

Rialto Mayor Files More Than \$7 Million In Claims Against Her Own City

By Mark Gutglueck

With a series of three claims that have jarred and outraged residents and public officials both within her community and outside of it, Rialto Mayor Deborah Robertson is threatening to sue the city she has headed for more than a decade for \$7.35 million.

While questions have previously emerged over Robertson's use of her authority within the governmental structure of



Deborah Robertson

the 104,025-population city to financially benefit her family or close associates, the scope

and audaciousness of her effort to personally profit through the sway she holds over Rialto's decision-making process has left even some of her most ardent political supporters aghast.

Pointed up in the burgeoning controversy is the degree to which Robertson is now contending that she is a virtual outcast at Rialto City Hall, which absolutely clashes with the image of an astute public servant

with a command over the bureaucracy of local government which she has cultivated for herself and promoted going back for nearly a quarter of a century and which has served her well in her political career. At this point, Robertson and another member of the Rialto City Council, Ed Scott, are two of the longest-serving elected municipal officials in San Bernardino County. Robertson, a Caltrans

employee and a Democrat, was elected to the city council in 2000, and after three terms in that capacity, was elected mayor in 2012, gaining reelection in 2016 and 2020. She has indicated she will seek reelection in 2024.

Scott, an entrepreneur and Republican, was elected to the city council 1996. In 2000, Scott vied, ultimately unsuccessfully, for San Bernardino County See P 2

Supervisor Rowe Releases Committee's Report On Blizzard Of '23 Response



Dawn Rowe

Neither Caltrans nor the Highway Patrol performed adequately or competently in response to the intense blizzard that left the mountain communities snowed in for three weeks at the end of February and the first half of March, according to a critique compiled by an ad hoc committee formed by Supervisor Dawn Rowe.

What is now referred to as the Blizzard of '23 manifested with heavy snowfall on February 22, which continued without respite until March 2, during which time more than 100 inches of snow fell on various spots in the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains in back-to-back-to-back storms, icing major roads and leaving them impassable.

Conditions were at their worst within the internal communities of Crestline, Lake Gregory, Blue Jay, Lake Arrowhead, Cedarpines Park, Cedar Glen, Valley of Enchantment, Arrowbear, Sugarloaf, Twin Peaks, the county district of Big Bear and the incorporated city of Big Bear Lake, with cars buried in snow to the point that even when snowplows did reach where they were, often those cars would be damaged and rendered See P 3

Sixth Fire Chief In Four Years Departs From Victorville Municipal Fire Department

Victorville's seeming inability to hang onto a fire chief in the aftermath of the 2019 resurrection of its municipal fire department has manifested once again with David Foster's abrupt departure barely three months after he took on the assignment of leading the department.

The department instantaneously and seamlessly switched gears,

such that Deputy Chief Bobby Clemmer for a week took command of the agency, which then double-clutched to reestablish William "Willie" Racowski, who had served as interim chief between January and April, as the department's acting chief.

Some are saying that the department, once considered a premier

governmental organization in the High Desert, has been cursed by the move a decade-and-a-half ago to dissolve it, despite the department's revival four years ago.

At the time of its incorporation in 1962, the City of Victorville was indirectly dependent upon the county fire department, which provided supervision of the team of volunteer

on-call firefighters that composed the newly-formed city's fire department, which had existed pre-incorporation in one form or another since 1926. In 1976, the city recruited Rudy Cabriales, a one-time border patrol agent with the Immigration and Naturalization Service who had transitioned to a career as a firefighter in his hometown of Calexico

before rising to become the fire chief of Coachella in Riverside County, to relocate to Victorville and become fire chief of an operation morphing from being a county-supervised team of volunteers to a professional department. Cabriales built that organization into what some considered to be the premier fire department in the High Desert, and re- See P 3

Redlands City Councilwoman Davis Welcomes Her First Child

Redlands Councilwoman Denise Davis is now a mother, having given birth to a boy in March.

Davis has been a member of the city council since 2018, when she was the top vote-getter among five candidates to represent Redlands District 1. Last year, she was reelected.

Davis said she was reluctant to go into specific detail about her son, saying, "I would like to keep my private life from becoming a focus, but I think it is important for people to know I had a baby."

Davis acknowledged that traditionally, women of childbearing age have not been widely See P 4

Deputy Police Chief Mensen Promoted From Within To Head Chino Department After Simmons' Leaving

When Chino Police Chief Wes Simmons closes out his active law enforcement career on August 10, he will be succeeded by his deputy chief, Kevin Mensen.

City Manager Linda Reich, in consultation with Simmons and City Councilwoman Karen Comstock, who used to be the city's police chief, settled on promot-

ing Mensen rather than looking elsewhere by conducting a recruitment or promoting one of the department's other officers currently serving under Simmons and Mensen.

There is a likelihood that Mensen will remain in place as chief longer than Simmons, who in April, at the age of 50, announced his readiness

to retire and set the August 10 date for doing so.

As recently as early this year, many anticipated that Simmons would remain as police chief perhaps until 2030 or slightly beyond. Under legal mandate, he would have been required to retire upon reaching the age of 62, but that would not come until 2035. At 50, however, See P 3

Chen Weiming's Newest Three Dimensional Artwork At Liberty Sculpture Park

Chen Weiming's most recently completed artwork is now on display at Liberty Sculpture Park in Yermo.

The three-dimensional piece was dropped into place in early June and unveiled in a ceremony held on June 4, 2023.

Known by the title "Chained Woman," the sculpture embodies Weiming's reaction to the video of a chained woman in Feng County, Xuzhou, Jiangsu, People's Republic of China recorded in January 2022 and posted to



Photo by Mark Gutglueck

social media.

An artist and human rights anti-communist activist and advocate for Chinese democracy, Weiming works in three-dimensional media to capture images of injustice and repression in the country of his birth. Weiming was born in Hangzhou, China, and emigrated to New Zealand in 1988. He holds a New Zealand passport as well as permanent residence in the United States, living in both countries.

His previous works, See P 11

A Year-And-A-Half After Councilman Filed Claim Over Misuse Of The Police Department's Data Base, Rialto Mayor Has Done The Same *from front page*

supervisor, necessitating that he forgo running for reelection as councilman. In 2004, he was once again elected to the city council and was reelected in 2008. In 2012, he was defeated by Robertson when he ran for mayor. For two years, Scott was absent from the council, but in 2014 was again elected to council, and thereafter was reelected in 2018 and 2022.

As a Republican, Scott was among some officeholders and some candidates who had vied for city council in Rialto whose continued tenure in office or election was not favored by employees with the city or the union representing them because of the perception that they were hostile to those unions or otherwise unaccommodating to the demands those city employees were making in the collective bargaining process. In February 2021, Scott became aware that some city employees – particularly those active with the city's police officer and firefighter unions, were using the city's investigative resources to look into elements of Scott's personal life, including his residency status and ownership of property outside the city in Kernville in Kern County. Scott informed Sean Greyson, the city's fire chief who was then serving in the capacity of acting city manager, on February 16, 2021 about what he had learned. ef, that such an allegation had been made about the Rialto Fire Department." Scott further learned that city employees had obtained access to the State of California's law enforcement database, the California Law Enforcement Teletype System known by its acronym CLETS, on multiple occasions

to obtain confidential information relating to him in order to use it to prevent his reelection to office, thus bettering their chances of obtaining the enhanced salaries and benefits at issue in the employment contract bargaining process.

Scott filed a \$1 million claim against the city on August 13, 2021, throwing Marcus Fuller, who at that point had been hired as city manager, and City Attorney Eric Vail into a panic.

An inquiry into Scott's allegations was made. What was learned was that in August 2016, 14 separate inquiries relating to Scott and his son, Myles Edward Scott, who had been killed in a single-vehicle traffic accident in 2014 were made with the California Law Enforcement Teletype System by Noretta Barker, a law enforcement technician with the Rialto Police Department. It was determined that Barker had accessed the data base for the information at the behest of a member of the fire department and a sergeant in the police department. When Barker was pressed, she declined to identify the fire captain or the police sergeant.

The full city council took up the issue of Scott's claim on September 14. Under California law, those intending to file suit against a governmental entity must first make a claim of damages against that agency, providing the entity an opportunity to settle the matter short of going to court. Once the claim is rejected, the party making the claim has one year to file a lawsuit in state court or two years in federal court. In the vast majority of cases, such claims are routinely rejected.

On September 14, the Rialto City Council, with Scott recusing himself, considered Scott's claim during a closed session. The matter was a convoluted, complicated and highly problematic one. On one hand, the accessing of Scott's file within CLETS, which was developed and intended exclusively for

use by law enforcement and the Department of Motor Vehicles, was a violation of the law and of Scott's constitutional and privacy rights. Moreover, it reflected poorly on the city, its police department, its fire department and threatened to touch off further inquiry and exposure of how the city's facilities, equipment and access to confidential governmental data was exploited against other political candidates whose philosophies and positions did not align with the interests of the city's public employee unions. Still, Scott had first raised the issue in February 2021, some four-and-a-half years after the improper access of data had taken and he had not filed his claim until five years after it had occurred, which in both cases fell outside the three year statute of limitations for initiating a legal action. The council at that point neither rejected nor acknowledged the validity of the claim, instead authorizing Vail to negotiate a settlement with Scott, hopeful that a contretemps involving negative publicity for the city could be avoided. Two months later, in November 2021, the city council, in accordance with a recommendation by Fuller and Vail, voted to settle Scott's claim for \$500,000. The matter was handled discretely and quietly, without fanfare and involving bureaucratic sleight-of-hand that avoided public disclosure.

Despite the public being in the dark, Mayor Robertson had a front row seat of how her long-time council colleague had maneuvered his way to a half of a million dollar windfall.

Roughly a year and four months later, on March 10 of this year, Robertson, represented by the Bracy Hawkins Law Firm, filed a \$1 million claim against the city, one that essentially alleged what Scott had in his August 2021 claim, with the variant that it was Robertson who the claim asserted was the target.

In the claim paper-

work, it was laid out that the action which had injured the mayor took place "On the premises of the Rialto Fire Department [and] Rialto Police Department."

In describing "what particular act... caused the injury," the claim states "Impermissibly accessing and running Mrs. Robertson's personal information through the State of California's "CLETS" system and other systems without a legitimate law enforcement purpose, by unauthorized personnel and for improper, unauthorized and unnecessary reasons."

According to the filed claim, the damages incurred to date, consisting of "economic and non-economic loss penalties, etc." stand at \$1,000,000.00."

According to the claim, Robertson has witnesses to back her up but they are considered, at least as of the time of the filing of claim, to be "confidential."

The Bracy Hawkins Law Firm consists of attorneys Allison Bracy, Channing Hawkins, Jendayi Saada and Bruce Fan. Hawkins is himself a leading political figure in Rialto, as he represents Division 4 on the West Valley Water District. Division 4 encompasses a substantial portion of Rialto, part of Colton and an area of unincorporated San Bernardino County.

An examination of Robertson's claim determined that while the Rialto Police Department had indeed accessed information contained within the California Law Enforcement Teletype System pertaining to Robertson and members of her family, all of those inquiries related to ongoing department operations, including what were deemed legitimate investigative activity.

These investigations came about, the *Sentinel* is informed, as a consequence of crimes or suspected crimes in which either Mayor Robertson herself or others were victimized. At least two of those investigations came about in response to the mayor having

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contacted the police department or having filed a police report. These included, according to knowledgeable sources, burglary, the theft of the mayor's vehicle, action taken by the mayor's son which might have been interpreted as the theft of that vehicle, some order of a domestic disturbance involving the mayor's daughter and the father of one of the mayor's grandchildren and other incidents which were logically interpreted as criminal activity by the police department, justifying an investigation.

Multiple individuals privy to what one source characterized as an "exhaustive" audit of the police department's accessing of law enforcement data bases with respect to the mayor and her family members said there were no instances where the information obtained relating to them was not relevant to a legitimate ongoing investigation.

Moreover, the data extraction relating to Scott was done for a different purpose, involving a different motive than was the case with Robertson. As a Republican, Scott was deemed by the public employee unions representing Rialto's city employees – City Hall's rank and file, firefighters and police officers – to embody an inflexible presence on the city council during contract negotiations. The information gathering effort that took place in 2016 was aimed at obtaining what those accessing the data base thought would be proof that Scott was

residing or otherwise spending an inordinate amount of time outside of Rialto along with what they hoped would be derogatory information pertaining to Scott's 17-year-old son, who had died two years previously. Indications that Scott was actually living in Kern County could be used, those who wanted to see him removed from the council, either in calls for his resignation from office or in a campaign against him to prevent him from being reelected in 2018. It was known that Myles Scott had been killed when the driver of the vehicle in which he was riding ran off the shoulder of the westbound 10 Freeway just east of the 215 Freeway and struck a tree, and that both the driver and young Scott had been inhaling nitrous oxide just prior to the accident. Those accessing the CLETS information with regard to the Scotts in 2016 did so in anticipation of finding information relating to Myles Scott's involvement in the drug culture which could be used against his father in a political context.

In contrast to Scott, Robertson, a Democrat and one-time Caltrans employee who has been retired since 2012 and is currently pulling a \$92,797.82 pension through the California Public Employees Retirement System, is closely aligned with labor and the unions representing the city's employees. As such, those who were militating against Scott had no rea-

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County Board Chairwoman's Committee Released Report On Storm Response *from front page*

undrivable after being hit by the snowplows. The sheer weight of the falling snow began causing damage to natural gas lines, resulting in fires and explosions.

That weight proved too much for many roofs. Ones that were flat in many cases collapsed. Even some roofs that were slanted were not immune from damage, and many developed water leaks, a complicating factor in an environment where the temperature in some areas might peak in the low 40s by day and become subfreezing at night. More than 15,000

people found themselves stranded near the mountain top in the San Bernardino Mountains on the east and in Mt. Baldy and Wrightwood in the San Gabriel Mountains on the west with dwindling or no food, medicine and other supplies while residents of those areas who had sojourned down the mountain to their day jobs found themselves unable to return home for, in some cases, nearly a week.

While Mt. Baldy lies within the county's Second District, overseen by Supervisor Jesse Armendarez, and Wrightwood falls within the First District, which comes under the responsibility of Supervisor

Paul Cook, by far the greatest degree of devastation as a result of the major weather event took place in the Third District, the bailiwick of Supervisor Dawn Rowe, who is at present the chairwoman of the board of supervisors. Rowe assembled eight residents/entrepreneurs of the San Bernardino Mountain communities who had experienced the storm firsthand to, in Rowe's words, "collect honest feedback on the county's storm response" and provide "unfiltered and constructive feedback on the government's response so the issues faced during the 2023 winter storm can be addressed moving forward."

Known as the Third District Storm Response Committee, it consisted of mountain residents Olivia Borges, Laura Dyberg and Steve Keefe; Keri-Leigh Henderson, the chairwoman of the GreyBack Disaster Preparedness Group; Dr. Bill Mellinger, the pastor at Crestline First Baptist Church; Brenda Meyer, a broker with Cozy Cabins Realty; James Miller, who was designated the representative of the Big Bear Valley community; and Steve Valentine, a realtor and public relations consultant.

Rowe was appointed to the Third District supervisory post in December 2018. Her supervisory office was

thrown into something of a disarray in October 2021 when Matt Knox, who had served as her chief of staff, departed from that position to become a contract American Rescue Plan Act program officer for San Bernardino County. Knox was replaced by Claire Cozad, who had previously served as Rowe's policy advisor. Rowe, Knox and Cozad had in large measure acclimated themselves to politics under Supervisor Cook when previously Cook had been a member of the California Assembly and then a congressman. All three worked on Cook's cam-

Continued on Page 4

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To Fill Police Chief's Spot, Chino Promotes From Within *from front page*

Simmons became eligible to retire. Having now been a police officer for 28 years, he opted to head off into the sunset.

Simmons' exit perpetuates a trend that has taken hold over the last several decades, in which the police chiefs are remaining in place for fewer years than was generally the case previ-

ously.

From the city's 1910 founding until 1975, the city employed nine police chiefs, with each averaging more than seven years heading the department, including that last of those, Frank Meehan, who remained in place for eight years. The last nine chiefs running through Simmons, however - Jerry Doyle, Jim Anthony, Pat Connelly, Richard Sill, Gene Hernandez, Stan Stewart, Miles Pruitt, Karen Comstock and Simmons - have averaged just

five-and-one-third years in the department's top slot.

During the latter era, James Anthony and Gene Hernandez who served from 1980 to 1992 and 1998 to 2007, respectively, were throwbacks to an earlier time, serving eleven and nine years. Connelly, Sill and Stewart averaged just under three years as chief, while Pruitt and Comstock remained in place roughly five years and Simmons is now departing after four.

Given his age of 45,

Mensen, who has been with the department since 1997, is purposed to remain as chief at least one year longer than Simmons. Under the California Public Employees Retirement System's guidelines, Mensen's pension will not max out until early 2031, at which time he will be eligible to draw 100 percent of what his maximum yearly salary will at that time be or have been.

Mensen will start with an annual salary of right around \$202,000. He can

expect pay add-ons and perquisites of roughly \$90,000 per year and benefits of right around \$117,000 per year for a total annual compensation of \$409,000.

Since his 1997 hiring, Mensen has worked the department's patrol, traffic, investigation, and special weapons and tactics details, while working his way up in rank from officer to detective to sergeant to lieutenant to captain and team commander.

Mensen grew up in Ontario, where he attend-

ed and graduated from Chaffey High School. He has both bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice from California Coast University. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Virginia.

Prior to Simmons' retirement announcement, he promoted Mensen to deputy chief, which is universally seen as an internal department recommendation for police chief.

Mensen is married with three children.

Victorville Can't Seem To Hold On To A Fire Chief *from front page*

tired after 21 years as fire chief in 1997. In 2000, Cabriaes was elected to the city council. In 2004, the Hesperia City Council in a highly controversial move closed out its municipal fire department and contracted with the county fire department for fire safety service. Some four years later, in May 2008, despite Cabriaes resistance, the Victorville City council by a 3-to-2 vote, mimicked Hesperia and dissolved the Victorville Fire Department in favor of contracting with the county fire protection division as of July 1, 2008. A decade later, with the ten-year contract with

the county for fire service about to expire, its city council sought to reassert Victorville, which at that point stood as the county's fifth most populous municipality and its largest geographically, as a full-service city. Though the arrangement with the county was extended for eight months, in March 2019 the Victorville Fire Department was reestablished.

Initially in a holding pattern based on the way the county had run things, the city as the result of a nationwide search hired Greg Benson of Illinois, a firefighter with 35 years' experience including as fire chief with agencies in the Midwest, to head of the Victorville Fire Department and fully implement its disengagement from the San Bernardino County Fire

Protection District running the agency.

After 16 months, however, Benson abruptly resigned, at which point the city turned to John Becker, who had been the fire chief at the time the city voted to dissolve the department in 2008 in favor of the contract with the county. Becker stayed in place just six months, from August 2020 until February 2021. He was replaced by Jeff Armstrong.

Armstrong remained as chief just 15 months, announcing his departure in May 2022. The city tapped Battalion Chief Brian Fallon, who had formerly been with the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Department for 16 years, and had been hired by the Victorville Fire Department in September 2021, to move

into the chief's role.

The ambitious and upwardly mobile Fallon did not stay long, however. When he was offered the position of chief of the Lompoc City Fire Department, Fallon moved onto that position in January 2023.

The city choose Racowschi as Fallon's replacement, at least temporarily.

In March, Victorville officials were gushing about the city's good fortune in having convinced David Foster, who grew up in Burbank and became highly experienced in the area of fire science while serving as a top fire-suppression officer while serving in the United States Air Force, to become the department's next fire chief. Once out of the military, Foster worked as a firefighter in Palmdale and

then responded to an offer across the continent to go to work with the Dekalb County Fire Department, which serves a population of more than one million in the Atlanta metropolitan area. He acceded to the position of fire chief with Dekalb County. Meanwhile, he had attained a bachelor's degree from Bellevue University in Bellevue, Nebraska. In 2004, he was lured away from Dekalb County by the Village Fire Department in Texas within the greater Houston area. During his 19 years there, Foster was invited to become a fellow with the county's most prestigious association of firefighting professionals, the executive committee of the National Fire Academy, where he obtained a master's degree in fire science obtainable

only by those who have achieved the post of fire chief.

The enthusiasm that Victorville City Manager Keith Metzler and others expressed upon the city's hiring of Foster in March when he agreed to leave Texas has now been dashed. No one is talking about why he is leaving and whether he determined that Victorville simply did not live up to his standard of a good department or whether firefighters he was commanding and city officials are now convinced he does not make a good fit for Victorville.

Clemmer briefly filled in for him beginning on June 28 and Racowschi has been the official acting fire chief as of July 5.

-Mark Gutglueck

Motherhood Fits Within Her Philosophy Of Governance, Davis Says *from front page*

involved in politics generally in Southern California and, further, that in Redlands over most of its history going back to its incorporation in 1888, women only sporadically participated in the political process, with just three distaff may-

ors in 135 years. In both ways, Davis indicated, she stands out.

But she is not breaking any new ground, she said, pointing out that in the last few years, the tenor of politics in the Inland Empire has begun to change.

“Eastvale Councilwoman Jocelyn Yow, Corona Councilwoman Jacque Casillas, Palm Springs Councilwoman Christy Holstege and Riverside City Council-

woman Erin Edwards all have had babies while they are in office over the last few years,” Davis said. “Norco City Councilwoman Katherine Aleman had hers before she was elected, but she has four very young children, all, I think, under the age of eight. I know all of these woman personally. They’re my friends. Seeing them do it, balancing being in office and being mothers, gave me the confidence

that I could, too.”

Women, locally have come into their own politically in the last decade, Davis said.

“I think society is undergoing a shift, with more women in office and more women in office having babies,” Davis said. “Post 2016, you have seen younger women getting involved politically and that is because they are being encouraged to run for office.”

Asked by the *Sentinel* if being a mother has changed her as a politician, Davis said she believes it has.

“Having a baby made me think about what mothers who support families are going through or just about families in general,” she said. “You work to support a baby and you find out what it takes for healthcare and other considerations. I needed to add my baby to my

health coverage with the city and as I was filling out the forms, I could see how much more that is going to cost. It makes you more empathetic with the situation working families find themselves in.”

Practical issues aside, Davis said, being a new mother is enlivening.

“I am so excited to be a mother and have a child,” she said. “I am looking forward to raising him here in Redlands.”

Chaos Ensued In The San Bernardino Mountains Community’s When The Billard Of ‘23 Hit Without Officials & The Population Being Adequately Prepared *from page 3*

paigns and, as a result of political patronage, had been rewarded with political positions on his Assembly and U.S. Congressional staffs. Following Knox’s departure and replacement by Cozad, Rowe found herself and her office to be more and more dependent upon County Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez

At the Tuesday, March 14, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting, County Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez aired for the board and the public a video pertaining to the storm which encapsulated the county’s effort to respond to it.

Thereafter, Rowe, as the board chairwoman, stated, “I commend and appreciate everyone on the county’s team for their hard work in responding to this natural disaster. There are many who have been working around the clock in very difficult conditions. However, we clearly have people in the community who feel that the county’s response fell short. I have concerns that the county could have been more effective in some key areas. I think we have to ask questions in four key areas as we move forward. What did we do right? What can we do better? What is

the institutional knowledge that we’ve learned? How do we ensure that we are prepared for the future? Mr. CEO, I’d like to direct you to lead a comprehensive examination of how the county responded to this crisis and how to respond to emergencies in general and to report back to the board and the public, no later than six months if that’s doable from your perspective, preferably sooner, the findings of a detailed and innovative plan moving forward.”

The criticism of the county’s emergency response agencies – in particular the sheriff’s department and the county fire department – inherent in Rowe’s statement “the county could have been more effective in some key areas” was, perhaps, something she might have been better advised to have kept to herself, given the lofty status reserved for the sheriff, who is considered to be beyond reproach in San Bernardino County.

The realization that she might do well to leaven that implied criticism of the sheriff and the sheriff’s department appears to have made its way into the Third District Storm Response Committee Report, which was put together throughout much of April, after the weather in the San Bernardino Mountains had cleared, and released, rather quietly, on May 10.

The committee report goes easy on virtually everyone within the San Bernardino County governmental structure Rowe is best to stay on the good side of. There

is nothing laid out that is so much as vaguely critical of the sheriff’s department. Similarly, the county fire department comes across in the narrative as having admirably risen to the occasion when the storm hit. Hernandez, at whose desk the buck relating to anything to do with the county stops, is likewise not mentioned. To the extent that there is an acknowledgement that any of the county’s functionaries might not have performed at a level required of them by virtue of their level of responsibility and job descriptions, that recognition extends only to the county’s office of emergency services. That criticism is expressed, however, in only the most generic of terms, without mentioning the name of the department’s director.

The most pointed negative assessment, insofar as it can be characterized as critical, is reserved for two key entities outside the authority of the county, those being the California Department of Transportation, known by its acronym Caltrans, and the California Highway Patrol.

It appears that the language of the report was in general put together by Rowe with assistance from Valentine, a public relations consultant skilled at maintaining positive relationships with as many varying and even conflicting interests within the context of trying circumstances that put those interests at odds with one another, and Miller, who was or perhaps still is one of Rowe’s field representa-

tives in the Third District office.

In the report’s preamble, an effort is made to soften whatever blows are to be delivered in the narrative lest the reader be sympathetic toward governmental officials – particularly those employed by the state rather than the county – in specific or general, as well as to justify or even apologize for the relatively bland or sedate nature of the critique that is offered.

“While the opinions expressed in this report may not accurately depict what happened during the snowstorm response, they may illustrate how mountain residents perceived the response,” it states.

To the extent that corporate entities fell short in what they should have done, the report noted, “Southern California Gas (SoCalGas) needed better communication regarding buried gas meters.”

Early in the storm, the weight of falling snow crushed gas lines and meters, resulting in some explosions and fires.

The report noted, “Equipment owned by utility companies could not get into areas with downed powerlines because the roads needed to be cleared. This caused a delayed response in some areas that were without power. Verizon had previously installed communications towers to help with emergency communications, but some people still couldn’t get through to emergency medical services during this storm. After two weeks some areas were still

without phone service. There was no communication through landline and cell phone or internet in impacted areas.”

According to the report, as far as officialdom’s reaction to the storm, there were “things that went wrong, things that went well, and missed opportunities.”

The report states, “Early on into the storm, the snow was allowed to accumulate too much, which shifted the snow removal response into a reactive versus proactive approach. Snowplows could have passed more frequently early on to avoid the accumulation of snow. The level of snow that accumulated made normal plows and heavy equipment insufficient in some areas. Most of the plows only pushed the snow and the snow had to be lifted at that point which was difficult. It was difficult for plow operators to see roadways and driveways, which resulted in the creation of large berms on private property.

“In some areas county [snowplow] operators started plowing for about 48-72 hours after the storm began and then they stopped so resources could be diverted to help Southern California Edison (SCE) access downed power lines,” the report continues. “SCE needs to have their own equipment for future winter storms to avoid pulling from county resources.”

The report states, “The county should have found a way to get more equipment staged and ready to deploy in ad-

vance so that there was no delay in getting additional equipment up the mountain. County public works should also procure more snowblowers across the mountain communities. Due to the volume of snow and limited county equipment, extra plows and operators were brought in from across the state to assist with plowing efforts.

“As a result, there were many inexperienced plow drivers who did not know the mountain communities or how to plow snow especially at this level,” the report continues. “There is now road damage due to the extra plows and operators that were brought in. Restoration work on roads is now needed in the aftermath of the storm. Under normal winter storm conditions, residents can typically expect to be plowed out overnight and they had an understanding of the order in which roads are plowed. In most cases it took days for residents to have their roads made passable let alone cleared. In addition, the heavy equipment operators from outside the area were unfamiliar with the protocol that locals were accustomed to, which caused further frustrations. Residents had no indication of when their road would be plowed. Additionally, inexperienced operators could not determine which homes were occupied by signs such as a shoveled driveway. Residents who had spent hours clearing their driveways to gain access once the road was plowed ended up be-

Continued on Page 6

City Officials She Hired In Her Capacity As A City Leader Withheld Her Stipend, Put It In The Wrong Account When They Finally Paid Her, Left Her Vulnerable To Attack & Have Failed To Accommodate Her Physical Limitations Because She Is Old And Black And They Are Discriminating Against Her, Mayor Robertson Claims *from front page*

son to seek any derogatory information pertaining to her, through law enforcement's data bases or otherwise.

At its April 11, 2023 meeting, the city council rejected Robertson's March 10 claim.

Two weeks prior to lodging the March 10 claim, on February 24, 2023, Robertson, represented by attorney Michelle D. Strickland had filed a claim against the city seeking reimbursement of an estimated \$350,000 based on the city having misdirected, beginning in 2003, what was an agreed-upon deferred compensation payment of \$750 per month into a wrong account. That money for the mayor, members of the city council, city clerk and city treasurer was supposed to have been deposited into an account identical to one set up for the city manager, a 401(a) money purchase pension plan and trust fund. Instead, the money had been routed into a 457 retirement plan. According to the claim on Robertson's behalf filed by Strickland, Robertson is owed \$132,446.62, which is equal to the amount of money put into the 457 retirement plan, and three indeterminate sums, including money to make up for an increased tax liability of 18 percent, consulting fees and attorney fees and costs, which Strickland calculated to be a "\$350,000.00 total estimated amount of prospective damages."

At its December 14, 2021 meeting, the city council had accepted a report from then-City Manager Marcus Fuller and then-City Attorney Eric Vail in which they presented a timeline

to receive the same health, welfare and cost reimbursement benefits as received by the city's senior management, and the then-current date, detailing how the \$500 per month benefit intended for the city's elected officials between July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 and the \$750 per month benefit intended for the city's elected officials between July 1, 2015 and through October 2021 had not been paid. Fuller's and Vail's report and recommendation, which the city council including Mayor Robertson signed off on, stated the "city will make payment of amounts due and owing to eligible elected officials whose terms fell within the time period of July 1, 2014 through the current date."

City officials, after looking into the claim, concluded that the misplacement of funds was an issue not only with Mayor Robertson but with other members of the city council and that the matter pertaining to all of the city's officials, including the mayor had been redressed with a formula that corrected the fund diversion and which is fair, making up for any tax penalty that Robertson or the others may have been subjected to.

The city's senior management team, consisting of acting City Manager Arron Brown and Vail, who found themselves in the extremely delicate position of having to traverse the mayor, returned a recommendation to the city council that it reject Robertson's claim. The city council did so at its March 14 meeting.

On May 17, Robertson, again represented by Strickland, filed a \$6 million claim against the city, consisting of \$5 million in "ongoing"

damages and another \$1 million in "estimate prospective" damages, alleging that "The city council and city manager have acted continually with discriminatory intent, violating ADA [Americans With Disabilities Act] regs [regulations] and in violation of Fair Employment and Housing [Act] guidelines, and in the commission of their discriminatory acts continue to committing gender and racial discrimination, by refusing to address health and safety issues and ADA accommodations for disabilities which the city has been made aware [of] since the inception my employment as mayor and is an ongoing concern. Further, the city continues to financially abuse the mayor in their [sic] refusal to compensate her for their own errors, which constitutes financial elder abuse in W & I [Welfare and Institutions] Code § 15657.5."

In delineating the particular act or omission that resulted in Robertson's injury or damages, the claim states, "The city council and city manager continue [to] be indifferent and discriminatory regarding my personal safety after a domestic terrorism report from the December 2 attack, which has gone unaddressed even though as the mayor, I have continued to address the issues of my vulnerability."

Robertson's reference was to the December 2, 2015 massacre at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino in which a San Bernardino County Department of Public Health inspector, Syed Rizwan Farook, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, used semiautomatic handguns and rifles to kill 14 of Farook's fellow and sister Department of Public Health employees and seriously injured 22 others.

Robertson's claim further states, "After the terrorism report was made, the city immediately installed a security door in one of my Caucasian male colleague's office, completely ignoring my concern for my personal

safety. For at least one year and ongoing, the city manager continues to ignore my requests for reasonable accommodation based on an automobile accident in 2019. The Mayor continues to request that she have ergonomic equipment for lumbar support and carpal tunnel support, as well as safety precautions."

The claim maintains that "the city manager immediately addressed the concerns of the city treasurer, a male, who just had surgery and complained that he could not go through the metal detectors or open certain doors."

The reference to the "terrorism report" was an assessment made of safety issues and vulnerabilities at Rialto City Hall made by a security consultant, the Netira Group, retained by the city in the aftermath of the San Bernardino attack. According to Netira, which provided the city with its survey of the circumstance at Rialto City Hall and its recommendations in March 2016, the occupants of some of the offices at City Hall, including the mayor, because they have windows, could be exposed to attack by an armed assailant. Netira suggested this hazard could be lessened by the erection of a fence around City Hall.

A perimeter fence has not been built around City Hall.

As for Robertson's assertion that "the city immediately installed a security door in one of my Caucasian male colleague's office," city officials point out that the Netira Group made no recommendation that the mayor's office be augmented with a security door and that, in fact, it was more than four-and-a-half years after the Netira Group delivered its recommendations that a security door was installed in Councilman Raphael Trujillo's office, which was the most logical location for such an addition to City Hall. Trujillo does not match up with the "Caucasian male" term used in Robertson's claim, as Trujillo is a Hispanic male,

city officials said. This misrepresentation, according to city officials, is an example of overreach by which Robertson is seeking to imbue the circumstance with a racial/racist component that simply does not exist.

The Netira Group's suggested remedies were conceived and expressed some seven years ago and where practical were implemented at a previous date, such that Robertson's raising of the issue now is highly curious and suspect, city officials said.

With respect to accommodations intended to assist Robertson with the physical issues growing out of her traffic accident, city officials contend that all reasonable efforts were made to provide Robertson, as has been done with other officials and employees who face challenges because of physical disabilities or infirmities, with furniture, desks, chairs, materials and equipment to facilitate the mayor's ability to function in her elected capacity efficiently, safely and without aggravating her injury/condition.

To the extent that Robertson has accused the city of violating the Americans With Disability Act, fair housing and employment regulations or engaging in discrimination based on any issues including race and/or physical limitations, city officials say there is no substance to any element of the mayor's claim.

Robertson's May 17 claim was placed on the June 13 city council meeting agenda for consideration. At that meeting, City Attorney Vail suggested removing the item from that evening's slate of council action and continued to the June 27, 2023 council meeting so that the full support for the claim would be included in the backup material for that meeting's agenda. No such material was included with the June 27 agenda, however, and the council has not yet voted on whether to resolve the matter or reject the claim.

Word about Robertson's effort to wring from Rialto \$7,350,000 has astounded many of those who have heard it, and dumbfounded a number of the county's elected officials who have developed working relationships with her over the years in such contexts as intergovernmental platforms and joint powers authorities, including three in which she is a full voting member – the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority, the Southern California Association of Governments and the League of California Cities.

"I don't know what to say," said one when the language of Robertson's claims were read to her. "I'm speechless."

Said another, "After being elected how many times – six? – by the voters to represent them, she's going to sue the governmental agency she heads for \$7 million? Is it possible for there to be anything more contemptible than that?"

Having been in elected office in Rialto for 23 years and mayor for more than a decade, Robertson qualifies as the single most influential person exercising political and ultimate administrative authority over Rialto City Hall and its employees going back for close to a generation. A recurrent observation with regard to Robertson's claims against the city was that if, indeed, what she and her attorneys are alleging is true, she, as the individual who has been the most responsible for overseeing government in Rialto for some time, is indicting herself and calling into question her own performance and function as a councilwoman and mayor, since she was instrumental in hiring the city managers serving the city going back more than two decades and approving the managerial and administrative decisions they engaged in, including hiring those who, presumably, are responsible for the shortcomings in performance that led to the injuries/damages ref-

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Rialto Officials Insist Robertson Is Misperceiving A Discriminatory Animus Against Her Where Nothing Of That Kind Exists

from page 5

erenced in her claims.

The *Sentinel* made repeated efforts to contact Robertson at City Hall. In an email, the *Sentinel* directly inquired of Robertson as to whether she considered herself in any way responsible for creating the circumstance in which the organization she has led for so long mistreated her in the fashion she outlined and engaged in the discriminatory behavior she is alleging.

The *Sentinel* asked Robertson what the poor performance of the Rialto city employees she described in her claims says about her effectiveness as an elected official.

Multiple observers have remarked that Robertson's pursuit of claims surpassing \$7 million is an indication that she is going end her tenure in office with the conclusion of her current term. The *Sentinel* asked in the email it sent to her if she will seek reelection in 2024.

The *Sentinel* further sought from Robertson whether she is some order of extraordinary economic adversity at present which would explicate why in the course of three months she would lodge three claims against the city she is leading for more than \$7 million.

The *Sentinel* asked Robertson if she could convincingly contradict the suggestion that there is something unseemly in her using her position of power and authority as the elected representative of the people of Rialto to try to wield for yourself a \$7 million plus payday.

Mayor Robertson did not return the *Sentinel's* phone calls and did not respond to its email.

The *Sentinel* likewise sent emails to Robertson's two attorneys - Michelle Strickland and Channing Hawkins - inquiring about the claims. Strickland offered a terse response of "No comment." Hawkins did not

respond.

Councilman Scott told the *Sentinel*, "I don't think there is validity in any of the claims the mayor has filed. They are convoluted and not very clear."

Scott said, "With regard to the CLETS issue, an audit was done and the only time she was run was in conjunction with a burglary at her home or some kind of disturbance and when her car was stolen once or twice. In those instances, those are legitimate investigations. None of those were improperly run."

The councilman said, "There is nothing to the claim that the city council and the city manager are discriminating against in the aftermath of her injury in that auto accident or because of her age. The city is very accommodating to all of us who have those kind of issues. [Rialto City Treasurer] Ed Carrillo and I both have terminal illnesses and the city has been very good about taking care of use and making it so we can do everything we need to do. We both have devices implanted in our bodies. If either one of us went through the metal detector, the walk-through magnetometer, our wires could detach. As far as accommodations, I have never seen them not accommodate any employee who has some sort of physical or medical issue. The city has treated her no differently than it treats any of us or the city's employees who have medical or physical disability issues. It just doesn't stand to reason that the current city manager or any of our previous city managers would treat the mayor any differently than anyone else and certainly no city manager would ever treat the mayor more poorly than someone else at the city."

The suggestion that the city is neglecting the mayor's safety and leaving her vulnerable to being gunned down

in her office at City Hall is an overly dramatized misrepresentation, Scott said.

"It's a brick building," he said. "There is a window in her office. I have a window in my office. I do not sit in front of the window and I do not believe the mayor does either. If she does sit in front of her window, she doesn't have to. If need be, her desk could be moved."

Scott took issue with the passage in her claim that the city had provided a security door for a "Caucasian" council member.

"She said, 'Caucasian' council member," Scott said. "I am the only Caucasian council member. I did not get a security door. If need be, I can exit through Councilman Trujillo's office, and I am completely comfortable doing that. This is a non-issue."

Robertson's claim that the city manager or city staff had purposefully misdirected her 401A money does not hold up, Scott said. "First off, it was the city manager who caught what was going on and brought it to our attention," Scott said. "And it wasn't just the mayor whose funds were misplaced for a time. It was every elected officeholder. The city manager made sure that we were all taken care of and compensated. She didn't agree with the formula, apparently. It may not have been the most perfect formula, but it was resolved for all of us. No one is complaining, except for her."

Scott added, "There is no racial or racist component to any of this."

The *Sentinel* asked Scott if Robertson intends to leave office at the end of her current term. "She has said she is going to run for reelection in 2024," Scott said.

That being the case, the *Sentinel* asked, doesn't seeing \$7.35 million in taxpayer funds from the city complicate that?

"I certainly would think so," Scott said. "That would be a good question from the community."

Committee Impaneled By The Board Of Supervisors Chairwoman Places Inadequate Storm Reaction Responsibility With Caltrans & The CHP Rather Than The County

from page 4

ing obstructed by large berms on their property. Non-County plow drivers need to be strictly directed by the incident management team."

The committee found fault with the county's snow removal map, which was supposed to give residents an idea of which roads had been cleared.

"The map was only updated once a day instead of providing live information," the report states. "It also only focused on what had been completed and did not show any indication of the areas that were scheduled for plowing. Residents wanted to know when they would be helped, but it only told them they were left out. The map was also inaccurate at times. It would show a specific road as completed, however those on that road knew it was not. The map was more helpful for those down the mountain than for those stuck at home in some cases."

The report found that "For those residents on a non-maintained road, it was extremely confusing to figure out what resources were available to them. It was not necessarily clear what that means for them as individuals on a non-county road and what to expect from it."

The report was less than charitable with regard to Caltrans and the Highway Patrol.

"During this storm event, Caltrans equipment was diverted and this resulted in yet another reactive versus proactive approach to snow plowing," according to the report. "It also forced the isolation of the mountain communities since the highways were inoperable. In the past Caltrans has pulled equipment from the mountains to clear the Cajon Pass, but they did not have to return to this accumulation of snow."

The report further

stated that "After the highways were cleared, Caltrans tried to reopen the highways too soon."

According to the report, "There was little communication between Caltrans and the county. Once the highways were reopened it allowed some residents to travel down the mountain to go purchase vital goods such as food and medications for their families or neighbors who were still stuck. Residents would go down and were unable to return home. They would sit at the base of the mountain for hours with no clear information on when they could return home. Services like Google maps did not show that it was open to residents only, so the residents really relied on Facebook to communicate with others who were able to get back up the mountain. People want more information and reasonings behind closures or blockages."

The report emphasized, "The relationship needs to be fixed with Caltrans and California Highway Patrol (CHP). There is no public input. They do not proactively reach out to the public. There were also evident lag times in their communications. For example, Caltrans would announce the reopening of highways to residents. However, CHP did not let residents back up the mountains for hours."

Moreover, the report states, "There was also no clear explanation provided to residents from either Caltrans or CHP as to why residents could not go back home" and "there was a delay in CHP approving the closures despite the clear need based on road and snow conditions. Once travel was being re-authorized, CHP restricted traffic going up. CHP needed a better system to control people going up with food and medicine."

The committee ac-

cused Caltrans District 8 of "an overall lack of response for winter storms. Caltrans District 8 has no protocol in place on how to prepare in advance for pending major storm events. They do not stage equipment nor do they have a pre-approved list of private grading contractors that they can hire if they need help."

The committee was equally critical of the Highway Patrol's operations in the county and particularly in the mountain communities.

"The CHP station on the mountain does not have a captain," the report noted. "Residents felt that having a lieutenant who was not from the community made it difficult for CHP to understand the needs of the community in this storm event. A separate state-initiated audit needs to be done of Caltrans District 8 and the local CHP office to address their lack of response for the constituents they serve."

The committee, while not absolutely avoiding negative observations about the county and its various subagencies, was generally reluctant to make pointedly critical assessments of the performance or sweeping censure of individual county employees or whole departments. What faultfinding the report engaged in with regard to the county was measured in tone and frequently offset with praise or recognition of positive traction in a setting of overwhelming challenge.

"After a few days," the report notes, "snow removal response eventually shifted to a more organized plan where residents could begin to visibly see results. It was helpful that the county was able to bring in extra plows, equipment, and operators despite the other set of issues it brought. The county should have a bigger force of equipment and operators staged in preparation for a storm event of this size, especially when advanced warning is given. The coun-

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Public Notices

FBN 20230005852
The following entities are doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as TOGETHER WE ROSE 203 E. CALIFORNIA ST. ONTARIO, CA 91761; ALAN ESTRADA 203 E. CALIFORNIA ST. ONTARIO, CA 91761. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: May 17, 2017. By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ALAN ESTRADA, Founder and CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 6/8/2023. Thereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By: Deputy J2522 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 June 16, 23, 30 & July 7, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CARMEN GONZALES Case NO. PROSB2300714

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of CARMEN GONZALES A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CARMEN P. GONZALES in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CARMEN P. GONZALES 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. S36 at 09:00 AM on 07/20/2023 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Probate Division 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

Public Notices

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. STEVEN P. JANIS: 10788 CIVIC CENTER DR. RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730 Telephone No: 909-980-0677 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on: 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Jacqueline S. Jones Case NO. PROSB2300739

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Jacqueline S. Jones A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Yolanda Butler in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Yolanda Butler be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in Dept. S37 at 09:00 AM on 07/19/2023 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Probate Division 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

Public Notices

In Pro Per: N/A N/A N/A Telephone No: N/A Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023

TRUSTEE'S NOTIFICATION (Probate Code Section 16060, et seq) Trust Estate of CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ Deceased 1.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ, as the original Trustor executed a Declaration of Trust identified as CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ LIVING TRUST, Established December 19, 2021. CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ, as the Trustor executed a Declaration of Trust identified as CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ LIVING TRUST, Established December 19, 2021, died on January 13, 2022. 3.The Successor Trustee of the foregoing trust is Marta Sheffield, c/o 1365 West Foothill Boulevard, Upland, California, 91786 4.The trust will be administered at 1365 West Foothill Blvd., Suite 2, Upland, California 91786 c/o Richard G. Anderson, Esq., Anderson & Leblanc, A.P.L.C. 5.You are hereby notified that upon reasonable request to the Trustee, you are entitled to receive a true and complete copy of the terms of the trust. 6.YOU MAY NOT BRING AN ACTION TO CONTEST THE TRUST MORE THAN 120 DAYS FROM THE DATE THIS NOTIFICATION BY THE TRUSTEE IS SERVED UPON YOU OR 60 DAYS FROM THE DAY ON WHICH A COPY OF THE TERMS OF THE TRUST IS DELIVERED TO YOU DURING THAT 120 DAY PERIOD, WHICHEVER IS LATER. DATED: June 15, 2023 RICHARD G. ANDERSON, Attorney for Successor Trustee of THE CHRISTINA HERNANDEZ LIVING TRUST, Established December 19, 2021 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 6/23/2023, 6/30/2023, 7/07/2023

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: TOMMIE SENA MANUEL Case NO. PROSB2300633

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of TOMMIE SENA MANUEL A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JAUN MANUEL LEWIS in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JAUN MANUEL LEWIS be appointed as personal representative 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.

Public Notices

A hearing on the amended petition will be held in Dept. No. S-35 at 9:00 a.m. on JULY 20, 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 Jaun Manuel Lewis: ANTONIETTE JAU-REGUI (SB 192624) 1894 S. COMMERCE 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 June 23, 30 & July 7, 2023.

FBN 20230005466
The following person is doing business as: MARIN FLOWERS. 5217 DUARTE ST APT 327 LOS ANGELES, CA 90058 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ROBERTO V RODRIGUEZ MARIN 5217 DUARTE ST APT 327 LOS ANGELES, CA 90058. 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/ ROBERTO V RODRIGUEZ MARIN, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: MAY 25, 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 06/02/2023, 06/09/2023, 06/16/2023, 06/23/2023 CNBB23202301JL

SUMMONS - (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO) 30-2023-01308365-CU-BC-CJC NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): F O R E M O S T

Public Notices

THREADED PRODUCTS, a California corporation; JAMES THOMPSON, an individual; CYNTHIA KALICKI, an individual; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): STRATEGIC FUNDING SOURCE, INC. dba KAPITUS, a New York corporation. NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para

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obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov), o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y la dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, ORANGE COUNTY CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE SANTA ANA, CA 92701 The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): PAUL A. LEVIN, ESQ., MRLG 550 NORTH BRAND BOULEVARD, SUITE 1100 GLENDALE, CA 91203 Telephone: (818) 630-7900 DATE (Fecha): February 17, 2023 Judge James Crandall. David H. Yamasaki, Clerk of the Court (Secretario) by K. Trent, Deputy (Adjunto) Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on: June 23, 30 and July 7 & 14, 2023.

FBN 20230005556
The following entities are doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as LUCIAS EXPRESS 1090 W HIGHLAND AVE SUITE # 3 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405; EDUARDO MARTIN LUCIAS 17130 VAN BUREN AVE # 388 RIVERSIDE, CA 92504 Mailing Address: 1090 W HIGHLAND AVE SUITE # 3 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: April 1, 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/ EDUARDO MARTIN LUCIAS, Owner Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 5/30/2023 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 J5480 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 June 23, 30 and July 7 & 14, 2023.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Gaylis W. Grob Case NO. PROSB2300790

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Gaylis W. Grob A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Eric Grob in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Eric Grob be appointed as personal representative to administer

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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. S35 at 09:00 AM on 08/03/2023 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District-Probate Division 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. Cary L. Cotten: 630 Alta Vista Drive, Suite 102 Vista CA 92084 Telephone No: 760-726-9882 Published in the SBCS Upland on: 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023

TRUSTEE SALE: APN: 0227-742-05-0-000 T.S. No.: 2023-1244 Order No.: 2273792cad

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 7/16/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Will sell at a public auction sale to the highest bidder, payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter

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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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202309MT

FBN 20230006376
The following person is doing business as: MD BLESSING INSURANCE SERVICES. 154 W FOOTHILL BLVD #206 UPLAND, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MD BLESSING LLC 154 W FOOTHILL BLVD, #206 UPLAND, CA 91786 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUN 12, 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/ MAYA DEWI, MANAGER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 23, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202310MT

FBN 20230006283
The following person is doing business as: CITY BARGAIN. 125 WEST VALLEY BLVD COLTON, CA 92324 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO RODRIGO ZEMPOALTECATT 4705 1/2 E COMPTON BLVD COMPTON, CA 90221. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MAR 16, 2023 By signing, I declare that all infor-

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mation in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ RODRIGO ZEMPOALTECATT, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 22, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202311MT

FBN 20230006433
The following person is doing business as: A-Z MOBILE FLEET WASHANDDETAIL. 1907 CLEAR CREEK LANE COLTON, CA 92324 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO STEVEN MONTANO 1907 CLEAR CREEK LANE COLTON, CA 92324. 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/ STEVEN MONTANO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202312MT

FBN 20230006512
The following person is doing business as: HAPPY PLACE DECORATION. 137 W FOOTHILL BLVD RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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MA JUANA MARTINEZ PEREZ 137 W FOOTHILL BLVD 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/ MA JUANA MARTINEZ PEREZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202313MT

FBN 20230006237
The following person is doing business as: THE MOON GARDEN. 9639 DATE STREET FONTANA, CA 92335 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ZOE CORONADO 26520 KEISSEL RD SPC 7 COLTON, CA 92324. 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/ ZOE CORONADO, Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 21, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023

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CNBB27202314MT
FBN 20230006591
The following person is doing business as: CALI AUTO MOBILE WASH. 11799 SEBASTIAM WAY SUITE 103 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739; MAILING ADDRESS 7396 PALAZZO PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SANFORD D CRAWFORD 7396 PALAZZO PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUN 10, 2020 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/ SANFORD D CRAWFORD, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202315MT

FBN 20230006588
The following person is doing business as: WATERFRONT MASONRY & CONSTRUCTION. 9238 19TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SCOTT R BALCOMBE 9238 19TH STREET 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: 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/ SCOTT R BALCOMBE, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 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

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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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202316MT

FBN 20230006362
The following person is doing business as: QUEADA TRUCKING 909. 2645 N STATE ST MUSCOY, CA 92407 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO FELIPE QUEZADA 2645 N STATE ST MUSCOY, CA 92407. 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/ FELIPE QUEZADA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 23, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202317MT

FBN 20230006560
The following person is doing business as: LAS IGUANAS. 3550 CAJON BLVD SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO EL PARAISO SALVADORENO 974 KENDALL DR SUITE 7-8 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUN 19, 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

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becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ JULIO ARIVERAMORENO, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202318MT

FBN 20230006374
The following person is doing business as: IN THE FIELD SERVICE. 12869 FREDERICK ST APT #102 MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ARMANDO MOYEDA JR 12869 FREDERICK ST APT #102 MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MAR 12, 2014 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/ ARMANDO MOYEDA JR, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 23, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202319MT

FBN 20230006263
The following person is doing business as: ONE STOP LIQUOR. 26916 BASELINE ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELIAS N SADER 26916 BASELINE ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346; MARY HELOU 26916 BASELINE ST HIGHLAND, CA 92346. The business is conducted

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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/ ELIAS N SADER, HUSBAND Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 21, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202320MT

FBN 20230006405
The following person is doing business as: BUSINESS ORDERS INDUSTRIES. 11232 CACTUS AVE BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO GLADIS RIVERA ZAMBRANO 11232 CACTUS 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GLADIS RIVERA ZAMBRANO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JUNE 23, 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 06/30/2023, 07/07/2023, 07/14/2023, 07/21/2023 CNBB27202301MT

Liberty Sculpture Park Now Host To Weiming's Memorial To Subjugated Women from front page

which are displayed at Liberty Sculpture Park, include a bust of Chief Crazy Horse, the inside of the headdress for which bears the phrase, "Give me liberty or give me death"; a statue of Chinese activist Li Wangyang; "Tank Man," which shows the still-unidentified man with two shopping bags who stood down a tank on June 5, 1989 during protests that took place in Tiananmen Square that year; the number "64," which commemorates the Tiananmen Square protests, which, according to unverified reports contradicted by the Chinese Communist

Government, ended in the massacre of somewhere between 200 and 2,000 protesters; the work "Liberate Hong Kong;" and CCP Virus [i.e., Chinese Communist Party Virus] which shows a coronavirus cell melded into the head of a

man's head/skeleton. Social media sites that broadcast the video reported that the unnamed woman was repeatedly trafficked and forced to give birth to eight children. In the viral video, she was shackled and appeared to have been

broken by subjugation, abuse and torture. When she saw someone was filming her, the woman, chain-bound, groaned: "This world does not want me anymore." The video, Weiming said, is evidence "of the tragic fate and endless

suffering of women in China's so-called prosperous age! "We should not only sympathize with the tragic Chained Woman who has suffered enough abuse, but continue to search for her whereabouts, and must also pay attention to the whereabouts of

those conscientious people who cried out for her and disappeared such as Wuyi, and work hard to rescue them." The *Sentinel* today sojourned to Liberty Sculpture Park to capture images of Weiming's latest work. -Mark Gutglueck



Photo by Mark Gutglueck

Rowe's Committee Primarily Faults CHP & Caltrans For Stuttering Storm Response from page 6

ty should focus more on first pass access on roads. Instead of making a single road passable and then widening the road, they should focus on making all roads passable and then pivot into widening efforts."

With reference to a key failure – the break-

down of the communications system that prevented isolated and vulnerable residents in distress from reaching the dispatch center for the sheriff's department, the Highway Patrol, the fire department, emergency medical service providers and the county's public works division because of dropped calls or no connections whatsoever – the committee was unwilling to engage in a brutally hon- Continued on Page 12

Rowe's Committee Was Unwilling To Examine The Real & Root Shortcomings During The Blizzard Of '23, Consisting Of Hernandez's & Muñoz's Delay In The Response Team Conference & The Sheriff's Department's Curtailing Of Supply Relief Flights *from page 11*

est censure of the county.

"The county's emergency call center (909-387-3911) has great intentions but created a lot of confusion for residents," the report gingerly states. "In some instances, residents were not getting through and did not get responses. Fire departments were telling people not to call the hotline and to just call 911. The 911 system was inundated as a result. In some instances, it took one day for residents to get a response to 911 calls."

The sole entity within the county hierarchy Rowe was willing to give Borges, Dyberg, Keefe, Henderson, Mellinger, Meyer, Miller and Valentine license to openly criticize was the office of emergency services, which is headed by Assistant County Executive Officer Daniel Muñoz. Assiduously, however, the report avoids mentioning Muñoz by name.

"The county's office of emergency services (OES) dropped the ball," the report states. "There was a significant amount of confusion about who was in charge. The response from county OES was not as organized as it has been for past events such as wildfires or earthquakes. Typically, OES sets up a command center and controls all information about disaster events.

"Mountain Area Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was not activated through county OES," the report continues. "They are trained and equipped to help communities during natural disasters. CERT cannot be activated without OES saying so and because that call was not made, they were unable to provide vital assistance to communities."

The report outlined further office of emergency services shortcomings.

"There was an insuff-

icient supply of diesel fuel on the mountain to support the amount of equipment being used," the report states.

Specific areas within the mountain communities were without any assistance whatsoever, according to the report.

"Running Springs was totally ignored, and they received little county help," the report states. "The county should have communicated with the Running Springs Fire Department to see what resources they needed and make sure they were okay. The Red Cross has only one person who coordinates services throughout the county. This created massive barriers in getting resources to communities such as a Red Cross trailer full of evacuation center supplies that was unable to be moved from a fire station to an evacuation site."

According to the report, "There was no plan to receive and deliver supplies to residents, especially those who could not physically get out of their homes. There was too much reliance on people to get out of their homes to make it to community points of delivery. Some residents were not aware that OES was helping with medication delivery through the emergency call center. Residents did not know who to go to and had to figure it out themselves. The county's free firewood program was mismanaged. County employees at a community point of delivery were initially limiting the amount of food people could take. So, someone who walked miles to the site in the rough conditions and wanted to take food back to elderly neighbors was denied by county personnel. They were told there was only one box per person, which was frustrating for those trying to help their families and neighbors. There was so

much conflict between county personnel and the residents in need that the sheriff's department had to come in to resolve disputes."

While Rowe was willing to have the office of emergency services' performance be subjected to obloquy in the report, she ensured that Muñoz's name was not mentioned.

Muñoz began with the county in the 1990s, working within the department of human services, colloquially referred to as the welfare office, first as an eligibility worker and then later as an analyst. He was subsequently shuffled into a series of other positions within the county department of human services, at one point gravitating to that department's emergency management division.

Muñoz would subsequently transfer from the department of human services to the office of emergency services, where after a short time as an emergency service officer he was promoted into one of the two supervising emergency service officer positions.

Muñoz was a close personal friend of Leonard Hernandez, who had made a mercurial rise from that of county librarian, a position he had been hired into in 2011, to head of the county museum in 2013, that of the county deputy executive officer in 2015, chief county operating officer in 2017 and in 2020, county chief executive officer, the county's top staff official.

In 2019 Muñoz and Hernandez began to engineer a coup d'etat, one aimed at removing Michael Antonucci, the former Upland Fire Chief, who since August 2012 had been serving as the county's senior emergency services officer overseeing the San Bernardino County of Emergency Services, which was chartered to undertake preparations for and response to catastrophic or near-catastrophic events throughout the 20,105-square mile county.

Despite Antonucci's

extensive and in-depth experience in fire department and related emergency operations and Muñoz's slender résumé in that regard, Hernandez succeeded in elevating Muñoz to the position of deputy executive officer, a position from which he served as the overseer/top administrator of ICEMA, the Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency, and the San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services, thereby forcing Antonucci out.

The county's comprehensive emergency management program for weather related issues is contained within what is referred to as the FAST Force Plan. Upon learning that a major weather-related event is in the offing, the county office of emergency services director/county

assistant chief executive officer, in this case Muñoz, being armed with information from the National Weather Service, is to convene a conference call with the county chief executive officer, sheriff, fire chief, county public works director, Caltrans regional representative, California Office of Emergency Services representative, local CHP commander, relevant city managers and utility company representatives to size up the anticipated circumstance and begin formulating a planned action of response and then, 24 hours later, reconvene to make a tentative outline of the response, whereupon the county chief executive officer applies for authorization from the board of supervisors to begin acquiring equipment, supplies, manpower etc. to initiate the response. An emergency meeting of the board of supervisors is then supposed to be convened, probably within 24 hours, to give the county chief executive officer that spending authorization.

The National Weather Service gave an indication on February 15 that a major weather front was going to converge on Southern California beginning as early as

February 21.

The first of the succession of events that entailed this year's mountain blizzard started on February 22. The board of supervisors did not conduct an emergency meeting relating to the blizzard until March 1. It appears that neither Muñoz nor San Bernardino County Chief of Administration Pamela Williams to whom Muñoz is directly answerable on the county's organizational chart nor Hernandez, who oversees both Williams and Muñoz, initiated a conference call on February 16, though under the county's emergency management protocol such an effort to bring the county's and region's primary emergency response managers together for a communication session should have been made.

It appears that Muñoz and Hernandez temporized in holding the by-phone conference until February 28, a full six days after the storm first set down on the San Bernardino Mountains.

The board of supervisors did not conduct an emergency meeting relating to the blizzard until March 1. The media were not alerted to the emergency meeting pertaining to the blizzard that took place on March 1 at 2:45 p.m. until after 1:30 p.m. on March 1.

At that meeting, the board of supervisors confirmed Hernandez's proclamation of a local emergency, expediting the provision of county resources, services and expenditures to render assistance as needed and ensure the health and welfare of the residents of the impacted areas during the emergency. That included endeavoring to give the public and first responders access to necessary infrastructure such as grocery stores, gas stations, utilities and public infrastructure.

The Third District Storm Response Committee Report makes no mention of the delay in holding the conference call, nor Muñoz's role nor Hernandez's role in that delay.

An impromptu effort

by Good Samaritans down the hill was under way by February 24 and in short order accumulated several tons of foodstuffs, propane and medicine to resupply those trapped in place. They coordinated with the California Disaster Aerial Response Team, known by its acronym CalDART, to have those supplies, including food, baby formula, propane canisters and blankets, flown to Mountains Community Hospital in Lake Arrowhead or to ad hoc distribution centers in the midst of those places hardest hit by the storm in well-maintained helicopters flown by licensed pilots who are skilled, trained and experienced in making emergency landings in forbidding terrain and circumstances.

CalDART managed to dispatch four flights with those supplies to the mountains. On March 3, however, the sheriff's department, citing safety concerns, refused to allow CalDART to participate further, leaving a growing store of foodstuffs and other critical supplies on the grounds of San Bernardino Community Hospital.

The Third District Storm Response Committee Report makes no mention of the sheriff's department's unilateral discontinuation of the CalDART relief effort.

According to the report, "The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and local fire departments did a great job with what they could. Supervisor Rowe held an online community town hall on March 2nd, which was great."

The report provides the caveat that "These comments do not represent the opinions of Supervisor Dawn Rowe or any official San Bernardino County agency. The content of this report has been provided to Supervisor Rowe for her review and is also being made available to outside agencies and the general public."

Mark Gutglueck