

## Federal Auditors Probing Ontario International Books For Irregularities And Diversions

By Mark Gutglueck

Federal Auditors Probing Ontario International Books For Irregularities And Diversions

A team of five auditors brought in by the federal government are poring over the books kept by the Ontario International Airport Authority and the management team at Ontario International Airport, looking for evidence of the diversion of funds and misuse of money entrusted to the



Alan Wapner

joint powers authority created by the City of Ontario to oversee the aerodrome's operations.

Information available to the *Sentinel* is that

there are five auditors working in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Internal Revenue Service making an exhaustive examination of financial activity at the airport ascertain if and how much money going through the airport's accounts were expended on non-aviation-related activities.

What was related to the *Sentinel* is that the

attention of federal investigators was caught when they learned that the airport had a \$10 million promotional budget while comparably sized and located aeronautics facilities would normally expend roughly one-fifth of that - \$2 million - on advertising and the like. Those knowledgeable about certain activities involving airport officials - including the board members of the Ontario International

Airport Authority, the authority's administration and the airport management - say that the promotional aspect of the operations became entangled with multiple professional sports teams and what turned into the illicit trafficking in and distribution of sports tickets. At one point, it was alleged to the *Sentinel*, the airport was spending \$350,000 per year on USC football tickets and

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## County Voters Will Get To Vote On Raising Sheriff Dicus's Pension To \$349,411.30

At what was virtually the twelfth hour, San Bernardino County officials today initiated the first public step toward placing a proposal to steeply increase the pay of the sheriff, the district attorney, the county clerk/county assessor/county recorder and the county treasurer/auditor/controller/tax collector before the voters on November 5.

At 4:59 p.m. today,

## Governor's Order To Raze Encampments Opens Removal Season On SBC's Homeless Population

The mean streets of San Bernardino County, which had already descended into what is a sadistic existential reality for many, have in recent months weeks and days grown even crueler.

The homelessness issue in San Bernardino County has worsened considerably over the last two-and-a-half decades, owing to a num-

ber of factors, including the year-around livable weather of Southern California and its location immediately adjacent to Los Angeles County, itself a haven for the dis-

possessed. An intensive effort on the part of many, from federal to state to regional to county to local governmental officials as well as by volunteers

and well-intentioned do-gooders to address the issue has been ongoing, with greater degrees of commitment and financial expenditure throughout the era. Nevertheless, for a multitude of reasons, the foremost of which are a lack of comprehensive coordination and the diversion of much of the money that has

September 8, 2029. Significantly, no staff report accompanies that item. It is believed, but no confirmation was provided by the county that the data storage arrangement is an outgrowth of the county's efforts to recover from the hacking of the sheriff's department's computer system in the March/April 2023 timeframe and prevent any future recurrences. The county paid a ran-

## Yucaipa Solons Up Fees To Help Friends & Then Want Tax Ad-On

In what seemed to some simply bad timing, to others a demonstration of influence peddling, and to others still a show of insensitivity, the Yucaipa City Council recently juxtaposed an appeal to its residents that they dig deeper into their pockets to demonstrate their civic pride with allowing their major political patrons' company to

som of \$1.1 million to Russian mob figures last year to regain access to its lost data and restore the functionality of its computer system.

The presentation of the item without a less than in-depth explanation in the form of a staff report is highly irregular.

The second item to be considered is the consideration of a proposed ordinance relating to what

## Yucaipa Solons Up Fees To Help Friends & Then Want Tax Ad-On

up what they charge the city's residents and businesses for an essential service by more than one fifth.

On June 24, the council voted to place on the November 5 ballot a measure calling for the imposition of a one cent per dollar sales tax override on all businesses within Yucaipa City Limits. The

See P 3 humane or sadistic, the region's animal control operations were more practically oriented. Governmental workers, intent on maintaining a safe and clean environment, are more goal-oriented when it comes to handling stray pets. If, after what those animal control workers consider to be a decent interim, pets in their custody are

is termed the Law Enforcement Staffing and Community Protection Act of 2024 and ordering that the proposal be submitted to the voters on the ballot for the November 5, 2024 election. That ballot measure will call for guaranteeing, as of January 1, 2025, that the auditor-controller/treasurer/tax collector and assessor-recorder-county clerk in office on November 5,

## Yucaipa Solons Up Fees To Help Friends & Then Want Tax Ad-On

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not adopted or spoken for by their original owners, they will ruthlessly "put down" those animals, to use a euphemism.

By euthanizing the animals that remain unplaced with new owners, city animal shelters free up the space monopolized by those unadopted dogs or cats, allowing the next batch of new arrivals a place to survive for a time deemed

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## Defying The CHP, Drivers End 12 Hours Of Potentially Fatal Paralysis With Bold Traversing Of Interstate I-15 Median

What might have been multiple deaths along a stretch of the Mojave Desert were avoided early this evening after motorists who were stranded for more than eight hours in heat which at times exceeded 109 degrees followed the lead of a single bold driver who defied authorities by crossing the I-15 median west of Baker to end a vehicle logjam after the California Highway Patrol and both the San Bernardino County Fire Department and the California Division of Forestry's firefighters abandoned more than 2,000 travelers in the sweltering heat earlier in the day.

An untold number of the hundreds of motorists who found themselves trapped on the I-15 Freeway at or near the Clyde V. Kane Rest Area suffered heat stroke, which many had sought to ward off by remaining in their vehicles with their engines running and air conditioning on. But after being forced to remain in place, unable to continue northeast toward Baker and Las Vegas and unable to turn around and head southwest back to Barstow, the vehicles themselves began to overheat or ran low on fuel. Those who then exited from their cars put themselves in danger of breathing the carbon monoxide-laden exhaust from other vehicles.

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## Barstow Volunteers' Valiant Effort At Establishing No-Kill Animal Shelter Ending

Barstow is the latest community in San Bernardino County to face the eradication of its humane facilities aimed at preventing the slaughter of wild and feral animals or lost and displaced pets.

As has been the case in the cities of San Bernardino, Hesperia and Upland, the concerted efforts of volunteers and underfunded municipal

divisions devoted to animal control have proven inadequate to the task of dealing with the volumes of uncared-for animals on their streets, neighborhoods and both wide-open and confined areas. As a consequence, volunteers have in large measure stepped in to take on the function that in most other communities has traditionally relegated to municipal

or county animal control divisions.

The Route 66 Animal Shelter, located at 2340 Main Street in Barstow, was opened last year as a no-kill facility. The founders had philosophical differences with municipal officials, whose approach toward animal control, was largely deferred to the county. While perhaps not meeting the definition of in-

### Wapner Led The Charge To Have The Airport Wrested From LA's Control & Returned To Ontario, For Which He Was Made President Of The Airport Authority *from front page*

\$250,000 on Kings tickets and that there have also been expenditures on Rams and Lakers tickets. The Ontario Reign, a professional ice hockey team in the American Hockey League affiliated with the Los Angeles Kings, plays its home games at Ontario's Toyota Arena, located within glancing distance from Ontario Airport. In an arrangement involving both the City of Ontario and the Ontario International Airport Authority, airport and city officials were provided with exclusive luxury boxes at the Toyota Arena during Reign games at which to meet with, introduce themselves to, break the

ice with, glad-hand with, negotiate with and lobby other governmental officials or corporate officers. The venue of the luxury box or boxes had been broadly abused, however, according to individuals familiar with the situation, including officials utilizing the box, boxes or seating at the arena to interact with individuals with regard to matters entirely unrelated to the city or the airport, including business arrangements profiting city and airport officials. The *Sentinel* was provided with a figure of \$2,233,180, said to be the total amount of money spent through 2023 by the airport authority on LA Kings/Ontario Reign tickets. Many of those tickets, the *Sentinel* was told, ended up being used by individuals unlikely to have any impact on anything to do with the airport.

Also under scrutiny by the auditors, the *Sentinel* is told, is travel

airport officials have engaged in. Money has been spent profligately by the airport authority, according to multiple sources, some of which contacted the *Sentinel* and others which the *Sentinel* contacted. Misspending allegedly extends to a number of consultants working on issues for the airport. It has been stated that at least some and perhaps many of those consulting contracts are nonproductive ones and the money going to those consultants is intended to buy their silence about what they know with regard to the comportment of top airport officials, primarily Ontario City Councilman Alan Wapner, who is the chairman of the Ontario International Airport Authority Board of Directors.

The Ontario International Airport Authority Board was formed in August 2012 as a joint powers authority by the City of Ontario and San

Bernardino County to oversee the management, operations, development and marketing of Ontario International Airport following what at that point was hoped would be the eventual liberation of the airport from the possession, oversight and management of the City of Los Angeles and its corporate entity, Los Angeles World Airports.

In 1967, the City of Ontario had entrusted management of Ontario Airport, which at that point had no more than 200,000 passengers passing through its gates annually and had a sand flea infested gravel parking lot, to the City of Los Angeles and its airport division, which managed and administrated Los Angeles International Airport, Van Nuys Airport and Burbank Airport. Contained in the agreement was the goal of expanding Ontario Airport into a true international facility. By us-

### The San Bernardino County

# Sentinel

Published in San Bernardino County.

The Sentinel's main office is located at 10788 Civic Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with

Countywide News Service

Mark Gutglueck, Publisher

**Call (951) 567-1936**

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Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

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Legal Notice Department 951 567 1936

Message Line 951-567 1936

### CHP Acted Forthrightly In Reaction To One Hazard, In Turn Creating Another Hazard *from front page*

This dilemma came about as a consequence of the crash of a big rig hauling lithium-ion batteries that occurred around 5:57 a.m. in the freeway's right northbound lane between Afton Canyon Road and Basin Road, roughly 45 miles east of Barstow and 21 miles west of Baker.

When firefighters came upon the crash, they encountered the big rig on its side on the shoulder of the road, with the fires having started inside the 51-foot long trailer as a consequence the heat being produced by the jostled batteries. Upon ascertaining the cargo as lithium-ion batteries and that some had been punctured and/or crushed, the firefighters recognized the potential for what is termed a thermal runaway, a chain reaction in which the batteries reach a critical

level of heat and begin to explode, all the while emitting toxic fumes and gasses. Dealing with the potentially enlarging conflagration with the personnel on hand was deemed too risky, and a call for a hazardous materials-handling team went out.

The California Highway Patrol then moved to block the I-15 in both directions, stopping southbound traffic at Basin Road and preventing northbound traffic from proceeding north at Afton Canyon Road.

With a traffic backup ensuing almost immediately in the northeastbound lane as a consequence of the early weekend travel to Las Vegas, a decision was made slightly later to stop the advance of northeast-bound traffic at the Clyde V. Kane Rest Area, which was about 3.75 miles further southwest from Afton Canyon Road.

As early morning gave way to mid-morning, temperatures began to soar. According to the National Weather Service, the temperature peaked at 109.4 degrees in the mid-afternoon. It

was reported to the *Sentinel*, however, that after 3 p.m. one motorist recorded a temperature of 112 at the rest area.

Travellers were still free to continue northeast out the I-15 from Barstow after the closures had been effectuated in the early and mid-morning, but that northeast-ward progression became impossible after about 37 miles. The *Sentinel* was informed by one motorist that she had arrived at the Clyde V. Kane Rest Area around 10:30 a.m., at which time she was informed that the freeway was closed at that point, with an unknown estimated time of reopening. There was no option of turning around, and motorists were forced to wait in place at the rest area. According to the woman, the arrival of cars that were travelling behind her and the presence of vehicles locked in place in front of her meant she had to remain parked. A short time later, when some of those stuck at the rest area inquired about making their way across the northeast-bound lane and the median to turn

left and head southwest, a Highway Patrolman stated that could not be done for safety reasons. About an hour later, wooden barriers were placed in a position at the exit from the rest area, blocking vehicles from getting onto the entrance to northeast-bound lanes of the I-15, such that crossing the median to the southwest bound lanes was out of the question.

For nearly six hours after the initial closure of the freeway, according to several motorists waiting at the rest area, there was virtually no southwest bound traffic through the area, such that movement of the vehicles waiting in place at the Clyde W. Kane Rest Area across the freeway and the median to the southwest-bound lanes could have been easily and safely effectuated. It appears, however, that two factors, at least, prevented that from taking place.

One factor was that many of the motorists there remained determined to continue northeast on the I-15 when the freeway reopened and had no interest in revers-

ing their stronger negotiating position and control over gate position at Los Angeles International Airport, Los Angeles officials were able to induce more and more airlines to fly into and out of Ontario, achieving by 1969 a dramatic increase in flights out of Ontario. In short order, Continental Airlines, PSA, United, American Airlines, Hughes Air West, and Delta established routes

into Ontario. This was later followed by further expansions. Though a benchmark of 10 million passengers at the airport by 1975 was not achieved, Los Angeles World Airports, the corporate entity running the Los Angeles Municipal Department of Airports, still assiduously promoted Ontario International. In 1981, a modern, second east-to-west runway

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ing course, which would have made it difficult for those behind them to get into position to cross the I-15 divide to the southwest-bound lanes. The other factor was the stern presence of at least two California Highway Patrol cruisers which were in place to prevent any such move.

The situation was exacerbated by what was apparently poor communication between the Highway Patrol officers on the scene and the regional command headquarters and the department's dispatch function. Upon civilians phoning and reaching the Caltrans/Highway Patrol information lines, they would be told to stay in place, while being asked if there was a medical emergency. This was in reaction, apparently, to a number of those jammed up along the freeway and at the rest stop experiencing heat stroke symptoms. Fire officials put out a statement late this afternoon that "Numerous calls for service have been received by our dispatch center from both Interstate 40 and the 15 Freeway. These include individuals exhibiting

medical conditions and heat-related emergencies. We are actively addressing the needs of motorists stuck without water and experiencing other issues."

A major issue was that the assistance being brought in was originating from the Barstow area, such that those vehicles were unable to make it to the rest area in a timely fashion because their northeast progression was brought to a halt when they encountered the back end of the traffic jam. Meanwhile, large numbers of the drivers of the vehicles at the front of the jam were by that point ready to simply make their way across the freeway to head southwest. If they had been permitted to do so, that would have thinned the northeast-bound traffic snarl-up sufficiently to allow the emergency vehicles to make their way forward. When those drivers closer to the front of the massive parking lot called California Highway Patrol Dispatch, they were told that it was unknown how long the freeway closure would

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## The Law Enforcement Staffing And Community Protection Act, If Passed By The County's Voters, Will Lock In The Fair Salaries The County's Elected Officials Deserve, According To The Board of Supervisors *from front page*

2024 will not have their base salaries reduced and each will receive base salary increases of 4 percent annually while they remain in office and serve any further terms, a pay grade commensurate with that of the average of the base salaries paid to officers holding the most similar position in Orange, Riverside, Los Angeles, San Diego

and Ventura counties.

The measure is to further call for guaranteeing, as of January 1, 2025, that the pay and benefits of the county sheriff and district attorney will have their base salaries revised to the average of the salaries paid to the sheriff and district attorney in Orange, Riverside, Los Angeles, San Diego and

Ventura counties.

Under the measure, the auditor-controller/treasurer/tax collector, assessor-recorder-county clerk, the sheriff and district attorney are to receive compensation and benefits pursuant to "the salaries and working conditions of the County-wide Elected Officials Ordinance," meaning, apparently, benefits equal to those provided to county staff employees at the highest level.

In addition, the measure shall contain language, according to what is to be considered next Tuesday, that will

require the board of supervisors to "allocate a minimum amount of funding in its annual budget to fund county patrol personnel's direct salary and benefit costs for operations in the unincorporated area of the county. The minimum amount shall be the average of actual patrol personnel salary and benefits costs in the unincorporated area of the county in the three preceding fiscal years."

The term patrol personnel refers to sheriff's deputies.

The upshot of the measure in this regard

appears to be that the county will be required to maintain law enforcement services in the county's unincorporated area, which extends to roughly 94 percent of the entire county's 20,105 square miles, without interruption or reduction.

An opportunity, however, to waltz on that commitment is contained in the language to be considered.

"The board may suspend this section for up to 12 months by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of the entire board which includes a declaration of a fiscal emergency," the

staff report states.

In addition, according to the staff report, "The sheriff shall publish an annual report detailing calls for service, deputy reports, and the prior two fiscal years budgets for patrol personnel salary and benefits. The report will be public and on the county's website in December of each year."

Throughout the county, telephone lines were immediately abuzz with county employees and governmental observers questioning and postulating as to what was

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## In San Bernardino County, As In California In General, The Disagreement Between The "Bleeding Hearts" And Those Who Abide By A Strict Work Ethic, Together With Those Exploiting The Money Being Thrown At The Problem Has Prevented The Forging Of A Coordinated And Constantly Coordinated And Compassionate Solution That Would Bring About An End Of The Homeless Crisis *from front page*

been expended to entities – individuals, companies and organizations – which have consumed the monetary layouts with little in the way of tangible reduction of the homeless epidemic.

Within San Bernardino County, the political resolve needed to forge a comprehensive solution

to the homeless crisis has not come about because of a basic philosophical clash between on one hand, those who feel that homelessness verges on criminality and that the destitute should be dealt with harshly as part of a strategy to have them leave the local area altogether and on the other

hand those who have been labeled as "bleeding hearts," who envision public/private efforts to house and care for those who live on the streets. This clash of intentions and viewpoints, with individuals who are often influential, efficient and energetic working at cross purposes, further accounts for why few meaningful inroads have been made into the homeless dilemma, both locally and statewide.

All of this has played against the general backdrop of American life, steeped in the work ethic of the English, Dutch, Spanish and French settlers who ar-

rived in North America in the 1600s, African slaves and the succeeding waves of German, Scandinavian, Italian, Irish, Polish, Russian, Oriental, Mexican and other immigrants, which holds that a strong communal and societal collective must be based on a rugged individualism in which each person must fend for himself and his family, support himself and work, work toward achieving the American Dream of home ownership and self-sufficiency. The idea that a home should be given to those who are not willing to or have squandered the opportu-

nity they had to work for and earn one is antithetical to that ethic. This has undercut the concept of charity which forms the basis of programs advocated by the "bleeding hearts" to simply place those who have proven unequal to the task of competing in a cut-throat society into housing they are incapable of paying for.

With only a few notable exceptions, the owners and property managers of commercial properties in San Bernardino County have no use for the homeless, who crowd onto their strip malls, shopping centers and larger

mercantile, retail and market, often bothering, confronting, begging or asking for handouts from paying customers, utilizing the facilities intended for employees and customers, pitching tents or establishing sleeping quarters on the property, sidewalks or parking lots thereof and leaving trash and offal in their wake and sometimes engaging in vandalism or break-ins and theft.

Likewise, other property owners, including those of an industrial or related nature, consider the homeless or their presence to be a bane. Homeless encampments

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## Yucaipa Council Hits Residents With Trash Rate Increase & Sales Tax Request In One Fell Swoop *from front page*

same night, those solons approved increasing by 22.1 percent the rates domestic and commercial customers will pay Burtec Industries, Yucaipa's franchised trash hauler, for trash collection.

In May, both Yucaipa City Manager Chris Mann and Finance Di-

rector Phil White informed the city council that they were projecting a budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2024-25, running from July 1, 2024 until June 30, 2025, of \$7.2 million, given that the city had anticipated revenues of \$35.7 million, and was slated to spend \$40.1 million during that time, compounded by a \$2.9 million shortfall in its fire fund. It was noted that Yucaipa collected roughly \$2 million less in revenue than it spent

during Fiscal year 2023-24, which ran from July 1, 2023 until June 30, 2024.

Mann and White indicating it was inadvisable for the city to continue on its deficit spending trajectory, laid out to alternative courses going forward, one consisting of reducing its expenditures by reducing municipal services and the other enhancing its revenue stream by seeking from the city's residents the approval of a new tax.

At the June 10 Yucaipa City Council meeting, Mayor Justin Beaver, who is himself a public employee working for the City of Azusa, shot down Councilman Chirs Venable's effort to have the city consider asking the city's employees to make some wage concessions on their current contract or otherwise seek to impose a freeze or reductions on city employee wages in future collective bargaining sessions with the city employee unions.

Consequently, the council, which in addition to Beaver, numbers among its members another public employee, Jon Thorp, who works for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, voted to go forward with placing a ballot measure before the city's voters at the upcoming November 5 election asking them to consider approving the one percent sales tax addition.

That vote will tax place four years and 8

months after the city's voters in March 2020 primary election represented a measure calling for the imposition of a half-cent sales tax to be collected by all merchants within the city.

Mann, White and other city staff members, along with the council members maintain that the sales tax would provide Yucaipa municipal operations with a stable source of locally controlled funds to prevent

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## Barstow No-Kill Animal Shelter Shuttering *from front page*

long enough for someone to see and adopt them. If that doesn't occur, the process repeats itself.

The founders of the Route 66 Animal Shelter

in Barstow could not and still cannot bring themselves to kill the animals that have landed with them. Following successive cycles of arrivals during which only a fraction of the incoming animals are placed into homes, the animals are stacking up, literally, in

quarters that are incapable of accommodating them.

Because the volunteers are unwilling to coordinate with the City of Barstow and its animal control division to have those animals put down, a decision has been made to close out the Route

66 Animal Shelter altogether after one last Herculean effort is made to place the shelter's current population of pets into domestic situations.

Thereafter, the facility will be turned over to the city, which in short order thereafter, will undertake the mass extermina-

tions the shelter's current management feels so squeamish about.

As is very often the case with humanitarians dealing with the proliferating animal crisis, a paradox has emerged. The desire and effort to help the animals has turned into a circum-

stance in which the creatures are housed – the more plain word is caged – in an environment/situation in which they are not free to run, but are confined in ever more cramped space, in a condition or conditions which are downright in-

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# San Bernardino County **Sentinel**

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

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## **In Recent Years, Law Enforcement, In Particular Steroid-Enhanced & Muscled Up Sheriff's Deputies Have Been Utilized To Help The Homeless Understand That They Might Want To Do Themselves A Favor And Leave San Bernardino County from page 3**

ments beneath railroad trestles, in storm drains, the banks of local rivers, streams and tributaries, under freeway and road overpasses have proven problematic.

Similarly, the homeless have imposed themselves on public property and public facilities, including sidewalks, alleyways, parkways, parks and the like.

Accordingly, some public officials have gravitated toward a policy of seeking to intimidate, frighten, verbally and physically confront, muscle, beat, assault and arrest the homeless into leaving their jurisdiction for another, where the homeless convert themselves into someone else's problem.

In San Bernardino County, 10 of the cities – Chino, Montclair, Ontario, Upland, Fontana, Rialto, Colton, San Bernardino, Barstow and Redlands – have municipal police departments. Twelve of the cities – Chino Hills, Rancho Cucamonga, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, Highland, Hesperia, Victorville, Adelanto, Big Bear Lake, Yucaipa, Twentynine Palms and Needles – and its two incorporated towns – Apple Valley and Yucca Valley – contract with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department for law

enforcement services. The sheriff's department further provides law enforcement within the unincorporated county area of the county, which covers 94 percent of the county's total 20,105 square miles. While the attitude of police officers toward the homeless varies substantially from city to city and the attitude of sheriff's deputies varies slightly depending upon where in the county those deputies are employed, there has long been a general attitude that those cities and towns and San Bernardino County in general would be a better place if the homeless would just leave.

A handful of the county's police departments and the sheriff's department have taken in recent years a hard-edged approach to dealing with homeless, while simultaneously applying window dressing to obscure just how rough those tactics can be. To counter criticism of the harsh treatment, the law enforcement officers use euphemisms and have adopted a code that masks what is actually being done. Simultaneously, those departments, the sheriff's office in particular, adhere to a public relations program which propounds that those homeless are being

"helped" or "assisted," as in "helped to leave" or "assisted in departing." The nomenclature used by the sheriff's department in describing what it is doing is designed to give the public the impression that there is a benign intent at play and a humanistic heart involved in its work. Between 2021 and late this spring of 2024, the sheriff's department has used at least three separate descriptions of the effort. One is Project HOPE, with HOPE being an acronym for Homeless Outreach Proactive Enforcement. Another is Operation Inroads. More recently, the department talks about employing its SOP team, with SOP being another acronym standing for solution-oriented policing. Under the guise of "helping" the homeless, deputies assigned to Project HOPE, Operation Inroads or the SOP team would arrive at homeless encampments and shanty towns, where they insisted that layers of cardboard used as insulation from the ground as well as blankets, bedding, sleeping bags and tents which those who are destitute use to make it through the night are declared, in their words, "debris," and discarded. In certain cases, the homeless would be given an assurance that some form of assistance or shelter was to be made available to them. Those offers occasionally succeeded in having the targeted population willingly or of their own

accord allowing their possessions to be discarded. Occasionally, the deputies would follow through with delivering the homeless to an actual shelter or homeless assistance facility where they could make an application for inclusion in some type of program aimed at assistance. More often those would prove to be empty assurances but would be useful in getting the homeless to cooperate in giving up their belongings. In those circumstances where the targeted population proved uncooperative and was unwilling to part with bedding, tents or cooking/eating utensils, cookware and the like, the deputies proceeded with a heavy-handed show of force in which they set hands upon the homeless, roughed them up or beat them, ultimately seizing their property, which would then be discarded. Because the ground is an excellent conductor of heat, those who must sleep on it without a layer or two or three of cardboard, blankets or sleeping bags are very cold and very uncomfortable at night, particularly during the winter, early spring or late fall. Subjecting the homeless to such sleeping arrangements proved to be a useful way of convincing them to move on to some other location. At least since the tenure of John McMahan, who became sheriff in 2013 and remained in that post through two election cycles in 2014 and

2018 until he resigned from the post in 2021, the department made a practice of assigning generally young and physically fit deputies to its Project HOPE, Operation Inroads and SOP teams and their prior incarnations. The majority of those deputies were ones who engage in body building practices involving the use of anabolic steroids. This proved triply effective. The overt physicality of the deputies intimidated whoever was confronted by them, heightening the deputies' command presence, which in most cases resulted in compliance with their demands. Further, one of the side-effects of anabolic steroid use is "roid rage," which is a state of irritability that accompanies the prolonged use of steroids and will manifest in an outburst of anger, aggression, or violence on the part of the user if he encounters a challenge or any difficult situation. In this way, a homeless individual's refusal to depart with, for example, his sleeping bag or blanket or tent, would generally trigger an act of aggression on the part of the deputy that would ultimately be resolved with the homeless person being convinced or forced to part with his or her possessions or, as the department termed them, "debris." Thirdly, by utilizing young deputies who utilize anabolic steroids for assignments in which they deal with the homeless as opposed to more economi-

cally and socially well-adapted individuals, the department was able to minimize the liability risk that can arise from the aggression of those deputies and the excessive force they are prone to using, given that the homeless generally do not possess the wherewithal to retain, hire or obtain an attorney to make a legal issue over their treatment by a member of the department. San Bernardino County's current sheriff, Shannon Dicus, appeared to be every bit as indulgent of the more sadistic element of his department's deputies who have been given license to persuade the homeless to leave the communities where his department serves as the primary police force.

Despite having to dodge being physically abused by the various police departments in San Bernardino County, those who are homeless here had, at least until relatively recently, a layer of protection consisting of the law and the courts. Previously, up until slightly less than a month ago, the law of the land with regard to homelessness was embodied the 1962 case of *Robinson v. California* and the 2018 case *Martin v. Boise*. In *Robinson v. California*, the Supreme Court held that the Eighth Amendment prohibits criminalization of a status, as opposed to criminalizing criminal acts, in striking down a California law that criminalized being *Continued on Page 6*

## Enamorado, More Focused On A Social Statement Than Avoiding Prison, Jettisons Rosenberg For Alimouri

By Mark Gutglueck

Edin Alex Enamorado, the leader of his eponymous activist group and the last of what were originally eight defendants facing charges growing out of three incidents among dozens in which what the perpetrators maintained were efforts to stand up for the rights of street vendors and which prosecutors allege were out-and-out assaults, has relieved the attorney who previously represented him, Nicholas Rosenberg, and has substituted in Damon Alimouri, an attorney who was able to get one of Enamorado's

codefendants a relatively light sentence through a plea bargain.

What remains to be seen is whether Alimouri will be able to argue his latest client's innocence effectively to a jury or convince Enamorado that his wisest course of action is to give up on fighting the totality of the charges against him and accept a plea deal.

Such a plea deal may require that Enamorado, a native of Guatemala, accept deportation.

Having grown up on the streets of Cudahy after his parents emigrated to the United States when he was an infant,

Enamorado engaged in gang activity as a youth and accumulated a string of convictions, including a felony before experiencing the death of his girlfriend at the hand of other gang members. That convinced Enamorado to turn his life around, he claims, and he for the last several years has been dedicated to assisting the downtrodden, in particular immigrant Latinos such as himself, who have been reduced to engaging in street and sidewalk vending to survive in the white capitalist culture of California.

His mission is to prevent authorities and big-

oted Anglos from harassing those street and sidewalk vendors as they ply their trade.

In doing so, Edin Enamorado has invited others, people who are essentially his followers, to assist him in confronting those who do not treat vendors with dignity. From that point forward, the Enamorados were on a crusade for social justice.

That is what he and Stephanie Amésquita, 34 of San Bernardino; Vanessa Carrasco, 41 of Ontario; Wendy Luján, 41 of Upland; David Chávez, 28 of Riverside; Edwin Peña, 27 of Los

Angeles and Fernando Lopez, 45 of Los Angeles, were doing over the Labor Day weekend 2023 on September 3, when they went to the El Super Market in Pomona to confront a security guard who worked at that store who had, in Enamorado's view, proven too confrontational with a food vendor who had set up his operation on the El Super premises. The group confronted the security guard, pepper-sprayed him and then followed him into the store, where security cameras captured images of Enamorado and some of the other

Enamorados punching and kicking the security guard, who was blinded by the pepper spray and ultimately knocked to the ground.

Subsequently that day, after Luján, who is variously described as Enamorado's girlfriend, wife or companion, was arrested as a consequence of the contretemps between the security guard and the Enamorados at the El Super and on its grounds, the group headed to the Pomona Police headquarters to attempt to free her. While they were there, a resident of Pomona had also come

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### Under Wapner's Direction, The Airport Authority Began Indulging In Multiple Extravagances Seemingly Unrelated To Aerodrome Operations

from page 2

was built, necessitating the removal of the old northeast-to-southwest runway. In 1985, despite the opposition of then-Ontario Mayor Robert Ellingwood, the Ontar-



Jim Bowman

io City Council, based upon the airport having achieved all of the goals and terms specified in the joint powers authority agreement with Los Angeles, turned ownership of the airport over to the megalopolis to the west. That transaction was considered a public benefit transfer, and was done for no consideration.

Ontario International continued to make strides forward Under the management of Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports, which redid the airport's concourse and then, in 1998, opened two new modern new terminals at the aerodrome. Those

terminals, built at a cost of \$269 million, were paid with \$148 million in airport passenger user fees Los Angeles had collected on behalf of the airport over the years, some \$94 million obtained from the proceeds of airport revenue bonds Los Angeles issued and sold and a \$27 million grant Los Angeles obtained from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Consistently, over the four decades from 1967 until 2007, while Los Angeles was running the show at Ontario Airport, the number of passengers through the airport's gates continued to escalate, reaching 7.2 million, an increase of 3,600 percent. The relationship between Ontario and Los Angeles vis-à-vis the airport could not have been more positive or cordial. Thereafter, however, in the fall of 2007, when all of Southern California, California and the entire nation was first gripped by what would turn out to be a six-year-running economic downturn and lingering recession, a massive financial lull hit the airline industry and airlines, in an effort to shield themselves from the continuing economic decline, began cutting back on flights, particularly to locations outside heavy population centers. Beginning in 2008 and until early 2014, passenger traffic at Ontario International declined steadily. In 2011, Ontario officials, led by

Wapner, initiated a campaign aimed at wresting control and ownership of Ontario International Airport back from Los Angeles. Using aggressive and ever-increasing strident and uncivil tactics, including making pointed personal attacks on Los Angeles officials, most prominently then-Los Angeles World Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey, Wapner pressed to have the airport returned to the custody of Ontario.



Curt Hagman

In 2013, in the waning days of Anthony Villaraigosa's tenure as Los Angeles mayor, the City of Ontario, through the Washington, D.C.-based law firm of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton, sued Los Angeles in the neutral forum of Riverside Superior Court, charging Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports with willful mismanagement of Ontario Airport, and seeking the return of the aerodrome to the city in which it is located.

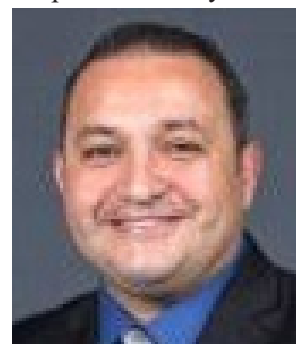
In 2015, Los Angeles relented, agreeing to finalize the return of the airport to Ontario, as of November 1, 2016, with Ontario paying Los An-

geles \$60 million out of its various operating funds and another \$30 million taken out of its reserves, and committing to make payments of \$50 million over five years and \$70 million in the final five years of the ten-year ownership transition. In addition, Ontario absorbed \$60 million of the airport's bond debt. All in all, the deal was represented as a sale of the airport back to Ontario at a price of \$270 million.

Wapner, who had been the prime mover with regard to Ontario reasserting control over the airport, forced himself into the lead role in overseeing, managing and operating the airport as well, capturing the presidency of the Ontario International Airport Authority from the outset. He managed at the same time to have Ontario's second seat on the five-member authority board go to his ally on the city council, Councilman Jim Bowman. Ontario took further practical control of the authority board by installing then-San Bernardino County Supervisor Gary Ovitt, who had formerly been Ontario mayor, as a third authority board member. In making a show of regional cooperation, Ontario pushed to have individuals from outside the city and county named to the board to ostensibly help direct activities at the airport to provide benefit to the Southern California economy overall

and the residents of the airport's four-county catchment area. One of those appointees, ostensibly representing Riverside County was former Riverside Mayor Ronald Loveridge and the other was Lucy Dunn, the president and CEO of the Orange County Business Council, representing, ostensibly, Orange County.

There has been remarkable stability on the Ontario International Airport Authority Board



Atif Elkadi

since is 2012 inception. Wapner has remained as the board president for 12 years and both Bowman and Loveridge have continued as board members for that duration. Ovitt departed as a board member when he left the board of supervisors in December 2014. He was replaced by Curt Hagman, his successor as Fourth District county supervisor. In 2017, when the board majority forced the resignation of Kelly Fredericks, whom the board had hired to serve as the airport's general manager/airport authority CEO upon the departure of the Los Angeles World Airports management team, Dunn resigned. The

powers that be with the airport authority – Wapner, Bowman, Hagman and Loveridge – quickly moved to replace her with banking executive Julia Gouw.

Over the years there were disturbing manifestations of Wapner's domination of the airport authority board that gave members of the public pause, as when, in September 2015, he wangled an appointment in Hagman's county supervisory office as a policy advisor. The spectacle of Hagman being Wapner's boss while Hagman was serving on a governmental panel headed by Wapner struck many as something of a conflict of interest, but that arrangement remained in place for more than three years, until Wapner quietly left the post with the Fourth District supervisor's office in December 2018.

Over the years there have accusations of improprieties relating to the action of the airport authority board, including repeated incidents of foreign travel and overlapping foreign travel by both Wapner in his capacity as a city council member and as airport authority president and Hagman in his capacity as a county supervisor and airport authority board member. Much of that travel was to the People's Republic of China, which their mutual defenders said was part of an effort to facili-

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## After Spending Billions Of Dollars In Taxpayer Money & Seeing Only Marginal Success In Arresting Homelessness, In Frustration Governor Newsom Has Lashed Out To Send The Dispossessed Packing

from page 4

addicted to narcotics. By extension, this applied to being homeless, such that it made applying traditional vagrancy laws difficult, problematic or even impossible, such that someone could not be prosecuted for being homeless. In *Martin v. Boise*, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled that city officials in Boise, Idaho, could not enforce an anti-camping ordinance whenever its homeless population exceeds the number of available beds in its homeless shelters. Since the Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal to this case in 2019, it became binding precedent within the Ninth Circuit.

Both *Robinson v. California* and *Martin v. Boise* had the practical effect of preventing government in general and local governments in particular from declaring open warfare on the homeless. So, while in San Bernardino County the homeless were mistreated and essentially everyone knew that to be the case, it was not done openly out of concern that some do-gooder lawyer would take the case of some abused homeless person if documentation of what occurred was available.

On June 28, 2024, however, entered a ruling in the case of *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson*, which has pretty much erased the protections under the law that the homeless had. In 2013, the Grants Pass City Council, with its president openly stating the city wanted to "make it uncomfortable enough for [homeless individuals] in our city so they will want to move on down the road," began enacting a series of anti-camping, anti-sleeping, and parking exclusion ordinances, which were augmented with civil fines ranging from \$295 to \$537.60 if unpaid, along with impos-

ing criminal penalties of trespassing on repeat violators who continued to reside on public land. The Oregon Law Center filed suit against Grants Pass on behalf of homeless individuals Gloria Johnson, John Logan and Debra Blake in the U.S. District Court in Oregon, challenging the ordinances. The district court and The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, relying on *Martin v. Boise*, rejected the city government's assertion it its defense of its ordinances preventing the city from enforcing its anti-camping ordinance against homeless people. The U.S. Supreme Court took up a review of the Ninth Circuit ruling, finding, ultimately, the punishments of fines, temporary bans from entering public property, and one-month jail sentences were neither cruel nor unusual; that the Grants Pass's anti-camping ordinances were neutrally applied against both the homeless and those who are not homeless; that it was not established that the homeless had no place other than parks or parking lots in which to sleep; that local and state officials and courts are free to determine whether the homeless by violating anti-camping were conscious of their guilt by violating anti-camping ordinances and that remedies to the homeless issue throughout the United States are too complex to be addressed by unelected members of the federal judiciary. The upshot was that local governments can ban the homeless from public areas.

At once, police officers and sheriff's deputies adopted a swagger even more pronounced than the one they had before and began to push San Bernardino County's homeless around with newfound relish.

For the homeless, however, the worst was yet to come. Among

those with no place to go, there was hope that Governor Gavin Newsom, whom many homeless believed had their back and was sympathetic to their plight, would not abandon them. They were conscious that he had championed their cause and had pushed multiple programs intended to get them off the street.

At this point, however, Newsom's indulgence of the homeless had hit its nadir.

Newsom was elected governor in 2018. Between 2018 and 2021, the state spent \$9.6 billion trying to alleviate homelessness. According to observers, critics, Newsom's supporters and Newsom himself, much of that money was squandered, with nowhere near \$9.6 billion worth of improvements in the situation having come about.

One shortcoming is that while some of the money – approximately \$5.5 million – went toward the construction of housing or converting existing buildings into livable space, a good portion of the remaining \$4.1 billion was squandered on employing individuals – counselors, homelessness advisors, homeless service providers, advocates and the like – who provided nothing tangible toward solving the underlying issue and left nothing in place that approximates any sort of progress toward a solution.

In 2020, Newsom initiated Project Homekey, which has since received over \$3.7 billion to fund local governments in their efforts to combat homelessness, most notably purchasing properties such as motels and commercial buildings to be turned into permanent, affordable housing.

While Newsom's vision in that regard appears to have been sincere, there have been many who come in and represent themselves as being able to help the government find a way to house the homeless, but are merely interested in obtaining the funds the government is handing out and utilizing for

their own purposes without actually putting roofs over anyone's head.

A case in point is Cody Holmes, originally a junior financial officer and then later the director of finance with Shangri-La Industries, a participant in a multitude of the Homekey projects, including the conversion of the Good Nite Inn at 1675 Industrial Park Avenue in Redlands into 98 living quarters for the homeless entailing a kitchenette, living room, bedroom and bathroom opened in January 2023, and the conversion of the All Star Lodge in San Bernardino into 76 similar units available for the chronically homeless opened in March 2023 as well as one other such conversion in the City of King, on in the City of Thousand Oaks and three such conversions in the City of Salinas. Through a series of subterfuges, including setting up an email account in the name of the owner Shangri-La, Andrew Meyers, and routing Meyers' physical mail to an internal Shangri-La mailbox to which he had first access and other diversions, Holmes was able to set up at least seven accounts into which he deposited Project Homekey money. Holmes then utilized those accounts to make a \$4.3 million down payment and principal payments in July 2022 through a company he created, Holmes Capital, toward the purchase of a seven-bed, 11-bath 11,000-square-foot mansion at 9301 Cherokee Lane in Beverly Hills valued at \$13.4 million, make over half of a million dollars in \$48,000-per-month lease payments on another Beverly Hills property for over a year, lay out \$54,400 in company funds on 20 VIP passes to the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival and another \$43,475 for private jet travel, and purchase his then-girlfriend, Madeline Witt, a \$111,000 Birkin bag, buy her another \$16,839 Hermes Orange Togo Birkin, purchase a \$35,000 Audemars Piguet diamond watch and a

buy a \$127,073 53-carat weight diamond necklace. Simultaneously, Holmes was leasing, using Project Homekey funds, a 2021 Bentley Bentayaga and a Ferrari Portofino.

At several points along the way, Newsom became frustrated with the lack of progress being made toward conquering the homeless problem. In 2022, after he had turned back an effort by Republicans to remove him as governor through a recall, Newsom, a Democrat, succeeded in being reelected. Republicans in that year's election had assailed him as a spendthrift who was burning through taxpayer money without much to show in the way of accomplishment. Prior to election day that year, on November 1, 2022, Newsom had lashed out, charging that cities and counties had fallen down in the effort to get the dispossessed housed. He maintained that with the billions of dollars in state spending that has been made, nothing worthwhile was occurring.

He then withheld \$1 billion in funding for cities and counties that was to go toward homeless housing projects for more than two weeks, thereafter relenting and passing the money through.

Audits performed at various stages showed the hit-and-miss nature of the homelessness eradication efforts. One report provided by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness, which looked at what had become of the \$9.6 billion spent between 2018 and 2021, and what had been accomplished with that money, showed the State of California managed to sustain 58,714 affordable housing units during that three-year period, and was able to increase shelter beds throughout the state by 17,000. Some of the spending had an ephemeral or fleeting impact. Other applications of the money had a more lasting effect. In this way, some homeless individuals seemed on track to make their way toward a more normative lifestyle. Some programs were ultimately ineffec-

tive.

According to the statistics, roughly 75,000 people were placed into permanent supportive housing of some kind, with 69,000 of those or thereabouts remaining off the streets six months later. At the same time, however, nearly 16 percent of those who left a state funded program to take up residence with a family member or friend were homeless again within six months. Of those who were placed into a rental with only a temporary subsidy, 23 percent were again homeless in less than half of a year.

Of the 571,246 Californians who received state-funded homelessness services between 2018 and 2021, as of the time of the accounting in 2022, 16.9 percent were yet in "permanent" subsidized housing; 23.3 percent went into permanent unsubsidized housing; 24.7 percent had an "unknown" outcome, meaning, most likely they were back on the streets, untracked and unaccounted for; 16.9 percent had definitely returned to homelessness; 5.2 percent had gone into a medical or correctional facility temporary host home or the like, all of which amounted to temporary solutions; 8.9 percent remained on the streets but were enrolled in some program or other and were awaiting housing; and 4.3 percent remain unhoused but were enrolled in a no-housing service program.

Throughout what had been the more than five-and-a-half years of Newsom's gubernatorial run, he had remained committed to curing the housing and homelessness crisis. With the *City of Grants Pass v. Johnson* decision, however, something in the governor appears to have snapped, and he is reacting in a way that for him appears to be completely out of character. Whereas in 2022, when he grew frustrated over the lack of progress with regard to the homelessness solutions he was seeking, he, temporarily, took things

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### Supervisors Are Giving The County's Voters The Opportunity To Show Their Appreciation For Sheriff Dicus's Career Of Dedicated Public Service By Ensuring He Will Receive A Third Of A Million Dollar Plus Annual Pension When He Retires In 2026 *from page 3*

ongoing. A few sophisticated old hands were able to provide direction for the collective to discern what is about to take place.

Essentially, the *Sentinel* was told, the rush to get the Law Enforcement Staffing and Community Protection Act of 2024 before voters in the November election is a ploy to increase Sheriff Shannon Dicus's pension from the annual \$310,660.07 he is currently on a trajectory to receive when he takes his anticipated retirement in January 2026 to \$349,411.30.

According to those sources, the sheriff's current salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits, in 2023 was \$284,297.98.

His intention is to retire more than two years into his current term as sheriff, which will allow him to make a recommendation of his successor to the board of supervisors, which will then make that appointment in accordance with his wishes. That will allow

his successor to run for sheriff as an incumbent, virtually assuring his election in 2026.

This will repeat the pattern that was established when Sheriff Gary Penrod took early retirement in 2009, designating his successor as Rod Hoops, whom the board of supervisors then appointed. Hoops was elected sheriff the following year. In 2012, Hoops retired and asked the board of supervisors to appoint John McMahon to replace him, which the board obliged. McMahon, using the strength of his status as the incumbent, was elected to serve as sheriff in 2014 and reelected sheriff in 2018. In 2021, he opted to retire, calling upon the board of supervisors to appoint Dicus as sheriff, which the board did. Under the current rules contained in San Bernardino County's ordinances and charter as well as state law, if the sheriff resigns prior to the two-year or half-way point in his/her elected term, an elec-

tion must be held to find a replacement. However, if the resignation takes place with less than half of the incumbent sheriff's term remaining, an appointment by the board of supervisors to fill the vacant post can be made.

The formula for calculating the sheriff's retirement in San Bernardino County under the arrangement with the San Bernardino County Employees Retirement System is that the retiring sheriff is to receive his highest salary as a public employee times the number of years employed as a public employee times 3 percent [03]. Dicus, the son of a sheriff's officer, after serving in the military was hired by the sheriff's department in late 1991. He will thus have completed 33 years as an employee with San Bernardino County later this year and will reach 33.33334 years with the county by the end of April 2025, at which point he will be eligible to retire with 100 percent of his highest annual salary.

At present, San Bernardino County pays its sheriff a salary that is the average of the sheriffs of Ventura, San Diego, Orange, Riverside and

Kern counties.

In 2023, Ventura County Sheriff James Fryhoff earned a salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits of \$331,270.33.

In 2023, San Diego County Sheriff Kelly Martinez earned a salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits of \$316,579.68.

In 2023, Orange County Sheriff Donald Barnes earned a salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits of \$289,096.52.

In 2023, Riverside County Sheriff Johnny "Chad" Bianco earned a salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits of \$285,952.68.

In 2023, Kern County Sheriff Don Youngblood earned a salary before pay ad-ons, perquisites and benefits of \$183,209.00.

Thus, based on San Bernardino County's current remuneration formula for the position of sheriff along with other adjustments, Dicus had an annual salary of \$284,297.98 as sheriff in 2023.

Given the three 3 percent cost of living adjustments that he would be provided by January 2026, Dicus would be pulling down an annual

salary of \$310,660.07 or thereabouts at that point. If he were to retire then at 100 percent of his salary, his annual pension, which he would be eligible to receive for the rest of his life, would stand at \$310,660.07.

By removing the Kern County sheriff's salary – the \$183,209 pay level to Youngblood last year – from the formula and substituting in the Los Angeles County sheriff's salary in its place, the average of the five sheriffs' salaries would increase, as Los Angeles Sheriff Robert Luna was paid \$375,905 in 2023.

In this way, if the Law Enforcement Staffing and Community Protection Act of 2024 is approved by voters in November and Dicus remains as sheriff for one year past the January 2025 change to the sheriff's pay formula, upon his retirement in January 2026, he would be eligible for an annual pension of \$349,411.30.

According to Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Dawn Rowe, upping the sheriff's pension is the least the grateful residents of San Bernardino County can do for Dicus, who, according to Rowe's office, has dedicated the lion's share

of his adult life to serving the county and its residents and "deserves every penny of that. He's a real prince, just a super guy."

If the passage of the Law Enforcement Staffing and Community Protection Act of 2024 can be swung, it will leave the Dicus family's future financial affairs in such a way as to allow the sheriff's wife, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Deputy Chief Shelley Krusbe, to take early retirement shortly after her husband does. Krusbe in 2023 was paid a salary before pay add-ons and perquisites and benefits of \$239,738.34 for her work as the sheriff's department's seventh highest-ranking member. By late 2026, Krusbe's salary will have grown to \$261,968.56. Krusbe began with the sheriff's department as a reserve deputy at the Colorado River Station in 1997 and transitioned to full-time with the department in 1998. Thus, if she were to retire in late 2026, she would herself be eligible for an annual pension of \$220,053.59 for her 28 years of dedicated service.

-Mark Gutglueck

### Airport Authority Has Been Making Expenditures On Extravagancies & Items Of Dubious Relations To Aeronautics *from page 5*

tate economic opportunities and partnerships between the communist country and Ontario/San Bernardino County, with Ontario Airport serving as both a catalyst and potential beneficiary.

The sacking, or forced exit, of Fredericks in July 2017, followed by similar treatment of Fredericks' successor Mark Thorp in January 2022 raised questions about whether members of the board, Wapner in particular, was micromanaging operations at the airport in a way that was designed to benefit himself politically or entities with whom he was associated,

including massive scale donors to his political fund or others he was rumored to have financial relationships with.

Thorp was replaced by Atif Elkadi as the airport authority's chief executive officer.

Word emanating from the airport authority headquarters was that Elkadi was tolerating activity at the airport that had not sat well with Fredericks and Thorp, which included what were considered to be nonproductive consulting contracts, contracts for services at inflated rates, the provision of no-bid contracts to certain vendors and service providers, particularly ones with pre-existing relationships with board members or status as donors to the political war chests of those board members, and the expenditure of funds toward purchases

of questionable relationship to legitimate airport operations. Accompanying those reports were suggestions of graft and kickbacks involving officials in the awarding of certain contracts and franchises at the airport, including maintenance and custodial service of the airport grounds and its terminal, electrical work at the facility, work on the airport facilities' heating, ventilation and air condition systems, taxi franchises, towing franchises, rental car franchises, together with the concessions, shops and restaurants within the terminal.

Last September, amid reports that the airport authority had made expenditures on expensive items and luxuries that were of dubious value to the function of the authority of operations at the airport, John Schubert, the chief fi-

nancial officer with the Ontario International Airport Authority since 2019, was either relieved of his position or departed of his own volition.

In the same timeframe, it was disclosed to the *Sentinel* that top echelon airport officials over the previous two years had been provided with SUVs – sport utility vehicles generally larger than standard cars – which were said to cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000 each, involving lavish added features such as rims and stereo systems. Those vehicles were also been provided with regular maintenance, including detailing, washing and internal vacuuming. Those provided with the vehicles included Elkadi; James Kesler, the chief operations officer; and Jamaal Avilez, the chief administrative officer. Sources said there were other

vehicles purchased, but it was not clear whether they had been assigned to other airport authority staff members. It was said, nonetheless, that the vehicles were available for use, at least on a temporary basis, by Eren Cello, the chief marketing and communications officer; Charles Miwa, the chief communications officer; and Elisa Grey, the chief revenue management officer.

For approaching three years there have been recurrent indications that the FBI and the FAA were looking into these alleged irregularities.

According to a knowledgeable source, the Ontario International Airport Authority recently sought from the Federal Aviation Authority a grant of up to \$25 million to be used for improvements to the runway, taxiways and concourse. In response,

the FAA within the last fortnight contacted the airport authority, telling Elkadi when he came on the line that he was being requested to arrange for one of the hotels near the airport to provide accommodations for a team of five federal auditors, who were to spend the next two weeks or as long as it would take for them to go through the airport's and the airport authority's books with a fine-tooth comb.

Initially Elkadi sought to put the request off for a week, but was informed that the inquiry could not be forestalled. Reportedly, the auditors are now in Ontario and have begun their work. Both Wapner and Elkadi, according to a source familiar with the situation, are beside themselves over what is going on, "sweating bullets" out of worry about what

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## Trash Company Owners Are The Top Contributors To Yucaipa's Politicians Overall from page 7

millions of dollars in planned service cuts to police, fire, emergency response, and quality of life services. The economies that would need to be imposed if the tax does not fly with the city's voters would extend to, they said, closing one of the city's three fire stations and eliminating five firefighter positions in the city's contract with CalFire, those being those manning that station; reducing the cost of the contract with sheriff's department by \$2 million, eliminating between five and seven patrol deputy positions; closing the senior center, saving \$300,000; closing the Seventh Street Pool, saving an estimated \$300,000; reducing Yucaipa Performing Arts Center programming that does not achieve full cost recovery, thereby saving an estimated \$250,000; reducing community center programming, saving an estimated \$250,000; identifying additional cuts to community service programs, saving \$900,000; reducing net costs from the city's development services division, saving \$1 million; identifying and implementing \$1 million in cuts to the city's support services; freezing vacant any vacant non critical positions; and having the city negotiate with the Yucaipa City Employees Association a combination of furloughs or layoffs with city employees.

City staff and the council did its best to ignore and did not mention that the city was converging on its residents from multiple directions, increasing substantially the amount residents and businesses are to pay for trash service while upping the 7.75 percent sales tax shoppers in the city are already paying to 8.75 percent.

Also unmentioned by city officials was that Burrtec, through its owners Cole and Tracy

Burr, are the major campaign donors to and political patrons of the city council overall.

Tracy and Cole Burr contributed \$1,000 each to Mayor Beaver's campaign fund on July 18 2022. That makes the husband and wife the major donors to Beaver's electioneering fund.

Tracy and Cole Burr gave Councilman Bobby Duncan \$750 each on May 15, 2020, making them/Burrtec the major donor to his campaign fund.

Tracy and Cole Burr gave Councilman Matt Garner \$750 each on November 18, 2022, after he was elected to the city council earlier that month. The Burrs are not the major donors to Garner's electioneering fund but rather the second largest donor.

As was the case with Garner, Cole and Tracy Burr provided Chris Venable with \$750 each on November 18, 2022, after he was elected to the city council earlier that month. The Burrs are not the major donors to Garner's electioneering fund but rather the fifth largest donor.

That the Burrs waited until after both Garner and Venable were elected before they acted to take on the status of their more prominent campaign fund donors suggests to some that the couple were seeking to purchase influence on the city council.

The city gave notice of the rate increase proposal by Burrtec and that the council would consider the matter at the June 24 meeting. The city received 16 protest letters from city residents who objected to the trash rate increase.

On June 24, Burrtec Vice President Richard Nino said his company merited being able to impose the rate increase given that Burrtec had complied with California's requirement that trash companies separate out organic, that is food, waste from the refuse stream. He said the company had upped its diversion of organic waste from the local landfill by 1,000 tons

to "over 12,000 tons of organic waste that was diverted from the landfill, collected separately, and processed into compost mulch." He said the company had further suffered a loss of return on its recyclable handling of 27 percent. The company had also picked up 3,400 bulky items that did not fit in trash bins from households

in Yucaipa over the last year. Burrtec had been hit with an annual price increase of 3.48 percent since this time last year and that under the contract with the city it was therefore due to increase its charge to residents by 90 percent of that, 3.13 percent. Given all of the price escalations and profit losses the company is dealing with, the 22.1

percent rate increase is a fair one, Nino insisted.

The council went along with what Burrtec asked for.

While neither Nino, nor city staff nor the members of the council mentioned it, in the minds of some residents was the double whammy of trash rate increases and the expectation on the part of the council

that residents will comply with their request that they up the tax the city will collect on retail sales. A few city residents remarked that the council seems to be oblivious to the financial impact the expense of government and the escalation of costs of basic services is having on city residents.

## More Than Ten Hours After The CHP Bottled Up A Couple Thousand Motorists & Left Them Abandoned In The Sweltering Heat, One Bold Driver Carved An Exit For Herself and Her Fellow Travelers from page 2

last and that they would need to stay in place until that unknown hour arrived, and that exiting the Clyde W. Kane Rest Area by taking the I-15 southwest simply could not be done.

Some of those stuck in place at or near the Clyde W. Kane Rest Area called 911 to request emergency aid and were told that an emergency responder had been dispatched. In several cases, a half-hour, 45 minutes, an hour, 90 minutes, two hours, two-and-a-half hours, three hours and more elapsed and no paramedics, fire unit, Highway Patrol unit or sheriff's department unit had responded.

At around 3 p.m., the Highway Patrol opened the southwest lanes of I-15 for the traffic that had been dammed up at Basin Road. Because, however, the hazardous materials and specialized firefighting teams that was in place at the scene of the battery spill-over had yet to bring the situation under control and had little prospect of doing so in a reasonably predictable timeframe, the northeast-bound lanes remained closed.

At some unknown point, the motorists who early in the morning had passed northeast beyond the Clyde W. Kane Rest Area but had been halted at Afton Canyon Road were permitted to cross to the southwest bound lanes and return toward Barstow. Those bottled up at or near the Clyde W. Kane Rest Area,

however, were yet forced to remain in place.

Late in the afternoon and then moving on toward the early evening, many of the trapped motorists had given up on trying to communicate with Caltrans and the Highway Patrol to convey their perspective that the most hazardous issue they faced – potential heat stroke – could be allayed by allowing them to remove themselves from the area by reversing their original northeast course to return southeast toward Barstow and beyond. Rather, they began phoning family members, friends, acquaintances or contacts to ask them for advice, help or for them to intervene with officials to seek to explain that those unable to get out of the Clyde

W. Kane Rest Area or the area around it were in grave danger. It was around this time that the *Sentinel* received a rash of phone calls, some panicked, some desperate, some exasperated, some angry.

It was after 7 p.m., when at last, a woman who had been in place at the rest area for more than eight hours started her SUV and carefully weaved around and past more than two dozen cars, trucks and small vans, made her way to the end of the barrier that had been put place, drove up onto the curbing separating the main part of the rest area from the entrance onto the northeast bound freeway and then used her brakes to ease her vehicle's drop over the curbing, drove the distance to the merging stretch onto the highway and then gingerly drove across the northeast-bound lanes and, at first cautiously and then upon satisfying herself her wheels had enough traction on the surface of

the median, drove to the edge of the innermost southwest-bound lane. When a break in the traffic presented itself, she accelerated onto the roadway, heading southwest.

Her action was witnessed by dozens of others, at which point, two men exited their vehicles and moved two of the wooden barriers that were blocking the exit from the rest area onto the freeway entrance. They returned to their vehicles and then one drove after the other out onto the northeast-bound lane and across the median, replicating, essentially, the action of the woman who had just served as their mentor. Thereupon dozens, scores and then hundreds of others followed suit.

Thus, without California Highway Patrol guidance or direction, a major manifestation of the freeway paralysis that had taken place over a 12-hour period was in large measure diffused.

–Mark Gutglueck

## Now Backed By The Supreme Court & The Governor, Local Law Enforcement Stepping Up Effort To Send The Homeless Down The Road from front page

out on city and county officials, this time the bleeding heart-in-chief's wrath is aimed at the homeless themselves, or so it seems.

Yesterday, July 25, Governor Newsom issued an executive order directing state agencies to "urgently address homeless encampments," which he said should be accomplished

"while respecting the dignity and safety of Californians experiencing homelessness. His office referenced the Supreme Court's decision in Grants Pass in announcing the order. The text of the order states, "Agencies and departments subject to my authority shall adopt policies, generally consistent with California Department of Transportation's Maintenance Policy Directive 1001-R1, to address encampments on state property, including through partnerships with other state and local agencies, and shall prioritize efforts to address encampments consistent with such policy. Such

policies shall include the following: a. Whenever feasible, site assessment in advance of removal operations to determine whether an encampment poses an imminent threat to life, health, safety or infrastructure such that exigent circumstances require immediate removal of the encampment. b. Where exigent circumstances exist, as much advance notice to vacate as reasonable under the circumstances. c. Where no exigent circumstances exist, posting of a notice to vacate at the site at least 48 hours prior to initiating removal. d. Contacting of service providers to

*Continued on Page 16*



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SUMMONS – (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO) CIV SB 2316403 NOTICE TO NICOLE HANDRINOS aka NICOLE HOMME; WILLIAM HANDRINOS; and DOES, 1 through 50, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY 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 is 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 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida si secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la 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, pu-

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ede llamar a un servicio de referencia a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratis de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov), o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación da \$10,000 o mas de vaior recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corta antes de que la corta pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y la dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West 3rd St, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0212, Branch Name: San Bernardino Justice Center The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): NAZILA Y. LEVY, Esquire LEVY & NOURAFCHAN 9454 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 500 BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212 Phone: (310) 274-9993 Fax: (310) 888-3255 DATE (Fecha): JULY 19, 2023 Clerk (Secretario), by Abriana Rodriguez Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on July 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024. FBN 20240004813 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as INTERNATIONAL AUTOS 148 E BASELINE STREET SUITE C-10 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410: CAPSULA CORPORATION 2100 S LARK ELLEN AVE 90 WEST COVINA, CA 91792 Business Mailing Address: 148 E BASELINE STREET SUITE C-10 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California under the number 5426306. 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/ JOHN KENNEDY MUNOZ ROSARIO, President Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 5/20/2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy J2523 Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on June 28 and July 5, 12 & 19, 2024. FBN 20240005461 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as LOPEZ MOBILE NOTARY 4853 SAN BERNARDINO STREET MONTCLAIR, CA 91763: LORO ENTERPRISES,

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LLC 4853 SAN BERNARDINO STREET MONTCLAIR, CA 91763 Business Mailing Address: PO BOX 141 MONTCLAIR, CA 91763 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 201812810606. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: June 10, 2024. By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130). I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. /s/ BENJAMIN LOPEZ, President Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: June 12, 2024 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 J6748 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 14, 21 & 28 and July 5, 2024. FBN 20240006039 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as WAXTHETICS BY MAY 5024 COTTONTAIL WAY FONTANA, CA 92336: MAYLIN G. REQUENA Business Mailing Address: 5024 COTTONTAIL WAY FONTANA, CA 92336 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/ MAYLIN G. REQUENA, Owner Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 7/05/2024 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 K1583 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 July 12, 19, 26 & August 2, 2024. FBN 20240006200 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as TIAMSON, INC. MOBILE DRS. 10570 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE #220 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: TIAMSON, INC – A PROFESSIONAL NURSING CORPORATION 10570 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE #220 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

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Business Mailing Address: 10570 FOOTHILL BLVD. SUITE #220 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California under the number 3836645. 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/ SHYLEE TIAMSON, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 7/08/2024 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 J7527 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 July 12, 19, 26 & August 2, 2024. FBN 20240004180 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as BLACK THUMB INK [and] THE PLEIN COLLECTIVE [and] THE PLEIN COLLECTIVE FOUNDATION [and] THE SHORT DOCTOR 8358 JENNET STREET ALTA LOMA, CA 91701: PETER K CAMPBELL Business Mailing Address: 8358 JENNET STREET ALTA LOMA, 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/ PETER K. CAMPBELL Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 5/02/2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy J2523 Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on May 3, 10, 17 & 25, 2024. Corrected on July 12, 19, 26 and August 2, 2024. FBN 20240006133 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

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TOYOTA ARENA 4000 E. ONTARIO CENTER PARKWAY ONTARIO, CA 91764: TOYOTA ARENA, LLC 2000 E. CONVENTION CENTER WAY ONTARIO, CA 91764 Business Mailing Address: TOYOTA ARENA 4000 E. ONTARIO CENTER PARKWAY ONTARIO, CA 91764 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California. 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/ FRANK J. LIZARRAGA, Vice President Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 7/08/2024 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 J7527 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 July 12, 19, 26 & August 2, 2024. FBN 20240004594 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as CALIFORNIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME, A NON-PROFIT 2000 E. CONVENTION CENTER WAY ONTARIO, CA 91764: GREATER ONTARIO SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORITY, LLC 2000 E. CONVENTION CENTER WAY ONTARIO, CA 91764 Business Mailing Address: 2000 E. CONVENTION CENTER WAY ONTARIO, CA 91764 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 201814910536. 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/ FRANK J. LIZARRAGA, Vice President Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 5/15/2024 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 D9865 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

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under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on June 28, July 5, July 12 & July 19, 2024. NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ERNESTINA DELORES FERGUSON AKA ERNESTINA DELORAS FERGUSON; ERNESTINA D. FERGUSON Case NO. PROVA2400549 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of ERNESTINA DELORES FERGUSON AKA ERNESTINA DELORAS FERGUSON; ERNESTINA D. FERGUSON A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Anthony Ferguson in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that 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., Anthony Ferguson 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. F2 at 09:00 AM on 11/14/2024 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Boulevard, Fontana, CA 92335, Fontana District-Probate Division Dept F2 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. Lauren K. Fyfe, Esq.: 10620 Treana Street, Ste 230 San Diego CA 92131 Telephone No: 858-412-7714 Published in the SBCS Up-land on: 07/19/2024, 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024 NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Ruby Jewel Smith Case NO. PROSB2300643 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of RUBY JEWEL SMITH A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Barry Harris in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Barry Harris 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. F1 at 09:00 AM on 08/22/2024 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Road, Fontana, CA 92335, 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. Attorney: Ian Noel 310-410-9720 9800 La Cienega Blvd. Inglewood CA 90301

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fornia 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. Lauren K. Fyfe, Esq.: 10620 Treana Street, Ste 230 San Diego CA 92131 Telephone No: 858-412-7714 Published in the SBCS Up-land on: 07/19/2024, 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024 NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Ruby Jewel Smith Case NO. PROSB2300643 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of RUBY JEWEL SMITH A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Barry Harris in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Barry Harris 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. F2 at 09:00 AM on 11/14/2024 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Boulevard, Fontana, CA 92335, Fontana District-Probate Division Dept F2 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: Ian Noel 310-410-9720 9800 La Cienega Blvd. Inglewood CA 90301







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ment expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202402MT

FBN 20240006678  
The following person is doing business as: PS MOTORING LLC, 1680 S E ST STE B-246 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 1680 S E ST STE B-246 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO PS MOTORING LLC 1680 S E ST STE B-246 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 201909810105 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: 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/ CHARLES HARRIS, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Ber-

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nardino on: JULY 24, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202403MT

FBN 20240006635  
The following person is doing business as: CASTANEDAS MEXICAN FOOD, 18790 VALLEY BLVD. STE F BLOOMINGTON, CA 92316; [MAILING ADDRESS 1090 3RD AVE STE #19 CHULA VISTA, CA 91911]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO A M CASTANEDA, INCORPORATED 1090 3RD AVE STE #19 CHULA VISTA, CA 91911 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 2649213 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: APR 30, 2023 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares

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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/ LIZBETH CASTANEDA, CFO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 23, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202404MT

FBN 20240006585  
The following person is doing business as: BG CONSTRUCTION, 5961 LAKE DR ANGELOUS OAKS, CA 92305; [MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 91 ANGELOUS OAKS, CA 92305]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ALIRAM INC 5961 LAKE DR ANGELOUS OAKS, CA 92305 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6308763 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to

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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/ RAMON ACERETO, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 22, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202405MT

FBN 20240006586  
The following person is doing business as: ANGELUS OAKS REALTY, 5961 LAKE DR. ANGELOUS OAKS, CA 92305; [MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 91 ANGELOUS OAKS, CA 92305]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ALIRAM INC 5961 LAKE DR ANGELOUS OAKS, CA

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92305 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6308763 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JULY 22, 2024 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/ RAMON ACERETO, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 22, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202406MT

FBN 20240006568  
The following person is doing business as: BIRRIERIA FIGUEROA, 2990 DEL ROSA AVE STE F

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SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; [MAILING ADDRESS 2990 DEL ROSA AVE STE F SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JUAN C. FIGUEROA The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUL 19, 2024 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ JUAN C. FIGUEROA Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 19, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202407MT

FBN 20240006436

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The following person is doing business as: E M M TRANSPORT, 17425 ARROW BLVD APT #23 FONTANA, CA 92335; [MAILING ADDRESS 17245 ARROW BLVD APT #23 FONTANA, CA 92335]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ENRIQUE MUNOZ 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/ ENRIQUE MUNOZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JULY 15, 2024 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 07/26/2024, 08/02/2024, 08/09/2024, 08/16/2024 CNBB30202408MT

The Enamorados' Activism Included Physical Assaults On Those They Deemed To Be Racist Oppressors from page 5

to the police department headquarters in the Pomona civic plaza to make a complaint on an unrelated matter. Apparently unrecognized by all or most of those involved was that the police headquarters was closed because for the Labor Day holiday. When the Pomona resident could not get inside the entrance to the police department to file his complaint, he erroneously interpreted the presence of the Enamorados milling about the front of the police department to be the reason he could not make his complaint. Words were exchanged and the man threw an empty Gatorade bottle at some of the Enamorados before getting into his vehicle and driving off. Either ascertaining where he lived by some means or following him to his home, one or two of the Enamorados and then a contingent of ten or eleven of them arrived at his residence where they confronted him. After Enamorado challenged him to a fight, the man was forced to his

knees, where he groveled before his tormentors, pleading with them not to harm him.

Further threats to harm John Doe 2 were made, capped by Carrasco implying that they could have easily killed him. "We let you live, homey," she said.

Three weeks later, on September 24, Edin Enamorado along with Amésquita, Vanessa Carrasco, Luján, Chávez, Peña and Fernando Lopez, , this time joined by another member in good standing of the Enamorados, Gullit Eder "Jaguar" Acevedo, sojourned to Victorville, near the Victorville Sheriff's Station on Amargosa Road near Palmdale Road to protest an incident that had occurred less than two days earlier, September 22, in the parking lot outside Ray Moore Stadium in the immediate aftermath of a football game between Victor Valley and Big Bear high schools when San Bernardino County he evening of September 22 when Sheriff's Deputy Starsun Fincel was videotaped slamming a 16-year-old girl, Faith Jeffers, a student at Victor Valley High, as the deputy and one of his colleagues sought to break up a fight that had broken out between Jeffers and another girl.

With his trademark bullhorn in hand, Edin Enamorado led a party of roughly 40 Enamorados, most of them from lower San Bernardino County and Los Angeles County, as they joined with an equal or greater number of protesters from the High Desert, several of them carrying placards calling for justice for Jeffers, as they paraded along the highly visible stretch of Palmdale Road between Amargosa Road and McArt Road. As Enamorado was exhorting the crowd to demand the deputy's firing and prosecution, a husband and wife who had just had their car, a Hyundai, cleaned at the car wash proximate to the sheriff's station, were attempting to exit onto Palmdale Avenue. The parade of protesting Enamorados moving along the sidewalk and within the gutter of Palmdale Avenue together with the traffic on Palmdale made doing so impossible. Initially, the occupants of the Hyundai exhibited patience, but after more than two minutes, the woman, who was driving, sounded the Hyundai's horn. This had no appreciable impact on the protesters, who continued to file in front of the car, such that the driver could not move the car forward without run-

ning into and possibly injuring one or more of the protesters. A further wait ensued, at which point the woman sounded the horn once more and the man opened the door on the passenger's side of the car. As the man emerged, Enamorado, making use of his bullhorn, accused him of hitting a woman by opening his car door into her, doing so in rather derogatory terms, including referring to the man as a "bitch." One, then two, and then a third Enamorado began to rain blows on the man, who attempted to defend himself while he was angled away from the car and then knocked to the ground. As he attempted to get to his feet, he was pepper sprayed.

The man succeeded in getting up but as he was staggering, he was knocked to the ground once more and kicked while he was down. After the man was pepper sprayed and on the ground for the second time, Edin Enamorado can be heard repeatedly remarking, "That's what he gets."

Several sheriff's deputies, who had previously been monitoring the protest from the back parking lot of the sheriff's station, at that point swung into action. They arrested Luján, Chávez

and two others Victor Alba, 30, of Victorville, and another Enamorado, Wayne Freeman, 36, of Moreno Valley, on suspicion of obstructing a peace officer, battery and unlawful assembly.

Edin Enamorado, who celebrates his activism on multiple social media accounts, routinely made a practice of using his own cellphone as well as handheld cameras and ones based on tripods wielded by other Enamorados to video the protests and actions he and his fellow activists took part in.

When investigators with both the Pomona Police Department and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department began to look into the activities of the Enamorados, they came across video of both September 3 incidents as well as those of September 24, among multiple others. Indeed, the assault on the husband who emerged from the Hyundai at the carwash on Palmdale Road on September 24 was captured from at least three separate perspectives. Among those who can be seen in one of the video depictions hitting the man is Edin Enamorado, who does so with his left fist while holding and continuing to video with his cellphone in his right

hand.

The documentation of the Enamorados' activities that Edin Enamorado had provided to the world on his several websites and social media platforms simplified the investigators' tasks of documenting the assaultive behavior that was the Enamorados' trademark. The sheriff's department used that documentation to get arrest warrants and put together a backup documentation to the charges prosecutors were preparing against the eight. On on the morning of December 14, 2023, between 3:20 a.m. and 4:46 a.m. López, Enamorado, Luján, Chávez, Carrasco, Acevedo' Amésquita and Peña were taken into custody.

Despite the best effort of a legal team of seven lawyers who utilized every opening presented to them during a preliminary hearing process that dragged on into late January, Enamorado, Luján, Chávez, Carrasco, Amésquita, Peña and López were bound over for trial and repeatedly denied bail. Only Acevedo, who had initially been erroneously accused by the prosecution, his attorney Dan Chambers established, of being present at both of the incidents in Pomona on September 3, *Continued on Page 15*

## Animal Shelters Have Proved Problematic from page 3

humane and which, if discovered, examined, investigated and acted upon by the authorities, could result in the conviction of the do-gooders involved on violations of laws intended to prevent cruelty to animals.

When it comes to violations of the prohibition against cruelty to animals, there are animal rights activists who have for some time maintained that Barstow civic officials have been guilty of such cruelty by means of the neglect they have shown toward the animals in their midst. In 41.34-square mile, 25,415-population Barstow, there has historically not been an animal control division. The city's website states: "The City of Barstow's Code Compliance staff receives a plethora of calls on issues in which they simply do not have the authority or resources to help the resident or business. Although many of the requests for help are valid, city staff must redirect them to the relevant agency so they can get the help they need." With regard to the subject of "Dangerous animal[s] threatening public safety," the city website states, "Bobcats and mountain lions are presumed dangerous. Call 9-1-1." For "animal issues within the city limits only – please call 760 255 5195 – Animal Issues in the County, please contact County of San Bernardino Animal Control 800-472-5609."

Ultimately, those seeking help with animals will be handed off to the Barstow Humane Society, which is unaffiliated with the city government.

Some of the handful of those involved with the Route 66 Animal Shelter consider its pending closure to be an indication that their effort was an abysmal and abject failure. From a wider view, however, it was good for something. It has given rise to Barstow's nascent municipal

animal control division. When the Route 66 Animal Shelter ceases to exist under that name, the small, metal warehouse-style building that is its current quarters, together with its canine and feline denizens, will fall into the possession of the city. At that point, the Barstow Animal Control Department will come into existence. The city has agreed, as per the intercession of acting-City Manager Andrew Espinoza and action taken by the city council on June 17, to house the animals contained therein for at least 30 days, during which efforts to place them into homes will be made. Only then will the animals be given the fatal needle. Thereafter, the quarters will serve as temporary housing for the animals collected by the city's code enforcement officers-turned-dogcatchers.

The facility at 2340 Main Street can hold up to 150 animals without being out of compliance with California law. Espinoza has given indication the city will find other spaces for dogs and cats. He will come back by mid-September with a fleshed-out plan for sustaining the city shelter into the future, with kennel operators and animal control officers.

Over the last 15 years, there has been on-again, off-again dissatisfaction in the City of Upland with regard to the city's willingness to subsidize the operations of the local animal shelter in keeping with the level of care animal lovers in the community felt the 79,040-population City of Gracious Living should be extending to man's best friend and felines. It was not that the city employees at the facility were inhumane or uncaring, but that the city's decision-makers, i.e., the city council and the city manager, had given the shelter and its operations too low of a priority, elements within the community felt.

Activists in 15.62-square mile Upland formed Friends of the Upland Animal Shelter, a 501 (c)3 organiza-

tion, which now operates the Upland Animal Shelter in partnership with the city's animal control officers and is dedicated to saving every shelter pet.

In 2018, when then-San Bernardino Mayor John Valdivia had just come into office, he moved to deal with the most populous city in the county's long-standing animal control problem by moving in the opposite direction of what the city's animal kindness advocates wanted. Members of the San Bernardino Animal Care Foundation, which had been founded by Alice Chow, wanted the city to remove animal control out from underneath the management and control of the police department, which they felt was too distracted with its other duties to devote the time and care to animal-related issues. Moreover, they wanted the city to replace its dilapidated and inadequate animal shelter with a new and large enough facility to handle the dozens, scores and hundreds of displaced or wild pets that were found roaming the 59.6-square mile city daily, weekly and monthly.

Valdivia, however, was unwilling to dedicate the money such fixes would require, and he favored eliminating the city's animal control division altogether and contracting with

## Airport Authority Officials Tightlipped As Auditors Pore Over Airport's Books from page 7

the investigators/auditors might have already found or might yet find.

There was a report that airport authority officials were seeking to hide some of the documents in the authority's files from the auditors.

The *Sentinel* this week sought to contact Wapner, Bowman, Hagman, Elkadi and Kevin Sullivan, an attorney with the law firm of Gatzke Dillon & Ballance LLP, who serves as the airport authority's legal counsel.

the County of Riverside or the City of Colton to have those entities provide the service. Members of the San Bernardino Animal Care Foundation, however, were skeptical about how the city's animals would be treated by outside agencies, and they were particularly worried that Riverside County and Colton would euthanize people's pets left and right without making an adequate effort to find those owners.

When Councilwoman Sandra Ibarra, who had been politically aligned with Valdivia, proved sympathetic to the animal advocates, it forced a break in her relationship with the mayor, who, quite literally, never recovered from what proved to be the initial stage of the dissolution of his ruling coalition and the growing enmity with the not insignificant number of animal rights activists in his city. While the animal shelter issue was hardly the only political problem Valdivia experienced, it contributed to his demise, and he was defeated in his 2022 bid for reelection.

Sadly, San Bernardino has not yet resolved its dilemma with what many residents and others consider to be the city's inadequate animal control situation.

In Hesperia, City Manager Rachel Mo-

After phone calls failed to elicit a response, the *Sentinel* sent emails to all five. The *Sentinel* offered each of them an opportunity to put the airport authority's best foot forward and reassure the public and the *Sentinel's* readership that nothing untoward is ongoing out at the airport and to provide a benign interpretation of what it is the auditors are doing at the airport. The *Sentinel* asked if there was nothing in the airport's books that reflects badly on the airport authority board and the airport authority/airport management and administration. The *Sentinel* asked what response they would give on behalf of the airport/

lina's transition last year from being assistant city manager to acting city manager to full-fledged city manager was marred by the appalling conditions that were revealed to exist at the Hesperia Animal Shelter when a person or persons took unauthorized photos of the facility and then went public with them.

That circumstance had been preceded by Dr. Jaime Velasco, a veterinarian who had provided competent care for the animals for some time, inexplicably discontinuing his treatment of animals at the shelter, which necessitated that the city's animal services coordinator perform spays and neuterings on animals and diagnosing animals and administering pharmaceuticals to them, despite not being trained or licensed as a veterinarian.

Despite higher-ups in the city, reportedly extending all the way up to Molina ordering that the conditions at the shelter be kept under wraps and that city employees, under the threat of being fired if they did so, were not to go into the facility with cameras, including cell phones, somehow photos showing animals living in wretched conditions within the facility and its kennels, where the temperature typically reached or exceeded 100 degrees during the summer, surfaced.

airport authority with regard to suggestions that the airport/airport authority's books had been cooked and that the auditors are on the brink of demonstrating that Elkadi and Mr. Wapner, perhaps along with some others, had violated their positions of public trust.

The *Sentinel* asked the five to provide a rationale for the airport authority's/airport's hefty promotional budget and a definitive assurance that the money put into that budget had not been misused. The *Sentinel* sought a statement from the officials and the lawyer that the travel engaged in by airport/airport authority officials was entirely related

A photo taken inside the facility showing a dog lying in its own filth was widely distributed.

Another photo circulated, showing caged dogs in an area of the shelter which the individual displaying the photo said had no ventilation and where the temperature reached 105 degrees Fahrenheit on a daily basis for more than three weeks.

At one point, according to one volunteer at the shelter, a goat that was hit by car and brought to the shelter needed to see a veterinarian to have a decent shot at survival. Instead, it was put in a dog kennel where it languished and died.

Last summer, with a crescendo of criticism being vectored at the city and charges being hurled at Molina that what was going on at the shelter demonstrated her inadequacy as city manager, the city abruptly put out a statement that the shelter had reached full capacity and was accepting stray animals by appointment only. Then, in a development that baffled virtually everyone, the shelter began turning away those seeking to look over the dogs available for adoption.

This provoked widespread skepticism among Hesperia residents, who insisted the shelter was nowhere near capacity *Continued on Page 16*

to airport business. The *Sentinel* inquired about what purposes the sports tickets purchased by the airport authority had been put to.

The *Sentinel* inquired of Sullivan whether he had knowledge regarding airport authority officials having salted any funds away into foreign banking institutions, in particular ones in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Chaozhou, Zurich or Ankara.

By press time, neither Wapner nor Bowman nor Hagman nor Elkadi nor Sullivan had responded to the *Sentinel's* inquiries.

## San Bernardino County Coroner Reports

Coroner's Case #702404582: On Thursday, July 04, 2024, at approximately 4:53 PM, a motorcyclist was riding a 2018 Triumph motorcycle, traveling southbound on State Route 18 (SR-18) south of mile marker 39.35. The motorcyclist ran off the roadway, was ejected, and was pronounced dead at the scene at 5:35 PM. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the incident. The name will be released once the next of kin are notified. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404574: On Thursday, 07/04/2024 at 4:55 a.m., The California Highway Patrol responded to a pedestrian verses vehicle traffic collision on State Highway 210 in San Bernardino. The pedestrian, 46-year-old Gumercindo Huerta of San Bernardino, was pronounced dead at the scene. For further information, please contact the California Highway Patrol. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404575: On Thursday, July 4, 2024, at 3:39 AM, officers from the Ontario Police Department responded to a pedestrian struck by a vehicle near the intersection of Etiwanda Avenue and 4th Street in Ontario. The pedestrian, 34-year-old Luis Antonio Chavez of Anaheim, was pronounced deceased at the scene at 3:41 AM. For further information please contact the Ontario Police Department. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404472: On June 29, 2024, at 4:14 pm the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Deputies responded to Bear Valley Road and Kiowa Road in Apple Valley for a reported traffic collision. The driver Daniel Perez, age 29, resident of Apple Valley was pronounced dead on scene at 4:09 pm. For additional information please contact the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Apple Valley Station. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404478: On Saturday, June 29, 2024, at approximately 7:30 PM, officers with Colton Police Department (CPD) responded to Reche Canyon Rd., South of Washington St. in Colton. A motorcycle driver, 45 year-old Robert Montanez, from San Bernardino, was pronounced dead at the scene. For additional information, contact the Colton Police Department. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404461: On Saturday, June 29, 2024, at 8:44 AM, officers with California Highway Patrol, San Bernardino Station responded to eastbound State Highway 210 Freeway, west of Del Rosa Avenue in the city of San Bernardino for a motorcycle traffic collision. The motorcyclist, Jeremy Matthew Zabala, age 36, a resident of Temecula, was pronounced deceased on scene. For additional information contact California Highway Patrol – San Bernardino. [07052024 1405 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404340: On Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4:03 PM, Deputies with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department responded to a single vehicle collision in the 11000 block of E Avenue in Hesperia. The driver, 54-year-old Gerardo Antonio Cruz of Los Angeles, was pronounced deceased at the scene at 4:14 PM. For further details please contact the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. [07022024 1115 SC]

Coroner's Cases #702404433, #702404434, #702404435, and #702404436: On Friday, June 6, 2024, at 1:53 AM, a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed was involved in a collision at the intersection of North Mountain Avenue and 16th Street in the city of Upland. The five male occupants in the vehicle were ejected. Paramedics transported one of the male occupants from the scene to a local area hospital. Four of the five occupants were pronounced dead at the scene: Case #702404433 has been identified as 16-year-old, Jesus Guillen Jr. of Fontana. Case #702404434 has been identified as 17-year-old, Michael Gomez of Pomona. Case #702404435 has been identified as 18-year-old, Augustine Jara of Fontana. Case 702404436 has been identified as 16-year-old, Joel Silva of Fontana. For additional information, please contact the Upland Police Department. [07022024 1115 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404305: On June 21, 2024, at approximately 11:32 pm, officers with the Colton Police Department were involved in a law enforcement attempt to stop Julio Reyes, a 19-year-old resident of Colton, riding a motorcycle. Reyes was entering Interstate 10 westbound via the Riverside Ave. on-ramp, in Rialto, when he collided with a Jeep. Reyes was transported to the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for medical treatment. On June 22, 2024, Reyes was pronounced dead. The California Highway Patrol investigated the collision. [06282024 1110 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404402: On Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 11:10 pm., officers with the Ontario Police Department responded to a single-vehicle collision north of the intersection of S. Mountain Avenue and W. Philadelphia Street in Ontario. The driver, 32-year-old Carlos Francisco Campos of Los Angeles, was transported to Chino Valley Medical Center and pronounced deceased at 11:45 pm. Please contact the Ontario Police Department for further information. [06282024 1110 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404400/702404401: On Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 10:54 PM, Fontana Police officers responded to a traffic collision involving a motorcyclist and a sedan at the intersection of Sierra Avenue and Valley Blvd. The motorcyclist, Ronald Clayton Steele a 46-year-old male resident of Rancho Cucamonga, was pronounced dead at the scene at 11:07 PM. The sedan driver, Richard Malabayoc Flora a 39-year-old male resident of San Bernardino, was pronounced dead at the scene at 11:02 PM. For additional information contact the Fontana Police Department. [06282024 1110 SC]

Coroner's Case #702404261: On Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 6:22 pm, officers from the California Highway Patrol responded to a head on collision of a sedan and a motorcycle. The driver of the motorcycle, 42-year-old Kristina Kinsey of Apple Valley was pronounced deceased at the scene. For additional information please contact the California Highway Patrol. [06282024 1110 SC]

*The Coroner Reports are reproduced in their original format as authored by department personnel.*

### His Codefendants' Pleas Have Left Enamorado Isolated from page 13

was granted bail. In general, the Enamorados put on trial were accused of one count of PC182(A) (1)-felony conspiracy to commit a crime and multiple counts of PC245(a) (4) – felony assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury; PC422(A) – issuing felony threats to engage in criminal action likely to result in death or great

bodily injury; PC236 – felony false imprisonment; PC22810(G)(1) – felony unlawful use of tear gas; and PC207(A). In addition, Edin Enamorado was one count of PC22810(A) – misdemeanor possession of tear gas by a convicted felon; and one count of PC29800(A)(1) – felony possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

While Acevedo was free, the other seven remained incarcerated. On June 7, Luján, Chávez, Carrasco, Amésquita and Peña entered a sin-

gle guilty plea each to a single count of violating Penal Code § 245(a)(4)-F: assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury, and López entered a single guilty plea to PC245(a) (1)-F: assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm likely to result in great bodily injury, whereupon Judge John M. Wilkerson accepted the pleas upon finding they were intelligently and knowledgeably made. In sentencing Luján, Carrasco, Amésquita, he granted

the three women an immediate release, with a requirement that they return to court on December 12, at which point they are to be sentenced to 353 days in county jail and will simultaneously be given, as of that date, credit for 353 days' time served. Chávez, Peña and López are to remain in custody and return to court on December 12, at which point they are to be sentenced to two years in state prison with 364 days' credit for time served to be subtracted from that term.

Edin Enamorado remained defiant, insisting that his aggressive activities in defending the poor and disenfranchised and standing up for street vendors while confronting the racists who victimize them have never crossed the line into criminality. His attorney, Rosenberg, an experienced criminal defense attorney who has had some notable successes with serious cases, including gangland murders and crimes in which his clients were charged under the so-

called RICO [Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations] statute, wherein he obtained full exonerations or greatly mitigated convictions and sentences for his clients significantly less than what was anticipated, in vain sought to convince Enamorado that the strength of the evidence, including the video evidence Enamorado had provided to the prosecution through his internet and social postings, had greatly weakened his legal position. *Continued on Page 16*

## Rosenberg Out; Alimouri In from page 14

Enamorado, however, is convinced that the moral rectitude of his motives outpaces whatever negative implication might attend the tactics the Enamorados used. He believes that if he can get his attorney to utilize the forum of his trial to

illustrate that aggressive means to combat the unjust laws being applied against the disenfranchised immigrant community that has only limited means of making its way in a hostile capitalistic society is morally right. He is willing to stake everything on the hope that one or two or three jurors will refuse to convict him for what he maintains are prin-

cipled acts. Even if he is convicted, he believes, he will have delivered a blow for La Raza against the oppressive Anglo establishment.

Edin Enamorado was impressed with Alimouri's advocacy of Carrasco, particularly the manner in which on one occasion the lawyer went so far as to risk a contempt of court citation by standing up in court

without being first acknowledged by the judge and asserting loudly and angrily that his client had done nothing wrong and that failing to grant her bail was a grave miscarriage of justice. Perceiving Rosenberg's willingness to strike a plea bargain as defeatist, Alimouri's acceptance of a plea bargain for Carrasco notwithstanding, Enamorado has con-

vinced himself that his future lies more properly in the hands of Alimouri. On June 28, with Deputy District Attorney Jason Wilkinson present before Judge Wilkerson Alimouri and co-counsel Kate Smith, the motion to relieve Rosenberg as counsel for Enamorado was heard and granted, with a recognition that Alimouri had been retained to represent him

going forward.

Alimouri requested a bail hearing which was set for July 12. On July 12, however, the Alimouri was not able to make that appearance because of a conflict. Instead, Erik Hammett, who had represented López, appeared for him. Hammett made a motion to withdraw the hearing, and it was postponed until July 31.

## With Newsom's Bleeding Heart Having Run Dry After Billions Of Dollars Have Not Cured The Problem, The Homeless Are In For A Rough Go from page 14

request outreach services for persons experiencing homelessness at the encampment. e. Collection, labeling, and storage for at least 60 days of personal property collected at the removal site that is not a health or safety hazard."

According to the order, "All departments and agencies not under my authority are requested to adopt policies consistent with the guidelines in Paragraph 1. Local governments are encouraged to adopt policies consistent with this order and to use all available resources and infrastructure, including resources provided by the state's historic investments in housing and intervention programs where appropriate and available, to take action with the urgency this crisis demands to humanely remove encampments from public spaces, prioritizing those encampments that most threaten the life, health, and safety of those in and around them. The California Interagency Council on Homelessness shall develop guidance and provide technical assistance consistent with this Order for local governments to follow in implementing their local homelessness programs."

Notably, Newsom's order is in effect whether

or not there are homeless shelters available in surrounding areas.

In its preamble, the order states, "California is experiencing a homelessness crisis decades in the making, with over 180,000 people estimated to have experienced homelessness on any given night in 2023, including 123,000 people who experienced unsheltered homelessness, living in tents, trailers, and vehicles across the state. [S]ince the beginning of

## Difficulties Have Emerged With Animal Control Issues In Barstow, Upland San Bernardino, Hesperia & Ontario from page 14

and that a third to half of the cages are empty because animal control officers were no longer actively patrolling the city to pick up strays. Residents claim the animal control division still is not responding to citizen calls vectoring the animal control officers to where stray animals have been spotted, and wild dogs continue to run free throughout the 73.1-square mile city.

More recently, toward the west end of the county, the opposite phenomenon is occurring, with communities which had entrusted dealing with animals and wildlife to volunteer and humanitarian organizations for some time coming to the conclusion that local governments should take such services in-house.

The cities of Ontario and Chino, which for nearly four decades have contracted with the Inland Valley Humane

my administration, the State of California has made unprecedented investments to address the homelessness crisis head on, investing more than \$24 billion across multiple state agencies and departments. It is imperative to act with urgency to address dangerous encampments, which subject unsheltered individuals living in them to extreme weather, fires, predatory and criminal activity, and widespread substance use, harming

Society for animal control, are now purposed to establish a joint animal service agency.

On July 16, both the Ontario City Council and the Chino City Council voted to approve plans to create the West End Animal Services Agency, a joint powers authority, and endow it with a \$50 million animal services facility.

The two cities, which have had an intense rivalry going back for more than two decades over the annexation of the Chino Valley Agricultural Preserve, which formerly lay within Chino and to its east and to the south of Ontario and in the sphere of influence of both, made a rare show of cooperation with their mutual decision to walk away from the cities' longstanding relationship with the Inland Valley Humane Society and undertake to build the facility that will house the lion's share of the operations of the soon-to-be-up-and-running West End Animal Services Agency.

Ontario was the first of a number of local governments, which include Chino, Chino Hills, Montclair and Ontario in

their health, safety, and well-being, and which also threaten the safety and viability of nearby businesses and neighborhoods and undermine the cleanliness and usability of parks, water supplies, and other public resources."

One homeless man, who told the *Sentinel* he did not need to hear any more after the first several sentences of the governor's order was read to him, said, "Those sheriff's [sic] will be beating

San Bernardino County and Pomona, San Dimas, Covina, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Glendora and La Verne in Los Angeles County that have contracts with the Inland Valley Humane Society for animal control services to signal that it was considering ending its arrangement with the entity, based in part on Ontario's growing population and demands for service, which it felt it might more economically deliver on its own or in tandem with another government.

There are conflicting reports over which entity, Ontario or the Humane Society, had proven to be the problematic partner in the now-souring relationship among the participants in the society. Ontario, which is the wealthiest of all of San Bernardino County's municipalities, with nearly \$1 billion flowing through all of its various funds on an annual basis, was willing to provide the Inland Valley Humane Society with a substantial infusion of money to pay for it to expand its facilities and increase its level of service, according to one account, but the Humane

the fuck out of us now."

Immediately, upon Newsom's order having gone out, the sheriff's department Community Service and Reentry Division, Homeless Outreach Proactive Enforcement Team (H.O.P.E.) intensified the "Operation Shelter Me" program it had initiated on July 12 in the Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana area to "help homeless people," which included transporting them and their backpacks and/or

Society was unwilling to commit to making the acquisitions and hire the personnel to achieve the goals Ontario had in mind. Another account, however, held that the Humane Society was unsure of taking on the assignment that Ontario wanted for it because of misgivings that fulfilling that role for Ontario might complicate its work for the other governmental agencies it was tied in with.

According to Ontario, at least some of that city's residents felt the service the Humane Society was providing was less than stellar.

The deterioration in the relationship between the Inland Valley Humane Society and Ontario led to the society saying it would abrogate its contract of more than 30 years standing with Ontario as of June 30, 2025.

It does not appear that Chino was particularly dissatisfied with the Humane Society's performance, but that Ontario made it an offer it couldn't refuse.

Ontario has offered to pay for the land acquisition and a 65 percent share of the construction costs of the animal ser-

duffel bags on a one-way trip in the back of caged patrol cars to mental health treatment centers or medical facilities outside the county. In carrying out Operation Shelter Me, deputies insist that the homeless they encounter are "significantly mental ill" and that they are in need of psychological treatment, such that things are going to not go well for them if they resist the opportunity they are being provided.

-Mark Gutglueck

vices facility, which is to be located in Ontario. In addition, Ontario is to cover 65 percent of the total capital, equipment and vehicle acquisition and operational costs of the agency, with Chino responsible for 35 percent.

After initial outlays, Chino will be on the hook for roughly \$2.2 million annually as dues in the joint powers agency, which will include yearly operating costs and financing on the bonds or loans to finance the building of the animal services facility. Ontario's share will be \$4.086 million or thereabouts.

The three-member board of the West End Animal Services Agency will count two members of the Ontario City Council as its voting Ontario representatives and one from the Chino City Council. This will be subject to change if other governmental entities - most likely the cities of Montclair or Chino Hills - elect to become participating members in the West End Animal Services Agency.