and then-San Bernardino City Manager Allen Parker sent letters to more than 80 "development concerns" soliciting return letters of interest to the city relating to the mall. Those letters provoked 14 responses, and then-Deputy City Manager Bill Manis concluded that three of those, AECOM/Fransen, Tishman Construction Corporation and Hunt Development Group were serious enough for him and then-Community Development Director Mark Persico to engage with in substantial dialogue.

By January 2015, there were 17 businesses remaining at the Carousel Mall, including four restaurants. City officials, convinced that entering into a public/private partnership was the last viable way to salvage the mall property, pursued that angle. In November 2015, the City of San Bernardino, in a move sanctioned by its city council, entered into an exclusive negotiation agreement with AECOM, the Fransen Company and KB Homes to redevelop the Carousel Mall commercially, simultaneously intensifying the adjacent Theater Square and capping the effort with town homes/condominiums to be intersticed with the shopping opportunities. The aggressive step toward rejuvenation of the county seat appeared to be moving ahead rapidly. The following month, December 2015,

the city council as it was then composed signed off on AECOM, the Fransen Company and KB Homes pushing full steam ahead with bringing in restaurant and third party developers and establishing town square street lights, utilities, signage and the extension of Third Street as a paseo, i.e. a walkway, by 2017, constructing 60 units of apartments that would "wrap" the existing mall building and be placed in front of the existing garage by 2018, begin filling tenant-improved spaces at the mall with neighborhood retail stores by 2019 and adding 35,000 square feet of retail operations, 275 townhomes and a charter school by 2020. According to Vaughan Davies, a principal in AECOM, the existing parking structure at the mall would remain intact. Those elements of the undertaking were to be completed by 2020 and the cultural draw of the adjacent Regal Cinemas and California Theatre in the downtown area, along with further development of the mall property would take on a life of its own and continue over the next decade until the area would be a thriving example of a postmodern urban landscape, Davies prognosticated.

To facilitate the redevelopment plans for the mall, in November 2017 city officials arranged for, and the city council assented to, the exchange of 115 acres of vacant land it owned in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains at the city's extreme northeast end for the 2.48-acres JC Penney site on the mall property owned by the San Manuel Indian Tribe.

San Bernardino's overwhelming problems with homelessness and economic stagnation, not to mention issues relating to graft and overtures pertaining to kickback requests, convinced AECOM, the Fransen Company and KB Homes to abandon the effort.

Under Mayor John Valdivia, who defeated Carey Davis in 2018,

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efforts to transform the mall property and the district around it into a postmodern cityscape continued.

Under Valdivia's watch and that of City Manager Teri LeDoux and then City Manager Robert Field, the city again solicited proposals. Eleven separate entities competed to be selected as the master developer/redeveloper of the mall property.

Some city officials, however, said they came to recognize what they referred to as "favoritism" on Valdivia's part toward one of those competing entities, Shanghai Construction Group, known by its acronym SCG, during closed door meetings at City Hall. It would be subsequently revealed that a multitude of shell

companies or middlemen linked to Chinese-owned companies, including SCG America and Jia Yuan USA Co., were passing money to southern California politicians, including Valdivia and Los Angeles City Councilman Jose Huizar, while those companies were pursuing development projects in the cities those politicians represented. On at least two occasions in 2019, Valdivia made use of the Luxe City Center Hotel and other Intercontinental Hotel Group locations for meetings or fundraising activity, with his campaign paying what looked to be drastically reduced rates – \$904.45 total – for accommodations. On at least five occasions, Valdivia was provided with accommodations

at Luxe City Center Hotel, DKN Hotels or other Intercontinental Hotel Group hotels for meetings and fundraising events, all for prices well below what would normally have been charged to a member of the public or a company for using those facilities. Further documentation obtained by the Sentinel shows that DKN Hotels on December 29, 2020 defrayed for Valdivia the \$3,000 cost of holding a pre-New Year's Eve 2020/21 fundraiser gala at one of its hotels. At that liquor-lubricated event, Valdivia brought in tens of thousands of dollars to finance his future campaigns. DKN Hotels and Intercontinental Hotel Group, through a multitude of cutouts, are linked to SCG America.

This apparent effort by SCG America to launder money to Valdivia through his campaign was ongoing while he was seeking to manipulate the city council to approve giving SCG America go-ahead to redevelop the Carousel Mall property.

Among the companies competing with SCG America for the mall replacement project were Los Angeles-based BLVD Communities, Calabasas-based Alliant Strategic Development, Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group. Along the way, Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group, which had initially entered competing bids but which had cooperated on projects

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Victorville Uses Barstow Rail Yard Expansion As A Pretext To Abandon SCLA Intermodal Ruse

By Mark Gutglueck

Using the pretext that Barstow will become host to a modernized rail yard as the consequence of a \$1.5 billion commitment to make it the logical location of an intermodal facility to warehouse and transload freight brought by train coming into the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach onto trucks for distribution to the rest of the country, the Victorville City Council on Tuesday pulled the plug on its 16-year-long commitment to develop the Southern California Logistics Rail Authority's Victorville Intermodal Facility.

In 2007, the City of Victorville entered into an agreement with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company to carry out the eventual development of an intermodal logistics facility at Southern California Logistics Airport.

While Victorville officials justify the termination of the agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe as one that is driven by market conditions and currently prevailing economic trends, those with a more in-depth understanding of the city's and region's history understand that the Southern California Logistics Rail Authority was from its inception a dispensable element in the strategy formulated by Victorville city officials more than three decades ago to outmaneuver San Bernardino County and other High Desert municipalities to take over control of what was then George Air Force Base and is today Southern California Logistics Airport.

The base, originally named the Victorville Army Air Station when it was crash built in the summer and fall of 1941 as the Japanese attack

on Pearl Harbor and the United States' direct involvement in World War II fast approached, was located on the outskirts of Victorville and closer to Adelanto. In 1988, it was announced that George was to be shuttered by the Department of Defense in 1992.

Victorville city officials, led by Mayor Terry Caldwell and City Manager Jim Cox, were intent upon excluding other political and governmental entities in the region from controlling the facility following its civilian use reconversion. Correctly assessing that Adelanto likewise would be intent on asserting exclusive control of the aerodrome and understanding that the federal government would prioritize dealing and cooperating, during the base decommissioning process, with a regional governmental collective rather than a multitude

of individual municipal entities, Caldwell and Cox formulated an approach by which they essentially feigned making a cooperative effort involving San Bernardino County, the City of Hesperia and the Town of Apple Valley under the aegis of the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority, known by its acronym VVEDA. Using VVEDA, Victorville put together a competing proposal for the inheritance of the Air Force Base property and its conversion into a civilian airport and logistics hub.

Adelanto, asserting that the Air Force Base was actually more proximate to Adelanto than it was to Victorville and that Adelanto controlled the water supply to the base property, pressed forward with convincing the Department of Defense that it rather than VVEDA should more

logically have final control, development rights at and ownership of the base property.

Caldwell, who was an attorney and well-versed in the methods by which government operates, worked in close cooperation with San Bernardino County, Apple Valley and Hesperia through the joint powers collective of the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority, known by its acronym VVEDA, to convince the federal military base re-use authorities that VVEDA offered the best alternative for reclaiming the base. Adelanto, dominated by then-City Administrator Pat Chamberlaine, spared no expense in carrying out the effort to claim the base property as its own. Utilizing its adjunct municipal authority in a way that was not merely questionable but most likely illegal, the

City of Adelanto used its redevelopment agency to issue bonds to provide financing to pay for its legal effort to not only assert its claim of ownership rights to the base but to block the efforts by VVEDA. Then-Adelanto Redevelopment Attorney Robert Zaiden Corrado was more than willing to collect what in the final analysis totaled more than \$7 million in legal fees to file motion upon motion upon motion with the court system, none of which had any effect other than delaying the inevitable.

Meanwhile, Victorville had been maneuvering behind the scenes to effectively take control of the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority, paying not only for the legal representation of the authority in its legal responses to the filings made by Corrado on behalf of Adel-

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Fentanyl In Minute Doses Killing Users In Unprecedented Numbers from front page

manufacturers discovered that the production of Fentanyl could be an extremely profitable undertaking, as it could be used in a highly diluted form when blended with buffers to replicate heroin, morphine, oxycodone, Vicodin, Norco or percocet. Moreover, drug dealers began mixing it with other narcotics such as cocaine, methamphetamine and benzodiazepines for a variation on those popular street drugs.

At issue is the poor quality control often involved in such manufacturing or assembly efforts.

The drug most closely comparable to Fentanyl is heroin, known scientifically as diacetylmorphine and diamorphine. The quality of heroin varies, as the traditional names of the substance – black tar, Mexican brown or China white – can indicate. Making it ever more complicated is that the unregulated and illegal market in

heroin results in typical heroin bought on the street varying in purity anywhere between 30 percent to 70 percent. Thus, a heroin user who has adjusted to having a habit will use about 10 to 20 milligrams of pure heroin for each dose or fix. The estimated lethal dose of heroin ranges from 30 mg in an uninitiated adult user to 500 mg in those who have built up a tolerance for the substance, although there is indication that an uninitiated adult user with no opiate tolerance can, in rare circumstances, suffer a fatal overdose on as little as 15 milligrams of heroin.

As deadly as heroin is, fentanyl is far more dangerous. According to the best research available, in half of the adult population, ingesting 2 milligrams of fentanyl would prove lethal. For illustrative purposes, fentanyl and salt are similar in weight. Each grain of salt weighs approximately .0585 of a milligram. Thus there are roughly 17.094 grains of salt in a milligram. In this way, consuming as little fentanyl in a quantity comparable

to about 34.2 grains of salt will kill the average adult.

Illicit manufacturers in recent years have taken to pressing minute quantities of fentanyl into counterfeit representations of valium, Xanax, oxycodone or Percocet by finding a binder, i.e., a buffer, that is similar in color and all other respects to the binders used by licensed pharmaceutical companies in their production of those aforementioned drugs. The pills are then stamped with the markings of those various drugs.

In some cases, quality control with some pirate editions of these drugs is more exacting and sophisticated than in others.

More sophisticated operations use a methodology of blending the fentanyl in a way that it is evenly distributed within the binder. In some cases, the fentanyl is encased in mini-gel capsules that break down at differing rates when they come into contact with stomach acid to provide a time-release effect, stretching the effectiveness of the drug

gradually over as many as eight hours.

In less sophisticated operations, the pills are pressed from a binder gruel into which the fentanyl has been sprinkled as opposed to having been blended. Those pills can have clumps of fentanyl in quantities that approach or exceed a lethal fentanyl dose. If two or more such clumps are found in a single pill, the outcome for the person who takes that pill can be fatal.

The method of using or ingesting the fentanyl that comes in this pill form can vary. It appears that the lion's share of those who purchase fentanyl-containing pills, be they colored and stamped to replicate Valium, Zanax, Oxycodone, Vicodin, Norco or Percocet, are ingested orally. That is not always the case, however. Some grind the pills into as fine of a powder as they can and snort, that is inhale, the pulverized particles, including the fentanyl and the binder, allowing the drug to be absorbed by the mucus membranes of their nasal tissue, their sinuses or through eventual pas-

sage to their throats and clear down their esophagus to their stomachs. Others disassemble or crush the pills, loading them into a spoon and using heat from a torch, candle or match to separate, as best they can, the fentanyl from the medium in which it is contained and then use a syringe with a retractable plunger to siphon the melted fentanyl with its different relative density, leaving the binder in the spoon to then slam, that is inject, the fentanyl into a vein or artery.

Growing up around the fentanyl culture, indeed intrinsic to it, is a means of distribution that is as newfangled and inventive as postmodern life permits. Whereas in generations past, drugs were sold to end users by drug dealers and drug pushers who quite often worked the streets and had immediate contact with their customers, that is no longer necessarily the case.

The stereotypical imagery of an addict scoring a packet of dope in sleazy alleyway that would be common among the parents or grandparents of today's

younger crop of fentanyl users is hardly applicable when it comes to purchasing fentanyl. Those selling the drug today typically make use of social media to communicate with or even advertise to or recruit possible customers and make or close deals. There yet exist small time dealers, limited to a confined geographical location. There are traffickers, as well, with business of immense proportion, operating regionally or across multiple states, indeed in some cases, from coast to coast.

One can purchase fentanyl from an entrepreneur without knowing him or her, ever meeting or seeing or talking directly with the supplier or even as much as knowing his or her identity or real name.

Arrangements for such sales are typically done by means of social media – Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or forums of that nature. Snapchat is considered particularly suited to making such interactions because of its encryption and a feature

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Yucaipa Council's Shuttering Of The City's Mobilehome Rent Control Board Lengthens Troika's Recall Survivability Odds *from front page*

they considered to be Casey's steady hand on the tiller of Yucaipa's ship of state.

A 1981 graduate of Princeton University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering, Casey worked in the private sector as a project manager for a construction company for three years and then from 1985 until 1991 was employed by Manitou Engineering in Escondido as a consulting engineer. In 1991, he began his career in the public sector as the principal engineer in the City of Temecula's land development department. He departed California to go to work for the Isabella County Road Commission in Michigan as that entity's highway engineer and road commission manager. He was lured back to California, where he was employed as the development services deputy director and city engineer with the City of San Bernardino. In 2003, he left San Bernardino to become the public works director and city engineer with Yucaipa. In 2008, Casey was promoted to city manager.

Throughout his tenure up until his last few weeks in Yucaipa, Casey was highly thought of by the majority of his political masters on the city council, and for the most part, he managed to steer the city around any sandbars of controversy. Indeed, any missteps the city took during his tenure, to the degree such were made, were largely ones by members of the council rather than city staff. Having served on the League of California Cities' Inland Empire Executive Committee for three years, the League of California Cities' Housing, Community and Economic Development Committee for three years and he was the chairman of

the City/County Manager Technical Advisory Committee for two years, Casey was generally perceived as being competent, and his training and experience as an engineer heightened his value to the city.

In October 2022, before Greg Bogh, who had been on the city council since 2010, and David Avila, who was first elected in 2014, left the council in December as a result of their opting out of running for reelection in November's municipal election, both had joined with Beaver, who was then a councilman, Duncan, and Councilman Jon Thorp in a unanimous vote to extend Casey's contract at least until June 30, 2024 and provide him with a 3 percent salary increase that would jump his salary to \$299,420, such that he would be making \$422,901.50 in total annual compensation, putting him among the 25 highest-paid city managers in California.

It thus seemed that Beaver and Duncan valued, as did most others, Casey's level of skill and mastery of municipal processes and his institutional knowledge of Yucaipa. The apparent 180 degree flip the two engaged in when they joined with Garner, who had been elected in a close race in November to replace Avila as the city's First District councilman, to bounce both Casey and Snow from the city's two key staff positions, resounded with considerable shock around the community. Chris Venable, who had captured first place in the Second District contest in November to supplant Bogh on the council, and Thorp had voted against accepting Casey's resignation, though they did go along with sacking Snow.

The council by a 4-to-1 vote, with Thorp dissenting, voted to hire Chris Mann as city manager to replace Casey. The council unanimously voted to hire Stephen Graham to come in as the new city attorney in Snow's place.

Mann, a Yucaipa resi-

dent, was the chairman of the Yucaipa Valley Water District Board of Directors. He was also the city manager with the municipality of Canyon Lake. Graham was likewise employed as the city attorney with Canyon Lake as its city attorney, and he was further the city attorney in Hemet and Indio.

Graham's hiring as city manager was immediate. He retained his city attorney posts in Canyon Lake, Hemet and Indio. Mann's hiring was effective March 1. To take the Yucaipa city manager's post, he resigned from the Yucaipa Valley Water District Board and as Canyon Lake city manager.

Jennifer Crawford, who had been serving as assistant city manager while Case was running the city, was appointed interim city manager to oversee City Hall until Mann was in place.

In their arrangement with Casey, Mayor Beaver and Councilmen Duncan and Garner had conferred upon him a severance package which has not been publicly disclosed but which was said to be "generous" and was reportedly equal to the salary he was to receive until his contract expired in June 2024. This created consternation among many Yucaipa residents who wondered aloud why the council majority, if it were so intent on easing Casey out and bringing Mann in, did not simply allow Casey's contract to run its course and make arrangements to hire Mann at the mid-year point in 2024 instead of creating a situation in which the city is for all of 2023 and half of 2024 paying two city manager salaries for the services of a single city manager. Throughout January, February, March and into April, there was intense protest from a number of Yucaipa citizens with regard to Casey's forced exit. Those going on record as being opposed to what Beaver, Duncan and Garner had done included former Yucaipa City Councilman Dick Riddell, former Planning

Commissioner Denise Work, Kathy Sellers, Caecelia Johns, Robin Miskin, Kevin Miskin, George Sardeson and, Shirley Dalton, Colleen Wang, Lloyd Wekstad, Kathleen Woolsey, Lenore Will, Diane Smith, Kristine Mohler, Ramona Etheridge, Jamie Hilliwig, Dan Crain, Steve Freeman, Linda Roberts-Ross, Scott Riley, Jill Kowalski, Teri Boon, Jo Sutt, Matt Underwood, Hansen Wang, Sherry Todd, Martha Glubka, Ann Hartung, Joel McCabe, Arthur Walter and Johanne Dyerly.

On April 24, Sherilyn Long representing residents in District 1, Steve Maurer, representing residents in District 3, and George Sardeson, representing residents in District 4, came to Yucaipa Hall, where they filed a notice of intention to circulate recall petitions against Garner, Duncan and Beaver, respectively.

With a committed core of citizens looking to drive them from office based in large measure on the forced departure of Casey, Beaver's, Duncan's and Garner's political survivability has now become a function of how well they can remain on good terms with other factions in the city, ones who are not as sensitive to the issues pertaining to Casey but are animated about other matters. Given the strong feelings of disappointment many mobile home residents have about the city shuttering the Yucaipa Mobile Home Rent Control Board, Beaver, Duncan and Garner may be in a weaker position than they delivered themselves into with their action relating to Casey.

Indeed, given revelations that have come about as a consequence of the recall advocates research into Mann and the reports and rumors that information is spawning, things might get worse for Beaver, Duncan and Garner before they get better.

Some, though not all Yucaipa residents already knew that Mann, in addition to his career as municipal manage-

ment professional, functions as a representative of developers and development interests seeking to move building proposals past the planning process and get them approved with local governments, that is, at the city and county level. To this end, Mann is the principal in Mann Communications, which is touted as a stable of "public relations strategists." On its website, Mann Communications celebrates itself, essentially, as a company devoted to promoting development plans.

According to the narrative on the firm's website's specialization page, "Elected officials are facing increasing public pressure to vote against development of all types. As a result, it is more important than ever that officials are provided the political cover they need in order to support good projects. Mann Communications has extensive experience gaining positive results for our land use clients through aggressive government, media and community relations programs. Having worked with large international and Fortune 500 companies, the experts at Mann Communications provide our clients with a wealth of knowledge and experience and a winning approach to land use entitlement."

That page continues, "In addition, Mann Communications Principal Chris Mann has been an active partner in numerous development projects in California, Nevada and Arizona. Having worked both as an elected official and as a developer, he uniquely understands the development process from both the public and private perspectives. Understanding the practices and motivations of each side better than most, he is able to provide tremendous value to the entire development process, making Mann Communications an invaluable member of any project team."

Among Mann Communications clients or former clients are the

AES Corporation and Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, Inc., residential developers Lennar, Pardee, Meritage Homes and Richmond American, builders Holland Development, Jacobsen Family Holdings, Turner Dale, Rotkin Real Estate Group, Carlton Properties, Clear Channel Outdoor, BrightSource, Preferred Business Properties Real Estate Services, Beaumont Garden Center, Passantino Andersen, Robertson's Cement, Oakmont Industrial Group, The Golshan Group and Desmond & Louis Incorporated.

For some, that Mann is involved in promoting development projects while he is employed in the capacity of city manager, overseeing municipal planning operations that are intended to provide a degree of insulation to Yucaipa's residents by regulating land use constitutes a conflict of interest.

Compounding that are revelations that as a politician in Yucaipa – including his run for the water board in 2016 and his unopposed run for reelection in 2020 – he has created a political action committee that has taken a role in promoting the candidacies of some candidates while launching attacks in the form of "hit pieces" or negative ads, mailers and handbills targeting other candidates. This leaves him in the position of being city manager and answerable to members of the city council he assisted in putting into office, another conflict of interest, his critics maintain.

The conflicts run even deeper than that, some maintain.

As a pro-development operative, one who has worked for and received money from homebuilders, landowners, land speculators and real estate interests, Mann is aligned with those who might have and indeed do have an interest in seeing some or maybe even all of the Yucaipa's mobile home parks closed out and converted into more

Continued on Page 6

Even Before The Upland City Council Has Had The Opportunity To Approve A Lease Arrangement With Tesla For A Temporary Parking Lot North of 16th Street and West Of Benson, City Officials Have Graded The Site *from front page*

sue at play, at least in the minds of some city residents, is that transforming the land in question into a makeshift parking lot might set the city on what was termed a slippery slope which would result in the land in question being rezoned from its current status as open space – where a park or other recreational amenity might conceivably be established – into some alternate land use that could prove inimical to the adjacent residential subdivisions.

Tesla, Inc. has leased the large showroom property formerly occupied by CNC Motors at 1018 East 20th Street, just west of the confluence of the 210 Freeway and Campus Avenue along the northern periphery of the Colonies Crossroads commercial subdivision. The building's south side is proximate to and is visible from the freeway. During the property's previous incarnation as CNC's showroom for vintage and high-end modern collector vehicles, all of CNC's inventory was kept inside, and the paved parking around the facility to east, north and west accommodated the cars driven by CNC's employees, CNC's clientele and those simply there to tour the vintage car displays. At present, with Tesla's inventory running three to four times the volume of CNC's and a good portion of the building being used as a repair facility, the existing paved parking lots at the site are inadequate for the inventory, the cars driven by Tesla's corporate, administrative, financing, sales and automotive service staff and the facility's customers. At present, virtually all of the paved parking lot at 1018 East 20th Street parking is full, with employees and customers parking along 20th Street and in an unimproved field north of the freeway to the west

of the dealership. Currently, Tesla is constructing a permanent vehicle storage lot on a 1.3-acre parcel adjacent to the dealership to the east to increase permanent on-site vehicle parking/storage.

At its November 14, 2022 meeting, the Upland City Council approved a lease agreement with Tesla to allow the company to use a 35,000 square foot area within a city-owned reservoir site on the northwest corner of 15th Street and 6th Avenue to park/store up to 100 new vehicles.

According to a staff report for an item that has been placed on the city council agenda for the May 8 council meeting, "Recently, Tesla approached staff and indicated they need another off-site lot to temporarily park/store vehicles due to a substantial increase in vehicle deliveries at the Upland facility. Staff identified several parcels that were either cityowned, privately-owned, or owned by Southern California Edison. After a review of the sites, Tesla decided to seek a lease agreement within a portion of the vacant city-owned park property in the Sycamore Hills area along Park View Promenade. This subject site will enable the parking/storage of approximately 300 vehicles and is a quick drive via the 210 Freeway to the Upland facility. The lease agreement is for 2.07 acres within the city's 58-acre property with a dimension of 300 feet by 300 feet. The lease area would be setback approximately 80 feet east along Park View Promenade and setback from the residential dwellings to the south approximately 145 feet. The entire 58 acres within Sycamore Hills is zoned Open Space District which allows surface parking as a permitted use. The land uses within the vicinity

of the subject site are residential dwellings to the south and west, and vacant city-owned property and the 210 Freeway beyond to the north, and vacant city-owned property and existing residential dwellings to the east approximately 1,385 linear feet beyond."

The Sycamore Hills District lies west of Benson Avenue and north of 16th Street, running westward virtually to the western city limits with Claremont and Los Angeles County. Sycamore Hills is hemmed in on the north by the 210 Freeway, which in Claremont runs east-west along a tangent south of 16th Street, which is known as Baseline Avenue in Claremont. Near the Claremont/Upland boundary and county line, close to the San Antonio Wash, the 210 Freeway sweeps north before reorienting again as an east-west corridor, below which is Sycamore Hills. There is an existing residential subdivision at the northwest corner of Benson and 16th Street. As one proceeds west on 16th Street toward Claremont, there are three north-south roads extending into the Sycamore Hills neighborhood, those being Mountain Shadow Road, Burl Drive and Park View Promenade. Near the confluence of Park View Promenade and Iris Lane, in the field/open area to the east, the city has had roughly 2.07 acres graded and enclosed behind a gate. That graded area lies roughly 135 to 150 feet north of single family residential lots along east-west Plan Tree Drive and roughly 196 feet east of the the single family residential lots along Hemlock Lane.

Despite the consideration that the city has not yet officially signed off on leasing the property to the Tesla dealership, the physical preparation of the property, consisting of grading, has already taken place.

According to the staff report, "Under the terms of the lease agreement, Tesla will lease 2.07 acres within the city-

owned vacant land for \$27,000 a month. The lease area will enable Tesla to park/store up to approximately 300 new vehicles. The term in the lease agreement is three (3) years with an option for two (2) 1-year extensions if Tesla needs the additional time. The lease agreement provides Tesla with access and the right to use the lease area from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday through Sunday, including holidays. No vehicle-hauling trucks will be used to deliver new vehicles to the site. The vehicles will be shuttled individually to and from the site by Tesla employees. Tesla estimates that approximately fifty (50) vehicles will be shuttled back and forth a day. In addition, Tesla intends to keep the existing gate locked in between vehicles being shuttled during the daytime and locked after 6:00 pm."

Last month, residents living within 300 feet of the temporary parking lot were given notice of the contemplated lease and the pending alterations to the property to accommodate the vehicles. Shortly thereafter, the grading took place.

Among most of the residents there was little reaction, as the majority of them accepted the authority of the city as being predominant in such situations. At least one of the residents contacted other residents in the First District. That triggered concern that the city was taking action that was inconsistent with the open space designation of the property, and would create a precedence that would prove problematic. Those residents had misgivings that if the city were to lease land designated to remain as open space for a purpose inconsistent with its land use designation and that use were to go unchallenged, City Hall would take that as license to make further future use of open space and parkland for commercial, semi-commercial, industrial or semi-industrial purposes, perhaps paving the way for an eventual alteration

of the zoning altogether.

The *Sentinel* is informed that inquiries about what was to take place were made at City Hall and in particular with Councilwoman Shannan Maust, the councilwoman in the First District, where the lease is to take place. Upland is divided into four council districts. Those districts – District 1, District 2, District 3 and District 4 – roughly correspond to the city's northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast quadrants, respectively. Maust, the *Sentinel* is told, maintained she had no knowledge of the lease proposal, and she was unaware that grading had taken place at the site. Similarly, District 3 Councilman Carlos Garcia was, the *Sentinel* is told, uninformed about the grading or the pending lease arrangement.

This week, on Thursday May 4, the agenda for the May 8 council meeting was posted. Contained therein, as Item 10 J, was action by the council to "consider approval of a lease agreement with Tesla, Inc. on a portion of APN: 1005-471-0a and determine that the lease is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act." All items falling under Item 10 were considered part of the consent calendar. The consent calendar is reserved for what are deemed "noncontroversial" issues.

The staff report for Item 10 J, presented to the city council by City Manager Michael Blay and prepared by Development Services Director Robert Dalquest, stated, "It is recommended that the city council approve the lease agreement between the City of Upland and Tesla, Inc. on 2.07 acres within vacant city-owned property located 80 feet east along Park View Promenade (portion of APN: 1005- 471-01), authorize the city manager to execute the lease agreement, determine that the lease agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to Cali-

fornia Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15061(B)(3), 15304 and 15311; and direct staff to file a notice of exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act."

Alan French, Upland's principal engineer, said that the city has relatively exacting standards with regard to the proximity of a parking lot to residential units. He said that the setback between a parking lot and a single-family residential unit would be greater than that between a parking lot and multifamily uses/apartments, but that in any event the setback of 145 feet from the backyards of the homes along Plan Tree Drive likely met or exceeded the city's standard. French said the parking lot would not be incompatible with the open space zoning since it was not paved nor permanent.

Indications were that staff had been given sufficient assurance of majority support for the lease well ahead of time and that accounted for staff forging ahead with the grading of the property. To that effect, the *Sentinel* was told that Mayor Bill Velto was on board for the lease arrangement being approved, as are Councilman Rudy Zuniga and Councilman James Breitting.

This raised the specter of a violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, California's open public meeting law. With only limited exceptions, the Brown Act prevents a quorum of an elected body from discussing or coming to a consensus on or casting votes regarding the action of the governmental entity those members represent outside an open public forum, the agenda for which is required to be posted 72 hours in advance. The exceptions specified in the Brown Act pertain to action relating to land sales or purchases; negotiations relating to such sales and purchases or negotiations pertaining to contracts for employment;

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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.

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Poignantly Conscious That Mobilehome Residents Represent A Huge Voting Bloc, Yucaipa Councilors Targeted For Recall Had The Assistant City Manager Reassure The Public That Scratching The Rental Control Board Won't Spur Lease Rate Escalations *from page 4*

valuable assets, such as residential or commercial projects, some Yucaipa residents have suggested. Viewed in this light, the city council's discontinuation of the Yucaipa Mobile Home Rent Control Board comes across as part of a formula by which rent on mobile home space will escalate, more and more mobilehome owners will depart from the city's mobile home parks and the owners of those parks will eventually find their way clear to close them down and either sell the land to speculators or developers or otherwise participate in developing the property themselves.

Whether that scenario is a realistic one or not, more and more mobilehome owners, through word of mouth or social media postings, are coming to believe that is the case. This does not portend well for Beaver, Duncan and Garner, as they are militating to fend off the recall effort.

At the April 24 Yucaipa City Council meeting, it appeared that the three had delegated Crawford, who has reassumed her position as assistant city manager and second-in-command at City Hall, this time not as Casey's right-hand woman but as Mann's, to attempt to

disabuse a large number of the city's mobile home residents of the notions that have been making the rounds lately.

Crawford started with an exposition regarding the changes to Yucaipa's Mobilehome Park Rent Stabilization Program, which is perceived by many to have been substantially weakened by the current regime in Yucaipa.

Crawford took on the subject of how the city council had acted at its April 10 meeting in revamping sections of the Yucaipa Municipal Code pertaining to the city's Mobilehome Park Rent Stabilization Program such that it had given first reading to an ordinance by which the city council dispensed with Mobilehome Rent Review Commission and eliminated its rent appeal process and in place of the city's existing mobilehome rent stabilization processes it called for the solicitation of bids, referred to as a request for proposals, for a "mobilehome rent stabilization hearing officer." The council's direction was based on the challenges the city had experienced in finding, filling and maintaining the five-member commission with qualified candidates who

could understand the complexity of the documents associated with special rent adjustment applications, Crawford explained. The second and final reading of that that ordinance, action by which the ordinance would be confirmed as going into effect 30 days hence, was being held that night. Nelson Fink, a city resident, offered his objection to the change, saying "[Y]ou are going to do away with the commission for rental [rates] on the parks and you are going to appoint someone to do that job," which he said might undercut the fairness of the process, particularly as the ability appeal the determination on rates was being compromised or eliminated.

Beaver, sensitive to the suggestion that the council was seeking to undercut the evenhandedness and fairness of the city's existing method of determining rental rates, pressed Crawford to respond. Using language lifted out of the staff report, Crawford reiterated that "It is very difficult to find a five-member commission who can understand the complexity associated with the Special Rent Adjustment Applications. On an ongoing basis, we have had a very difficult time not only finding five people but people that can understand the ordinance along with their obligation that can uphold itself if they get appealed to the council and the court." She said those

problems have been evident since 2011 and that previous city councils had taken up the issue without resolving it.

She said the new protocol, once in place would not do away with rent control but improve the program by seeing to it that the applications were evaluated by a competent and knowledgeable authority subject to the proceedings being taken down by a court reporter, leading to a more just determination of rental rates that would keep them in check.

Residents expressed skepticism that a single individual rather than a pane would be entrusted with making decisions on the rental rates.

Crawford defended the elimination of the appeal process by emphasizing that the hearing officer will be an accomplished attorney in the field or a retired judge, ensuring, she implied, that the decision rendered would be a sound one legally which would not in any likelihood be overturned. She said such a standard was adhered to in other municipal jurisdictions.

"Other communities use hearing officers and that helps expedite and thoroughly review the applications and they know the processes and our local ordinance to ensure that everything had been vetted appropriately to determine what would be the fair return or maintenance of net operating income

or loss of amenity," said Crawford.

Beaver averred that the city council would not have the expertise, confidence in its own competence in the field of rent determination nor standing to second guess a judge.

"This does not eliminate rent control," Crawford said. "If anything, in my personal opinion... it enhances our program and ensures that the applications are being thoroughly reviewed to ensure that the residents aren't paying any more than what they have to."

The second reading of the ordinance was approved by the council, 5-to-0. The city council ultimately called upon Crawford to issue the request for proposals with the caveat that the hearing officer would be selected from a pool of attorneys and retired judges.

Those applying for the post must do so by May

16. Crawford and City Attorney Graham are to evaluate the applications. Crawford seemed to indicate that the city may hire more than one hearing officer.

How well the process the city is moving to will work and whether those residents of the city's mobilehome parks will cotton to the process has yet to be determined.

The city council's affinity for eliminating or conflating existing commissions, committees and citizen panels, as was done with dissolution of the fire services committee and establishment of a public safety committee has garnered mixed reviews from residents. Some see the changes as ones that promote efficiency and comprehension of purpose while others consider the moves as ones which limit the opportunity for citizen input and review.

-Mark Gutglueck

Big Bear Airplane Crash *from front page*

Bear Airport.

Carty owned and was piloting the craft, which bore the serial number E-1376 and registration number N2038Y and was previously owned by Cynthia L. Brown of Sikeston, Missouri. He departed with Fitzpatrick from French Valley Airport at 11:22 a.m., making a short hop to Corona Municipal Airport, landing at 11:36

a.m., according to Flight Aware, an aviation website. There, they rendezvoused with Carty and had lunch. The trio were flying to Big Bear Airport to look over an airplane there that was for sale.

They left Corona airport at 1:32 p.m.

Seibold had been licensed as an aviator for 30 years and Fitzpatrick was also an experienced pilot.

Available flight data shows the plane hit the

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Plan To Transform Carousel Mall Property Into A Mixed Use Inner Cityscape Fell Apart When State With Its Affordable Housing Imperative Got Involved

from page 2

previously, elected to combine their efforts.

As the competition proceeded in earnest, Valdivia, in a ham-handed way, put pressure on Field and other city staff to award the contract to SCG. Eight of the others involved in the selection process were shunted aside by the city, leaving Renaissance Downtowns USA/ICO Real Estate Group to go toe-to-toe with the Chinese-based conglomerate, Shanghai Construction Group, i.e., SCG.

After it was learned that SCG was filtering money to Valdivia and his electioneering fund through various SCG corporate affiliates and subgroups and that Field was militating with the mayor to get an internal city staff recommendation to proceed with SCG’s redevelopment plan, there was a firestorm of controversy centered around charges that Valdivia was on the take and that he was corrupting Field and the city’s top-ranking employees. Council Members Ben Reynoso and Kimberly Calvin took a lead in questioning what Valdivia was up to, and citizen outrage at Valdivia’s action escalated. In that atmosphere, it became impossible for Field to return a recommendation in favor of SCG.

City staff provided a recommendation that the city council reject both bids to redevelop the Carousel Mall property and rather include the mall property into a yet-to-be-determined downtown revitalization effort.

On March 3, 2021, a majority of the San Bernardino City Council consisting of Councilman Theodore Sanchez, Councilwoman Sandra Ibarra, Councilman Fred

Shorett, Councilman Ben Reynoso, Councilwoman Kimberly Calvin and Councilman Damon Alexander voted in favor of accepting the proposal by Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group, and allowing both to serve as the mall’s combined master developer. Councilman Juan Figueroa, Valdivia’s most steadfast ally on the council and who himself had been spotted cavorting with SCG principals and corporate officers and had taken money from them, voted in opposition to selecting Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group.

On March 16, 2023, David Zisser, the assistant deputy director for the California Department of Housing and Community Development’s accountability unit, stated in a publicly-released letter that the City of San Bernardino had violated four state laws or policies with its March 3, 2021 action in approving the arrangement with Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group and its subsequent facilitating of that deal.

According to Zisser, he was giving the city “Notice of [a] violation of the Surplus Land Act regarding the City of San Bernardino’s surplus land disposition for the property at 295 Carousel Mall,” i.e., the entire mall property.

Zisser recounted that on August 5, 2021, the California Department of Housing and Community Development received documentation from the city upon which his agency was to process the disposition of the mall property in accordance with the California Government Code and that his department issued a letter to the city on September 2, 2021 approving the disposition based on the information and documentation provided by the city. “The California Department of Housing and Community Development recently received information that the disposition documenta-

tion submitted to it by the city was incomplete and, in places, inaccurate,” Zisser wrote in his March 16 letter.

Consequently, the California Department of Housing and Community Development rescinded its approval and referred the matter to California Attorney General Rob Bonta for possible criminal or civil action against the city and its officials.

In August 2021, according to Zisser, San Bernardino city officials dissembled by representing that the city had been provided with no qualified notices of interest in developing/redeveloping the Carousel Mall property by low-income housing developers. In actuality, Zisser said, two entities, BLVD Communities and Alliant Strategic Development – both of which have divisions concentrating on building affordable residential units – responded to the city’s notice of availability.

The city was obligated to enter into a round of “good faith” negotiations with BLVD and Alliant for a period of no less than 90 days, said Zisser, “even if these negotiations did not bear fruit. The city, at a minimum, was obligated to notify the California Department of Housing and Community Development that the city received the notices of interest.”

In recent years, the

California Department of Housing and Community Development has been stressing the need for local governmental jurisdictions, both cities and counties, to develop affordable housing in response to what is widely considered a housing crisis in the Golden State.

“At the very least, the city should have responded ‘yes’ to [a question about whether] any entity express[ed] interest in purchase or lease of the land and provided a detailed explanation as to why it chose not to proceed with good faith negotiations,” Zisser’s letter states.

San Bernardino ran afoul of California law that requires cities declare land “surplus” or “exempt surplus” before taking any action to dispose of it before seeking to unload it when it negotiated with a potential buyer to do just that, Zisser claimed in the letter. The city officially declared the mall property to be surplus land on May 19, 2021, 77 days after the vote to enter into the agreement with Renaissance Downtowns USA/ICO Real Estate Group, followed by the notice of availability being issued on May 20, 2021, 78 days after the vote to enter into the agreement with Renaissance Downtowns USA/ICO Real Estate Group.

Moreover, according to Zisser, the city issued a preliminary exclusive negotiating agreement

with Renaissance Downtowns USA/ICO Real Estate Group on May 26, 2021, less than a week after the notice of availability was issued and during the subsequent 60-day notice period.

“Based on publicly available documents on the city’s website, it is evident that the city negotiated with at least one prospective developer before the city declared the property surplus or issued a notice of availability,” according to Zisser.

Since the city did not negotiate with BLVD Communities or Alliant Strategic Development while negotiating with Renaissance Downtowns USA/ICO Real Estate Group, which did not respond to the notice of availability, the city further violated California law in that it “failed to properly prioritize affordable housing,” according to Zisser.

The city had until May 15 to cure the violations.

This week, on May 3, the last time the city council is scheduled to hold a regular meeting before its upcoming one on May 17, a five-sevenths majority of the city council voted to abrogate its agreement with the Renaissance Downtowns USA and ICO Real Estate Group consortium. To head off any legal action that Renaissance/ICO might pursue for having been crossed up

after spending two years preparing to make good on its proposal, the city council voted to pay the partnership, which is functioning under the umbrella of a limited liability company known as the San Bernardino Development Company, \$100,000 for its trouble. The vote officially terminated the city’s exclusive negotiating agreement with the two entities.

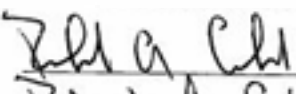


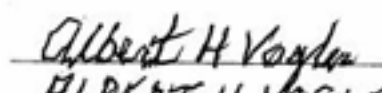
Sanchez, Ibarra, Figueroa, Shorett and Reynoso prevailed in the vote, with Calvin and Alexander dissenting. Officials said they would coordinate with the California Department of Housing and Community Development to comply with the Surplus Land Act going forward. That means the city will at some indefinite point, most likely sooner rather than later, declare the 43 acres surplus land and provide notice to any parties interested in acquiring and redeveloping it into affordable housing, and engage in the statutorily required 90-day minimum of “good faith” negotiations with those who respond within 60 days. At issue in those negotiations would be the interested party’s bid on the purchase of the property. If some accommodation on the sale price and terms cannot be reached, then the city would be at liberty to deal with other entities interested in acquiring the property.

-Mark Gutglueck

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CIRCULATE INITIATIVE PETITION

Notice is hereby given of the intention of the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District for the purpose of repealing the special tax associated with Service Zone FP-5. A statement of the reasons for the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the special tax on parcels located in the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Service Zone FP-5.

Signature: 	Signature: 
Print Name: Robert A. Colitz	Print Name: Ruth Mueser-Lopez
Signature: 	Signature: 
Print Name: David Jarvis	Print Name: ALBERT H. VOGLER

See www.redbrennan.org for details.

It Appears That Either The Upland City Council Violated The Brown Act Or City Staff Entered Into A Contract With Tesla Without Authorization *from page 5*

employee discipline or firings; pending or ongoing litigation; threats to public services or facilities; and collective bargaining with government employees. As the grading of the site was carried out in obvious anticipation of the approval of the lease, it appears that either a majority of the council gave approval to the contract prior to Monday’s upcoming meeting, thereby violating the Brown Act, or that city staff authorized the grading without city council approval.

The *Sentinel* sought input from Councilwoman Shannan Maust and Councilman Carlos Garcia and whether they

indeed were unfamiliar with the contemplated action on the lease until they were contacted about it by some city residents who had learned about the pending lease as a consequence of the grading of the property and the notices sent to the nearby residents.

The *Sentinel* asked if each had, as reported, stated as late as last weekend that they were not aware of the contemplated lease.

The *Sentinel* asked, if they were indeed unaware of the contemplated lease of the property, how was it that city staff had clearance to inform nearby residents of the contemplated lease.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust if she would have expected her constituents to have been informed about this contemplated action before she, as the councilwoman who represents the district where city

property is to be used for the parking lot, learned of property’s grading.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia if they thought they should have been informed about the contemplated leasing of the property before the city undertook the final arrangements for the action.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia if they had been blindsided by the lease proposal.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia if they knew about the lease proposal and were in support of it.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia, if they were in fact in support of the city entering into the lease, whether they could offer a cogent explication of the reason for their support and why the city’s residents, in general, and the nearby residents, specifically, should not be alarmed by what the city council is

set to approve on May 8.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia, if they had just learned about the contemplated lease, whether they felt they had adequate time to assimilate all it entails before voting on it next Monday.

Recognizing that the City of Upland meets the applicable legal requirements imposed on it by posting city council agendas by 5 p.m. on Thursdays for council meetings that take place on the following Monday nights, the *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia whether they considered that to be adequate warning/notice to their constituents of actions that the council is to take which will impact their constituents and their quality of life.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia, if either one felt he or she had been blindsided by the lease proposal,

whether that served as an indicator to them of what it is like for his or her constituents who are routinely faced with learning about some action or other that the city is to embark on just two business days in advance of a city council vote.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia if the episode involving the lease was in any way giving them pause about the way in which the city, city staff and the city council conduct themselves.

The *Sentinel* inquired about the Brown Act implications of the city grading the site before the council voted on whether the city should enter into the lease with Tesla, Inc.

The *Sentinel* asked if Maust and Garcia, given the history relating to the property to be leased and how it came to be deemed and zoned open space, were concerned

about the property being leased for a purpose that is inimical to its use as open space. The *Sentinel* asked if the lease of the property to Tesla was a move toward rezoning it from its current designation as open space to some other land use classification.

The *Sentinel* asked Maust and Garcia if they had any misgivings about property that close to residential property being used as a parking lot

Neither Maust nor Garcia responded to the *Sentinel*.

Prior to press time, the *Sentinel* was informed that a group of Upland residents, concerned over the precedent allowing the city to enter into the lease arrangement with Tesla will represent, intend to seek an injunction against the city to prevent it from leasing the property.

–Mark Gutglueck

Black Hats Hacked Sheriff’s Department’s Computer System *from front page*

mised along with the department platform that receives and runs the department’s access to multiple other law enforcement or governmental databases, including NCIC – the National Crime Information Center – that was put in

place by the U.S. Justice Department and the FBI in 1967; JDIC – the Justice Data Interface Controller – developed by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department to replace its teletype system first put into use in 1977 and now available to multiple California law enforcement agencies; and CLETS – the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System – main-

tained by the California Department of Motor Vehicles in conjunction with the FBI and the California Attorney General’s Office and used by law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to access criminal histories, driving records, restraining orders, concealed weapon permits and other information.

As a consequence, sheriff’s department deputies were unable to

obtain the nearly instantaneous information they have grown accustomed to having at their easy disposal by means of the in-car computer terminals featured in department vehicles. Instead, they were obliged to use their radios to engage in voice communications with cooperative dispatch centers for the ten municipal police departments in the county – Chino PD, Montclair

PD, Ontario PD, Upland PD, Fontana PD, Rialto PD, Colton PD, San Bernardino PD, Redlands PD and Barstow PD – or the Los Angeles County or Riverside County sheriff’s departments and the California Highway Patrol.

The department’s own investigators worked with the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, Interpol and the cybersecurity arm of New

York City-based Ankura Consulting Group, which the county had retained as a consultant, in an effort to trace who had pirated the department’s system, how the break-in had occurred and what might be done to redress the situation.

The department’s files were yet in place, although many which were either corrupted or encrypted were not

Continued on Page 16

Deputies Having Fentanyl Counteractant Constantly On Hand Could Save Countless Vulnerable Lives *from page 3*

that allows for the erasure/disappearance of previously sent or received messages.

In some cases, a deal for the sale of fentanyl or some type of drug is explicitly dealt with and laid out in the exchange. In others, a code is used, one that uses terminology that those who are not involved in the culture would be unlikely to understand. One example of this is the reference or name used to describe a fentanyl dealer or supplier: plug. Another is

the way Xanax is identified: bars.

In 2019, authorities in San Bernardino County became aware of a substantial increase in the presence of fentanyl in various communities.

In 2021, there were 317 fentanyl-related deaths documented by the San Bernardino County Coroner’s Office.

The following year, sheriff’s department deputies responded to the scene of over 100 fentanyl overdose deaths.

In July 2022, the department formed within its ranks an overdose response team. Those deputies, trained in the means of effectively responding with lifesaving measures upon en-

countering an individual experiencing a fentanyl overdose, in turn have been training other deputies.

Last month Narcan was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter, non-prescription purchase and use so that it can be used in critical situations by laypeople. Injecting Narcan directly into a vein or artery is the most efficacious way of arresting an overdose. Injection into a muscle is less effective. Deputies are learning that time is of the essence when dealing with a fentanyl overdose.

With Narcan available in every sheriff’s vehicle, the department

is shifting its priorities with regard to fentanyl, if only slightly.

Whereas previously the department’s focus was on making arrests when they encountered any sort of situation in which fentanyl was in-

Big Bear Airplane Crash *from page 6*

ground, at an elevation of roughly 6,750 feet, at 1:58 p.m.

According to the Big Bear Fire Department, a call to the dispatch center for it and the sheriff’s office came in at 2:02 p.m. Firefighters responded within three minutes to the scene of the crash, a field which is roughly a mile from

involved, deputies have now gone to a footing where they will not necessarily arrest and charge a citizen who comes forward to report a suspected overdose, instead administering Naxolone to the victim

the Big Bear Airport and in proximity to several houses. Responders noted no smoke or flames, but there was extensive damage to the aircraft, with its right wing entirely displaced.

All three men on board the plane were pronounced dead at the scene.

A National Transportation Safety Board investigation is underway, with one of its investigators having arrived

and seeking immediate medical assistance. Investigations into how the deadly substance became available to the individual who overdosed is deferred until a later date.

–Mark Gutglueck

in Big Bear on Monday and a Federal Aviation Administration investigator coming in on Tuesday. Both are making an effort to document the scene, examine the aircraft, request any air traffic communications, radar data, weather reports, obtain Siebold’s medical records and flight history along with N2038Y’s maintenance record and flight log and contact any witnesses.

–Mark Gutglueck

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CIRCULATE INITIATIVE PETITION

Notice is hereby given of the intention of the persons whose names appear hereon of their intention to circulate the petition within the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District for the purpose of repealing the special tax associated with Service Zone FP-5. A statement of the reasons for the proposed action as contemplated in the petition is as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the special tax on parcels located in the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Service Zone FP-5.

See www.redbrennan.org for details.

/s/ Robert A Cable
/s/ David Jarvi
/s/ Ruth Musser-Lopez
/s/ Albert H Vogler

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 5, 2023

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MICHAEL NEWELL aka MICHAEL SCOTT NEWELL

Case No. PROSB2300465

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MICHAEL NEWELL aka MICHAEL SCOTT NEWELL

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Mina Gallardo Newell in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Mina Gallardo Newell be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held on May 24, 2023 at 9:00 AM in Dept. No. S36 located at 247 W. Third St., San Bernardino, CA 92415.

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

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the

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

Attorney for petitioner:
PAUL HORN ESQ
SBN 243227
PAUL HORN LAW GROUP PC
11404 SOUTH STREET
CERRITOS CA 90703
CN995572 NEWELL Apr 21,28, May 5, 2023

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DAROLD CAMERON SIMMS NO. PROSB 2300476

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of DAROLD CAMERON SIMMS:

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LORI ANN SIMMS in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION requests 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 FOR PROBATE requests that LORI ANN SIMMS 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. No. S37 at 9 a.m. on MAY 25, 2023 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: FEBRUARY 7, 2023 Amy Gamez-Reyes, Superior Court Deputy Clerk Attorney for Lori Ann Simms: Jennifer Daniel 220 Nordina St. Redlands, CA 92373 Telephone No: (909) 792-9244 Fax No: (909) 235-4733 Email address: team@lawofficeofjenniferdaniel.com Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel April 21, 28 & May 5, 2023

Public Notices

quest for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Filed: FEBRUARY 7, 2023 Amy Gamez-Reyes, Superior Court Deputy Clerk Attorney for Lori Ann Simms: Jennifer Daniel 220 Nordina St. Redlands, CA 92373 Telephone No: (909) 792-9244 Fax No: (909) 235-4733 Email address: team@lawofficeofjenniferdaniel.com Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel April 21, 28 & May 5, 2023

FBN 20230004013 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as TINGLE TREASURE 15088 CHRISTOPHER ST ADELANTO, CA 92301 LAURA NAVA 15088 CHRISTOPHER ST ADELANTO, CA 92301 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: April 10, 2023.

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/ LAURA NAVA, Owner
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 4/19/2023

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 J2523

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 March 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2023. Corrected on April 21, 28 and May 5 & 12, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SANDRA FULTON CASE NO. PROSB2300489

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of SANDRA FULTON

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ROSEMARY MARGARET QUINTERO in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ROSEMARY MARGARET QUINTERO be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A hearing on the amended petition will be held in Dept. No. S-37 at 9:00 a.m. on MAY 25, 2023 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

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Rosemary Margaret Quintero: ANTONIETTE JAUREGUI (SB 192624) 1894 S. COMMERCENT-ER WEST, SUITE 108 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350 Fax No: (909) 890-0106 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on April 28, and May 5 & 12, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JANNIE B. GAINES CASE NO. PROSB2300496

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JANNIE B. GAINES

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by WILLIAM STACY CROSSLIN in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that WILLIAM STACY CROSSLIN be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's 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 amended petition will be held in Dept. No. S-36 at 9:00 a.m. on MAY 31, 2023 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

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should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

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

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

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

Attorney for William Stacy Crosslin: ANTONIETTE JAUREGUI (SB 192624) 1894 S. COMMERCENT-ER WEST, SUITE 108 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350 Fax No: (909) 890-0106 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on April 28, and May 5 & 12, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ROBERT JOSEPH FIORE, aka ROBERT J. FIORE, aka ROBERT FIORE CASE NO. PROSB2300493

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of ROBERT JOSEPH FIORE, aka ROBERT J. FIORE, aka ROBERT FIORE

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SALINA (FIORE) SAVAGE in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SALINA (FIORE) SAVAGE be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's 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 amended petition will be held in Dept. No. S-35 at 9:00 a.m. on MAY 22, 2023 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

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Salina (Fiore) Savage: EDWARD B. FISCHER, LL.M. (SB 155213) 459 WEST 4TH STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401 Telephone No: (909) 383-0050 Fax No: (909) 388-0051 efischer@earthlink.net Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on April 28, and May 5 & 12, 2023.

FBN 20230004264 The following entities are doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as CLEAR CUT COMMERCIAL CLEANING [and] CALI TRUCKS & ASSOCIATES [and] 3T SOLUTION SERVICES 4195 CHINO HILLS PKWY #1186 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709: TYVONTE T TAYLOR 9350 THE RESORT PKWY RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 [and] MICHELLE J BLAKELY 2371 VIA PACIFICA CORONA, CA 92882 Mailing Address: 9350 THE RESORT PKWY RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: April 20, 2023.

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/ TYVONTE TAYLOR, General Partner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 4/26/2023

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 J5065

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 April 28 and May 5, 12 & 18, 2023.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME NOTICE
FBN 20220011076
The following person(s) is(are) doing business in SAN BER-

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NARDINO COUNTY as: DAMION'S CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LLC 1649 MAGNOLIA AVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92411: DAMION'S CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LLC 6709 LA TIJERA BOULEVARD #551 LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

Mailing Address: 6709 LA TIJERA BOULEVARD #551 LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

Business is Conducted By: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202252019387

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

S/ DAMION WILLIAMS, CEO

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 12/05/2022

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

Began Transacting Business: September 28, 2022.

County Clerk, G8420

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

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 12/31, 2022 and 01/06, 01/13, 01/20, 2023. Corrected on February 17, 24 and March 3 & 10, 2023. Recorrected on March 24, 31 and April 7 & 14, 2023. Corrected on April 28 and May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

FBN 20230002484 The following entity is doing business as BEAUTY EMPIRE 8790 19TH ST RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701 principally in SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY: BEAUTY EMPIRE LLC 8790 19TH ST RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701 Mailing Address: POST OFFICE BOX 2820 FONTANA, CA 92334

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202251611878.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JULY 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/ SOPHEA CARISSIMI, CEO

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 3/14/2023

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 I9576

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 March 24, 31 and April 7 & 14, 2023. Corrected on April 28 and May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

FBN 20230003475 The following entities are doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as BSP EXPRESS 10955 BAYSHORE ST VICTORVILLE, CA 92392:

CARLOS E PEREZ 10955 BAYSHORE ST VICTORVILLE, CA 92392

[and] INGRID E SOLORZANO DE PEREZ 10955 BAYSHORE ST VIC-

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TORVILLE, CA 92392
The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: March 20, 2006.

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/ INGRID E SOLORZANO DE PEREZ

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 4/04/2023

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 J5065

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 April 28 and May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BRAULIO ALVARADO CASE NO. PROSB2300534

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of BRAULIO ALVARADO has been filed by KATRINA KAVONIAN in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KATRINA KAVONIAN 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 June 8, 2023 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: April 28, 2023
Amy Reyes, 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 representa-

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tive appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Katrina Kavonian:

R. SAM PRICE
SBN 208603
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC
454 Cajon Street
REDLANDS, CA 92373
Phone (909) 328 7000
Fax (909) 475 9500
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MICHAEL EDWARD STAFF CASE NO. PROSB2300539

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

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

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held June 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at Superior Court of

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

Filed: May 1, 2023
DiAnna Verdugo, 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. Attorney for Leah Diane McFarlane:

R. SAM PRICE
SBN 208603
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC
454 Cajon Street
REDLANDS, CA 92373
Phone (909) 328 7000
Fax (909) 475 9500
sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JUAN T. RODRIGUEZ CASE NO. PROSB2300507

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JUAN T. RODRIGUEZ.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JOANN F. PARTIDA in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JOANN F. PARTIDA be appointed as personal representatives to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however,

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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 amended petition will be held in Dept. No. S-37 at 9:00 a.m. on June 7, 2023 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Joann F. Partida:

ANTONIETTE JAUREGUI (SB 192624)
1894 S. COMMERCENTER WEST, SUITE 108
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408
Telephone No: (909) 890-2350
Fax No: (909) 890-0106
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ELEANOR CEJA CASE NO. PROSB2300535

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of ELEANOR CEJA has been filed by JESUS ANTONIO CEJA IV in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JESUS ANTONIO CEJA IV be appointed as personal

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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 JUNE 8, 2023 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.

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Jesus Antonio Ceja IV:

Neil Hedtkke, Esquire
SBN 273319
820 North Mountain Avenue
Upland, CA 91786
(909) 579 2233 Fax
(909) 618 1622 hedtkelg@gmail.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 5, 12 & 19, 2023.

FBN 20230004342
The following entities are doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
ARK REPTILES 1425 S CAMPUS AVE ONTARIO, CA 91761: PATRICK DAVID LIM

Public Notices

8543 HILLSIDE RD RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701

Mailing Address: 8543 HILLSIDE RD RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: March 5, 2023.

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/ PATRICK DAVID LIM

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 4/28/2023

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 J5065

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 May 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2023.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE N U M B E R CIVSB2307201

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Sayedeh Omideh Miri filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: 06/08/2023 Time: 08:30 AM Department: S24

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 SBCS ? Upland in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 02/07/2023
Judge of the Superior Court: Brian S. McCarville
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on

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5/5/2023, 5/12/2023, 5/19/2023, 5/26/2023

FBN 20230003311
The following person is doing business as: SOVEREIGN SELENE. 6241 BRAMPTON AVE RIALTO, CA 92377 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SASHA S JONES 6241 BRAMPTON AVE 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: 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/ SASHA S JONES, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 31, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023, 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023 CNBBI6202301MT

FBN 20230003358
The following person is doing business as: PUCKERY PICKLED SNACKS. 1611 W WILSON ST RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MYRA A JERONIMO 1611 W WILSON ST RIALTO, CA 92376. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MYRA A JERONIMO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MARCH 31, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/14/2023, 04/21/2023, 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023 CNBBI6202302MT

FBN 20230003487
The following person is doing business as: POPPIN FUNNELS. 7632 BONNIE ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO YVETTE MAGANA URBANO 7632 BONNIE ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ YVETTE MAGANA URBANO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: APRIL 04, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Ber-

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becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ AMY ROSEBURE, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 20, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202309MT	business as: JC RV WORLD AND AUTO SALES. 25444 E 3RD ST SUITE B SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410;[MAILING AD- DRESS 1187 HUFF ST APT 2 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410]; PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO JOSE C FERRER HERNAN- DEZ 1187 HUFF ST APT 2 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410. The business is conduct- ed by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the ficti- tious business name or names listed above on: APR 20, 2023 By signing, I declare that all in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ JOSE C FERRER HER- NANDEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202307MT	ardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202306MT	ed 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 in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ ADALBERTO SA- GASTE, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202304MT	under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB182023197MT	is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ TAURUS E ANDERSON, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 18, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202301MT	County Sentinel 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202306MT
FBN 20230004078 The following person is do- ing business as: HOSEA. 10930 TERRA VISTA PARKWAY APT 71 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730;[MAILING AD- DRESS 10930 TERRA VISTA PARKWAY APT 71 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730]; PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO JESSE J RICO 10930 TERRA VISTA PARKWAY APT 71 RAN- CHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730. The business is conduct- ed by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the ficti- tious business name or names listed above on: APR 20, 2023 By signing, I declare that all in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ JESSE J RICO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202308MT	FBN 20230004097 The following person is doing busi- ness as: CRISPY PIEZ. 15391 SHA- RON AVE FONTANA, CA 92336 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO MATTHEW B MONTAL- BANO 15391 SHARON AVE FONTANA, CA 92336. The business is conduct- ed by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the ficti- tious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ MATTHEW B MONTALBANO, Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber-	FBN 20230004104 The following person is doing business as: COMPUTEK IN- TERNATIONAL. 10700 JER- SEY BLVD STE 540 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO H & B GLOBAL INDUS- TRIES 10700 JERSEY BLVD STE 540 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 The business is conduct- ed by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the ficti- tious business name or names listed above on: JUL 31, 1992 By signing, I declare that all in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ BASSAM ZA- KARIA, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202305MT	FBN 20230004090 The following person is doing business as: AH LATIN STORE. 1137 W STONERIDGE CT APT C ONTARIO, CA 91762 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO ALEXANDER E HERNANDEZ LEDEZMA 1137 W STONERIDGE CT APT C ONTARIO, CA 91762. The business is conduct- ed 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 in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ ALEXANDER E HERNAN- DEZ LEDEZMA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 21, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another	FBN 20230003958 The following person is do- ing business as: TAG TRANS- PORTATION. 9138 TIMBER- LINE LANE APT C RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO TAG TRANSPORTATION LLC 9138 TIMBERLINE LANE APT C RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 The business is conduct- ed by: A LIMITED LI- ABILITY 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 in- formation in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false	FBN 20230003903 The following person is doing business as: SLOVER CHEV- RON TRUCK STOP. 18653 SLOVER AVE BLOOMING- TON, CA 92316;[MAILING AD- DRESS 1461 SUPERIOR AVE NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92663]; PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO KAREEM OIL, INC. 1461 SUPERIOR AVE NEW- PORT BEACH, CA 92663 The business is conduct- ed by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all in- formation 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 be- comes Public Record upon filing. s/ ISSAM GHREIWA- TI, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber- nardino on: APRIL 17, 2023 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state- ment on file in my office San Ber- nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name state- ment 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 it- self authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 04/28/2023, 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023 CNBB18202302MT	County Sentinel 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202307MT
FBN 20230004092 The following person is doing	FBN 20230004169 The following person is do- ing business as: A.R.I.L.; AD- VANCED RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENT; ARIL. 227 CIS- NEROS CT COLTON, CA 92324 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSI- NESS SAN BERNARDINO DIRECT SUPPORT PROFES- SIONALS LLC 227 CISNE- ROS CT COLTON, CA 92324. The business is conduct- ed by: A LIMITED LI- ABILITY COMPANY. The registrant commenced to transact business under the ficti- tious business name or names listed above on: MAY 01, 2015 By signing, I declare that all in- formation in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code					

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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 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202326MT

FBN 20230004347

The following person is doing business as: VENECIA BOU-TIQUE. 621 S QUINCE AVE BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO JOSE J GILES 621 S QUINCE AVE BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316. 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 be-

comes Public Record upon filing. s/ JOSE J GILES, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: APRIL 28, 2023 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 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202327MT

FBN 202300004287

The following person is doing business as: BCI AUTO DEALER. 9415 HOMESTEAD DR RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO BENJAMIN N ISIKWEI 9414 HOMESTEAD DR RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730. 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/ BENJAMIN N ISIKWEI, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: APRIL 27, 2023 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 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202328MT

FBN 20230004275

The following person is doing business as: PEPPI RESTAURANT. 17570 FOOTHILL BLVD FONTANA, CA 9233517670 FOOTHILL BLVD FONTANA, CA 92336 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO VERONICA GONZALEZ 7977 WILLIAMS RD FONTANA, CA 92336. 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/ VERONICA GONZALEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: APRIL 26, 2023 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 state-

ment 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 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202329MT

FBN 20230004271

The following person is doing business as: CHEMISTRY DRYWALL PATCH. 2035 CHESTNUT ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO ANTONIO VAZQUEZ 2035 CHESTNUT ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code

179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ANTONIO VAZQUEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: APRIK 26, 2023 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 05/05/2023, 05/12/2023, 05/19/2023, 05/26/2023 CNBB19202330MT

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The following person is doing business as: RAPSNG PINOY. 12739 7TH ST CHINO, CA 91710 PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO CAROLINE JENKINS 12739 7TH ST CHINO, CA 91710. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

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Victorville Used Barstow Rail Yard Project As Pretext To Abandon Never-Seriously-Pursued SCLA Intermodal Plan *from page 3*

anto, but secretly defraying Hesperia and Apple Valley’s VVEDA membership dues. In this way, the voting members of the City of Hesperia and the Town of Apple Valley on the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority board of directors became what were essentially puppets of Victorville, or more essentially, Caldwell and Cox.

Chamberlain, Corrado and and a series of warring political factions on the Adelanto City Council proved no match for the more patient, knowledgeable, sophisticated and well-connected Caldwell and Cox.

On Friday, April 29, 1994 James Boatright, then the Air Force’s deputy assistant secretary for installations, signed a lease giving the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority essential dominion over 2,300 acres at the base. On January 9, 1995, the Air Force announced that it would deal with VVEDA exclusively in the discussion with regard to the annexation of the remaining 3,039 acres on the base that VVEDA had not

yet leased. At 9 p.m. on February 1, 1995 after a vote of the city council, then-Adelanto Mayor Judy Crommie and then Mayor Pro Tem Mary Scarpa signed a copy of an agreement previously signed by VVEDA officials that had been forged between the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority and the City of Adelanto in which both entities agreed to end the legal wrangling over the base. With the signing of that peace pact, Adelanto gave up any land claims at the base and further utterly capitulated on all other ownership, entitlement, management, taxing authority and control issues while retaining its previously established water rights on the base property.

With the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority having prevailed in the competition to assume control of the base property, one the last remaining steps to be taken by Victorville, Caldwell and Cox was to have Victorville shake off the fictional VVEDA mantle so that Victorville could take over de facto control of the Air Force Base. Once VVEDA safely had the base secured, Caldwell and his support network machinated further to have Victorville assume from the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority primary responsibility, control and ultimately ownership of

the air base, rebranded as Southern California Logistics Airport. Victorville thereafter solidified its dominance over the airport through the creation of the Southern California Logistics Airport Authority, which was dedicated to the redevelopment of a 132-square mile area in and around the former Air Force base. Known by its acronym SCLAA, the Southern California Logistics Airport Authority was chartered with the five members of the Victorville City Council serving as its board of directors.

In 1996, Caldwell and Cox had their Hesperia and Apple Valley puppets on the VVEDA board delegated the Victor Valley Economic Development Authority’s decision-making authority with respect to Southern California Logistics Airport to the Southern California Logistics Airport Authority.

To keep up appearances, Victorville yet needed to make a show of managing the airport in a way that would be beneficial to the High Desrt region as a whole. It made progress in that direction in July 2000 by welcoming its unsuccessful nemesis in the battle for George Air Force Base, the City of Adelanto, into VVEDA. While VVEDA was then, and remains to this day, an essentially meaningless vestige of

the competition for control of the base, the continuation of the authority and the outward show of cooperation with Aelanto under the aegis of VVEDA - even though it has not even marginal meaning or impact over what occurs at the airport - further legitimizes Victorville’s primacy at the airport.

In 2001, the City of Victorville/the Southern California Logistics Authority and the former Victorville Redevelopment Agency entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to form the Southern California Logistics Rail Authority. It was apparent to virtually everyone who was paying attention that the Southern California Logistics Rail Authority was another element of the ruse to ensure that Victorville obtained and maintained control over the Air Force Base property/airport. One obvious indication of this was the fate of a railroad spur from the existing rail line in the area that the Air Force had constructed to a set of base warehouses. That spur had been used for conveying supplies, critical airplane parts, weaponry and machinery to the base. Upon the closure of the base, the spur remained as a convenient means of conveying cargo and merchandize not only to but from the base. Nevertheless, one of the first things that Victorville

officials did upon VVEDA obtaining ownership of the base was to tear out the rail sput. In doing so, Victorville officials offered the justification that they were committed to transforming the former base’s runway and accompanying aviation facilities into the premier civilian airport in the Mojave Desert and that such 20th Century contrivances as railway lines were passé, out of keeping with creating aviation facilities that embodied cutting edge technology and futuristic industrial operations.

Despite the claims by Victorville officials that they were dedicated to the concept of establishing the remainder of the base property that was not being directly used for aviation and its surrounding property as an intermodal transportation hub involving air cargo, rail freight and nearby Interstate 15, the Southern California Logistics Rail Authority remained dormant and there was no progress to speak of with regard to developing the Southern California Logistics Victorville Intermodal Facility.

Victorville city officials, who never aggressively pursued, indeed only made a minimal showing of interest in the Southern California Logistics Victorville Intermodal Facility, now maintain that they have lost interest in the concept because the Burl-

ington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company has made pursuing the \$1.5 billion, 4,500-acre integrated rail facility to be known at the Barstow International Gateway a corporate priority.

The modernized railyard, which will emply upwards of 15,000 people, will be located on the west side of Barstow and will accommodate both traditional and automated direct transfer of containers that arrive in the High Desert after having been taken off ships at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, lowered onto train cars that were then sent by rail through the Alameda Corridor to Barstow.

Victorville city officials say whatever momentum once existed toward the Southern California Logistics Victorville Intermodal Facility has now come to a screeching halt and that building the 3,500-acre rail facilities next to Southern California Logistics Airport no longer makes any sense.

Whether accompanying plans to develop as much as 20 million square-feet of manufacturing facilities, factories and foundries along with warehouses in the area surrounding the airport will survive has yet to be determined. Like the rail facility, that Southern California Logistics Industrial Core plan has remained dormant.

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\$1.1 Million Ransom Restored Sheriff's Department's Access To Its Own Data, But Leaves Questions As to Who Now Also Has Information That Is Potentially Damaging To Thousands Of County Residents *from page 3*

accessible. Technicians with the department and the county's information technology staff along with trusted external experts began a methodical forensic examination of the system. In some cases immediately and in others over a more extended period they determined which files and programs had been infected, while finding that others were seemingly unaffected, although it remained unclear whether a bug capable of future cybernetic mayhem lay somewhere within the over 100,000 characters of code imprinted in the system's software that might be activated or triggered without warning. Cautiously, some systems that remained functional were switched back on. Others defied being rendered functional or patched, and remained unactuated. Both the spoken and unspoken hope was that the perpetrators might not only be identified but located, such that they would eventually be collared, prosecuted and ultimately forced to restore the damaged or compromised systems, after which they would be given stiff sentences to discourage any such future cybervandalism.

Ultimately, it was determined that a skilled and insulated team of mostly Russian hackers who operate largely in Belarus and to a lesser extent in Russia with an assurance of immunity from the Russian and Belarus governments, who lie beyond the reach of any law enforcement, prosecutorial or economic sanction action that can be brought to bear were the perpetrators. Russia justifies cyber interference activity of this sort as an in-kind response to activities by an equally capable group of hackers employed by the U.S., Israeli and British governments in creating viruses and destructive methods such

as the Stuxnet worm and other programs that have wreaked havoc on governmental and industrial computer systems or mined and stolen data from computers and computer networks in Russia as well as those operated by Russia's unequivocal allies Belarus, Iran, Syria, North Korea and Eritrea, as well as against data storage and processing systems operated by institutions or companies in places such as India, China, Venezuela and the Democratic Republic of Congo, in particular entities or institutions which have provided Russia with support and assistance in its strategic undertakings.

The department and county came to what was described as a "mature, sober and realistic" recognition that the department's only other option for regaining access to the data and information retrieval system that has been pirated beside paying the demanded ransom was to reconstruct the department's data bases and computer systems from the ground up at a cost of well over \$30 million. A decision to bite the bullet and make the payment was made.

David Wert, the county's spokesman, confirmed that "the total paid was \$1.1 million." He said, "The network disruption within the sheriff's department was the result of ransomware that infected portions of the department's information technology system."

According to Wert, "The county had prepared for the possibility of such an incident by securing appropriate insurance coverage. After negotiating with the responsible party, the insurance carrier and the county agreed to a payment to restore the system's full functionality and secure any data involved in the breach.

Insurance covers most of the payment. The county's share is \$511,852."

According to Wert, "The decision whether to render payment was the subject of careful consideration. On balance, and consistent with how other agencies have handled these types of situations, this was determined to be the responsible course."

Generally speaking, the FBI strongly advocates against paying ransom.

According to information available to the Sentinel, at least 69 government organizations in the United States were infected by ransomware between January 2019 and January 2023.

On October 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control advised U.S. businesses that paying ransom may be deemed to be a violation of federal law. All entities that pay could breach Office of Foreign Assets Control regulations and thereby be subject to investigation and stiff penalties, regardless of whether the victim or a third party, such as a cyber insurance company, arranged the payment, according to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Despite that, a good number of U.S. companies and governmental agencies, having calculated the damage to their operations, the earning or tax revenue potential of functioning at full cyber capacity, together with the cost of debugging their computer systems, have caved in to the blackmailers. The same is true of foreign government and business entities.

In 2021, CNA Financial Corporation, an American insurance company, paid a \$40 million dollar ransom, the largest known such shakedown.

JBS, America's largest meat producer and a U.S. subsidiary of an Argentinian Company, reportedly agreed to a ransom payment of around \$11 million after its operations, which normally generate in the neighborhood of \$74 million per day, were shut down for

several days by a ransomware hack.

There is an unconfirmed report that global positioning system manufacturer Garmin shelled out \$10 million to hackers.

Austrian police have stated that an unnamed Austrian company paid a \$4.7 million ransom to hackers.

The U.S. travel services company CWT paid a record \$4.5 million to hackers to have its cyber-system unfrozen.

Colonial Pipeline paid \$4.4 million to hackers to get its data storage and retrieval systems back on track, a sum matched by the German based chemical company Brenntag, which has branches worldwide and likewise ponied up \$4.4 million to get its computer system back to where it was fully functioning.

Travelex, a British currency exchange that does business in 26 countries, paid \$2.3 million to clear its system of the bane of ransomware.

The largest ransom paid by a governmental entity to salvage its computer network was \$1.14 million put up by the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine, just \$40,000 more than San Bernardino County and the sheriff's department were set back in this now concluding incident.

The \$1.1 million is substantially more than what most governmental entities get stung for.

University Hospital New Jersey in Newark, New Jersey gave into and paid a \$670,000 ransomware demand.

To recover its computer system, Riviera Beach, Florida paid \$600,000 to cyberhijackers.

Delaware County in Pennsylvania paid \$500,000 to reestablish access to police reports, payroll and other systems hackers had encrypted.

Lake City, Florida paid \$500,000 to hackers.

Jackson County in Georgia paid \$400,000 to reestablish use of its email system and other functions.

Montgomery County

in Alabama needed to pay \$37,000 to reestablish access to its own data.

The City of Newark paid \$30,000 to some black hats.

Some government officials have taken a principled stand against those who have tried to extort them, refusing to give in. In some, though not all cases, that has proven far more expensive than rewarding the criminals for their boldness.

Atlanta, rather than give in to a \$50,000 ransom demand, expended \$2,667,328 to rebuild its computer system.

Reports are that Suffolk County in New York spent \$17 million to restore its network after refusing to pay a \$2.5 million ransom.

Hackers demanded \$32 million from Sarasota, Florida, which did not comply with the demand, opting for a technical recovery of its data that cost an undisclosed amount of money but which city officials say was a fraction of the demand.

In the case of the electronic break-in into the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department's files, there was even more than what is normally the case at stake. Since Frank Bland was sheriff between 1955 and 1983, and during the tenures of succeeding sheriffs Floyd Tidwell, Dick Williams, Gary Penrod, Rod Hoops, John McMahon and now Shannon Dicus, the department has accumulated not only specifics relating to bonafide criminal activity on the part of the county's citizenry but personal, political, prejudicial and compromising information on its citizens and, in particular, its more prominent personages such as politicians, judges, high ranking government officials, lawyers, businessmen, political patrons, influencers, social leaders, activists, movers and shakers. Information gleaned from field interviews and incident reports and investigations in which individuals were noted to have been in places or associating with individuals they would prefer others

not to know about were repositied into the files. That information has ensured that during their time in office, Bland, Tidwell, Williams, Penrod, Hoops, McMahon and now Dicus, along with their undersheriffs, assistant sheriffs and deputy chiefs, are the most powerful individuals in the county. Those files were among those compromised and broken into by the hackers who made their entry into the lives of San Bernardino County's citizens on April 6 or April 7.

While the \$1.1 million deal closed between those hackers on one side and the county, the sheriff's department, the county's insurance company and the county's lawyers on the other has regranted the department access to its own data, it is not clear whether the hackers, confident of their immunity from prosecution in a foreign land, fully appreciate the sensitivity of the information they possess and the degree to which they could exploit it and use it to blackmail some of San Bernardino County's leading and most wealthy residents. That they would have the will to do so, given that they have both the means and opportunity, is quite likely, as they have already demonstrated that they had no qualms at all about extorting the county sheriff.

According to Wert, "As part of its ongoing criminal investigation, the sheriff's department is conducting a forensic examination to achieve a full understanding of the incident, the findings of which will benefit all public agencies looking to avoid a similar occurrence."

Wert offered the assurance that "At no time did this incident compromise public safety or the sheriff's department's ability to carry out its duties. No other systems within the county organization have been affected."

Wert said, "Additional information on this matter cannot be disclosed at this time in light of the ongoing criminal investigation."