

## Tran's Bold Early Effort To Elevate Clayton To Full Status City Manager Falls Short

A hopeful early effort by San Bernardino Mayor Helen Tran to install Rochelle Clayton as city manager just a day after the three new members of the city council were seated fell through when a crucial fifth vote to do so did not materialize on Thursday.

In the initial weeks of her employment with San Bernardino, Clayton experienced a mercurial rise, as she was promoted to the acting city

manager's post less than six weeks after she began with the city.

Clayton, who had worked 17 years in the finance department with San Bernardino County and later held the positions of finance director with the City of La Habra Heights, chief financial officer for both the High Desert Water District in Yucca Valley and the West Valley Water District in Rialto, administrative services director

and deputy city manager with Banning before she became assistant city manager in Menifee, had been hired by then-City Manager Charles Montoya to serve as one of his primary assistants in the role of deputy city manager, beginning on April 15, 2024. Montoya, however, was by that point on unsteady footing in San Bernardino, six months after his October 2023 hiring. When the mayor and city

council pulled the plug on Montoya, agreeing to confer on him a severance pay out equal to his \$325,000 per year salary on May 22, they elevated Clayton into the role of the city's acting, or interim, top administrator on a 5-to-3 vote that same evening.

The initial plan was to carry out an executive search/recruitment to find a replacement for Montoya and that Clayton would hold down

the fort until someone acceptable to the mayor and a majority of the city council was found.

Over the summer, Clayton made a favorable impression on virtually all members of the city council, including Seventh Ward Councilman Damon Alexander, Second Ward Councilwoman Sandra Ibarra and First Ward Councilman Ted Sanchez, all of whom had opposed entrusting her

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## Davis's 3<sup>rd</sup> Try At Blending Of Identity Politics & Ambition Again Counts Her Out

By Mark Gutglueck

For the third time running, Denise Davis's overarching ambition to become Redlands mayor has worked against her, as she was again unable to construct a broad enough platform and support network within either the community at large or City Hall to garner three votes to confer the mayoral honorific on her.

The third city in San



Denise Davis

Bernardino County to incorporate in 1888 following the chartering of San Bernardino and

Colton in 1868 and 1887, respectively, Redlands is therefore one of the county's most mature municipalities. Nonetheless, unlike Ontario, Upland, Chino, Rialto, Needles, Barstow, Fontana, Montclair, Rancho Cucamonga and Grand Terrace, founded as cities in 1891, 1906, 1910, 1911, 1913, 1926, 1947, 1952, 1956, 1977 and 1984 and all of which hold mayoral elections, Redlands

does not leave the selection of its mayor direct to its residents, instead having the city council appoint from among its ranks who is to serve as the city's political figurehead and the council's presiding officer.

For more than a century during the first several phases of San Bernardino County's history, Redlands was the most affluent and arguably the most influential district

in the far-flung county. A significant number of the business owners in the county seat of San Bernardino in the early days built their stately homes and mansions in Redlands, in and around Smiley Heights. In those days, Redlands was halfway between being an agricultural wonderland, which had as its centerpiece its expanses of citrus groves, and a resort town, where the

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## Federal Prosecutors Charge Chino Hills Man With Political Tampering On Behalf Of Mainland China

A Chino Hills man who for the last several years has been acting as a propagandist for the People's Republic of China was arrested by FBI agents yesterday on federal charges that allege he acted as an unregistered agent of a foreign country.

Yaoning "Mike" Sun, 64, was arrested with-

out incident and made an appearance in United States District Court in downtown Los Angeles Thursday at which the charges against him were read.

There is reason to suspect or otherwise believe that Sun was involved in efforts to promote the political careers of Chinese nationals who have

emigrated to the United States and become naturalized citizens as part of a plot to infiltrate differing levels of American government with operatives loyal to Communist China.

According to federal prosecutors, Sun was employed as an agent of the People's Republic of China while he

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## Ken Kloepfer, Once Rising West End Legal Star & Imperious Municipal Court Judge

Kenneth Kloepfer, infamously celebrated as the Rancho Cucamonga Justice Center's ill-tempered judge, has died at the age of 82.

Kloepfer last practiced law in 1997, eight years after he was removed from the bench.

Kenneth Lynn Kloepfer was born on October 13, 1942 in Sacramento, California, the second son of Lynn William and

Marguerite nee Fonnesebeck Kloepfer. At that time, his father, who had an illustrious career as an attorney which included work for the United States Department of Agriculture in its field offices and as its solicitor, was the chief attorney for the Sacramento Abstract and Title Company in the state's capital.

In 1947, Lynn and

Marguerite Kloepfer relocated their family to Ontario where he opened up a general law practice. Ken Kloepfer began kindergarten in Ontario later that year. In 1952, when he was in the fifth grade, his father became Ontario City Attorney, a post Lynn Kloepfer held until 1975. In this way, during his formative years, Ken Kloepfer was given a close window on

## Needles Makes Minor Tweaks To Representation After Election

With the confirmation of the November 5 election results, a former member of the Needles City Council was re-installed on that panel amid a few other subtle personnel changes on city commissions.

The rollover of three members of the council and appointments to city commissions took place

on December 10 at the El Garces public house.

Re-elected in November were Mayor Janet Jernigan and council members Tona Belt and Ellen Campbell. Zachery Longacre, who was on the council previously, from 2018 to 2022, was returned to the council by the city's voters. All four were sworn

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he had a private practice in what was then the unincorporated community of Cucamonga, often handling cases at the old Cucamonga Courthouse.

His brother, Robert Kloepfer, later became an attorney.

Ken Kloepfer successfully ran for a San Bernardino County Municipal Court judgeship in 1980 and was sworn into that posi-

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## Sheriff Sets \$8M Aside For 4 Years Of Air Division Maintenance

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors this week appropriated \$8 million to be at the ready to cover the cost of non-competitive purchase orders, as needed, to be paid to 21 identified vendors providing maintenance of, parts to, and repair of the sheriff's department's aviation fleet from January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028.

The earmarked money included half of a million dollars that will be added to the \$2 million already laid out for aircraft services being provided by the 21 vendors in the current 2024-25 fiscal year and \$2.5 million to go to or potentially go to the vendors in each of the following three years, i.e., 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28.

The board authorized the county's purchasing agent to issue the yet-unspecified purchase orders in an aggregate amount of \$8,000,000, for the period of January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, for aircraft maintenance, parts, and repair services to be provided by Meza, Arizona-based ABLE Aerospace; Aero Dynamix of Eules, Texas; Grand Prairie, Texas-based Airbus Helicopter Inc.; Bell Textron, Inc. of Fort Worth, Texas; Dallas, Texas-based Boeing Distribution; Executive Jet Maintenance, LLC of San Bernardino; Murrieta-based Frederick Aero Development; Hangar One Avionics of Carlsbad; Costa Mesa-based Helimart; International Aviation Composites of Haslet, Texas; Corona-based Konecranes, Inc.; Mint Turbines, LLC of Troud, Okla-

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**Over Multiple Generations, Redlands Cultivated The County's Most Dedicated Controlled-Growth And Historical Preservation Activists** *from front page*

wealthy investors from Chicago who had founded the community would winter during what in Illinois were the inclement months of November through February. After the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and into the Roaring '20s and beyond, while San Bernardino was still the nucleus of the county, Redlands became the place where the county's prime movers, decision-makers, politicians and kings of industry settled and lived, even if they had to do so unofficially for registration purposes. Beginning slowly in the 1950s and 1960s and with increasing momentum in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, the upstart west end of the county, first with Ontario and Upland and then Rancho Cucamonga, began to assert itself. As much of Los Angeles County was by the 1970s and 1980s built out, still-wide-open San Bernardino County was beginning to see what was then unprecedented growth, which continued thereafter to intensify. The profit to be turned by converting the county's agricultural districts into housing and commercial subdivisions was so great that the development community was able to apply political grease – out and out bribes – to the incumbent politicians who would accommodate them by approving their projects and increasing the intensity of land use and bankrolling the campaigns of alternative candidates to drum out of office any politicians who refused to go along and opposed the rezoning of groves, vineyards, farms and dairies into square mile upon square mile of residential neighborhoods with commercial components lining the region's major arterials. Once the agricultural properties had been converted

to residential specific plan areas, the next shift consisted of changing the single family residential density designations of the number of houses to built from four units to the acre to six to the acre to eight to the acre to ten to the acre to 12 or 14 to the acre, or simply converting the land into multi-family apartment units, yielding the building industry and development community ever greater profits.

In Redlands, where the homes were more stately, the orange groves amidst the mansions more acutely appreciated for the buffer they provided between the rows of tract homes being constructed, the residents more conscious that the mad frenzy of development that was taking place was a very real threat to the quality of life of those who had long lived there, a genuinely sincere and deep effort at preservation of their community was born. While that movement never constituted anywhere near approaching a majority of the populace, it did involve a core of dynamic and dedicated activists, ones who were sophisticated and in some cases wealthy, and therefore enabled and capable of carrying off an effective campaign of resistance. They stood up and stood together, networking with enough of the less-overtly political elements of the community at just the right times to achieve their goal. Their goal was to stymie – within the city limits of Redlands and only within the city limits of Redlands – the land speculators and developers who would come in, purchase ten or 20 or 50 or a hundred acres, cozy up to Redlands city fathers, wine them, dine them, make donations to their political campaigns or maybe surreptitiously pass along to them a couple of thousand dollars that no one had to know anything about, and then run through the process down at City Hall to rezone the property they had tied up, grade it, construct scores or hundreds of houses on it, sell them, reap a handsome profit

and move onto the next place.

Whereas as elsewhere in the county the battle between on one side the pro-development/pro-aggressive development forces and on the other the no-growth/low-growth/slow-growth/controlled growth contingent had overwhelmingly been decided in favor of the former, in Redlands the opposite was true.

It was not that the building industry had not given it its best shot. Part of the strategy, hatched by the brain trust within the Baldy View Chapter of the Building Industry Association had been to plot an outright takeover of the decision-making process in Redlands. Indeed, the Building Industry Association had been able to at least partially execute on that plan, which consisted of electing as members of the Redlands City Council members of the development community. It was thought that if a majority of the panel were builders themselves, they would, as a matter of course, be sympathetic toward any development proposal that came before them. Even if only one or two of the council's five members was or were involved in the construction industry, it was figured that member or those members would be able to persuade, if not the remainder of the council, at least enough of the members, of the benefits of accommodating more homes, more stores, more warehousing and more factories, to obtain the three votes needed to allow masons and carpenters and those who employ them to prosper.

Sven Larson, a general contractor, was elected to the council with the Building Industry Association's support. Larson was in favor of reducing all constraints on the construction industry, and there was no project that came before the council when he was a member of it and later the mayor that he opposed. Larson, however, was not able to entirely have his way with the city, as during his era in office, he was

counterbalanced by Bill Cunningham.

Cunningham had been a high school teacher and coach at Redlands High School, and he lived with his family on the 18-acre Glencairn Farm, which included orange and kiwi groves, at the south end of the city. He favored preserving the city's existing groves and limiting to the extent that law and local ordinances could the intensity of growth that was to take place by imposing on the development community defined restrictions on residential density together with demands that those developing property had to provide adequate infrastructure to service new development and ensure that the city's residents did not experience traffic delays or gridlock on the city's streets and its regional highways because those roadways were overwhelmed by more vehicles than they were designed to carry.

Not only was requiring that any new growth be accompanied by adequate off-site improvements and infrastructure to prevent that development from impacting existing and future residents a good policy in and of itself, Cunningham believed, he further calculated that making developers financially responsible for building that infrastructure would greatly reduce their profit margins on the projects they completed, which would, in large measure, disincentivize development generally.

As much or more than virtually any other individual in local politics in San Bernardino County, Cunningham tested the envelope with regard to bringing the authority of law and local ordinances to bear on what he considered to be the recklessness of the development industry in impacting the community. He had a hand in the drafting and then securing the passage of the controlled-growth or slow-growth Proposition R in 1978, Measure N in 1987 and Measure U in 1997, all of which were intended to reduce growth to manageable

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levels. Each of those measures was passed by the voters.

Measure R put a limit on the annual growth rate, followed by further refinements and restrictions put in place under the auspices of Measures N and U, such that no more than 400 residential dwelling units can be approved or constructed within the city annually, and the city council is not empowered to suspend, waive or rescind those provisions. Cunningham was likewise instrumental in having the city acquire orange groves which were slated to be developed and which were instead preserved as open space.

Over the decades, development in virtually all other municipalities in San Bernardino County has been far more intense than what has occurred in Redlands. This has made land speculators and developers salivate even more heavily when contemplating their opportunities for profit in the city.

Over the last two decades, several individuals have been elected to the city council with the heavy backing of the development industry in terms of money provided to those elected leaders for use in their election campaigns when they were candidates. In other cases, candidates who were not elected with hefty building industry support or who were appointed to the council have seen deep-pocketed developers swing behind them to support them in their political campaigns going forward. A goal in all of this has

been to bring the members of the council in line with the development industry's hope that the slow-growth/controlled growth provisions of Measures R, N and U and a host of other development limitations in the city can be jettisoned. Multiple attempts in that regard have demonstrated not only that the anti-growth fervor among the Redlands population in general has not diminished but the degree to which the members of the city council are out of synchronicity with the city's residents.

One demonstration of this is the generalized desire on the part of the city's residents that municipal planners limit residential development, to the degree that it occurs, to single family homes in the approximate density that has traditionally been the norm in the city. While a rule of thumb in the first half of the 20th Century and then throughout the 1950s, 1960s and well into the 1970s was that single family homes were built on lots that were approximately one-quarter of an acre, lots of a sixth of an acre became common in the late 1970s and early 1980s, while lots of an eighth of an acre proliferated, in some areas of the city in the late 1990s and thereafter. Thus, density in the quarter acre to eighth acre range matches the common conception of the Redlands populace with regard to acceptable housing stock. Among developers, however, the concept has long moved toward condominiums

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## County Approves 21 No-Bid Contracts To Keep Sheriff's Air Fleet Flying For Three-And-A-Half Years *from front page*

homa; Van Nuys-based Rotorcraft Support Inc.; Safran Helicopter Engines, USA, Inc. of Grand Prairie, Texas;

Sylmar-based Spectrolab, Inc.; Standard Aero Limited of Winnipeg, Canada; Piscataway, New Jersey-based Thales Avionics, Inc.; Trace Aviation of Jackson, Mississippi; Anaheim-based Goodrich Corporation (UTC Aerospace Systems); Vislink Integrated Microwave Technology, LLC of Hackett-

stown, New Jersey; and Ontario, Canada-based Wescam, Inc.,

In addition, the board approved a contractual arrangement with regard to non-financial general terms and conditions with Bell Textron, Inc., including non-standard terms, for the period of January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028, for air-

craft maintenance, parts, and repair services.

Under normal conditions, governmental contracts involve a competitive bidding process.

According to Sheriff Shannon Dicus, his "department's aviation fleet requires mandatory ongoing maintenance, repairs, parts, and major overhaul of engines,

transmissions, and airframes every 3,000-3,500 hours of use, as required per manufacturer maintenance schedules. All vendors are qualified to perform these aircraft maintenance and repair services. Expenditures may vary per vendor and may exceed \$200,000 per instance, depending on the type and frequen-

cy of repairs needed. Due to the scarcity of available parts and need for timely specialized services to support the safe operation of the department's aviation fleet, these purchase orders help ensure the department can procure these specialized goods and/or services when immediately required."

## Sun's Activities In Favor Of The Chinese Communist Government Appear To Have Occurred In Conjunction With Chen Jun *from front page*

was known to have been serving as the campaign manager for a person identified in court papers as a Southern California city council candidate who was elected in 2022, an individual provisionally identified by the *Sentinel* as Arcadia City Councilwoman Eileen Wang. It appears,

but was not confirmed by federal authorities, that he was active in promoting the candidacies of other Chinese-American candidates for local office in the region.

Documents, some of which were redacted, provided with a criminal complaint filed Tuesday and unsealed Thursday morning offer a somewhat elliptical, discontinuous and incomplete narrative with regard to Sun's activities. Based upon those documents, it was Sun's association with another Chinese national in the United States, Chen Jun, which

brought him under the scrutiny of federal authorities. Chen's activities, many of them on the East Coast, on behalf of the People's Republic of China resulted in his being sentenced to federal prison in November for acting as an illegal agent of the Communist Chinese government,

including closely monitoring and interfering with U.S.-based congregations of the Falun Gong religious sect. The Communist regime in China has outlawed the worshiping practices of Falun Gong on Mainland China, and there is

concern among Chinese leaders that the Falun Gong movement represents a long-term seditious threat to the Chinese government.

An affidavit provided by an FBI agent whose name and identifying particulars were redacted was released by the U.S. Attorney's Office in conjunction with a copy of the complaint alleging Sun had violated 18 United States Code § 371: Conspiracy and 18 United States Code § 951: Acting as an Illegal Agent of a Foreign Government. The complaint was certified by U.S.

Magistrate Judge Patricia Donahue as having been properly filed.

The affidavit states that Sun "served as the campaign manager for a local politician ('Individual 1')" and that "In 2022 and early 2023, CHEN was in active communication with PRC [People's Republic of China] government officials regarding local U.S. politicians the People's Republic of China could 'influence,' particularly regarding Taiwan, and specifically communicated with them regarding Individual 1's election. In his conversations

with People's Republic of China government officials, Chen referred to Sun and Individual 1 as being part of a 'basic team dedicated for us.' Chen was in frequent contact with Sun, whom he instructed to submit reports on Individual 1's election that he could then provide to the 'United Front' and get to the 'Big Boss's desk.'"

According to the FBI agent the "United Front" is the United Front Work Department of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the "Big Boss" *Continued on Page 5*

## Needles Reassignments *from front page*

in by interim City Clerk Candace Clark, who has taken on that role in the aftermath of the unexpected death in October

of longtime City Clerk Dale Jones.

Councilwoman Kirsten Merritt was previously serving in the capacity of Mayor Pro Tem. She did not seek reelection. As a result, Longacre

replaced her on December 10. The council, by a 5-to-1 votes elevated Campbell to mayor pro tem.

David Kearnes was appointed and Jon McNeil reappointed to the

public utilities board. Kearnes was brought in to replace Steven Moffett.

Joe Payson was appointed to a full term on the planning commission expiring in 2028 and Owen Long

was appointed to complete the term of Planning Commissioner Bob Rath, who is leaving midterm. Long will remain in place until the end of 2026. The council by a vote of 4-to-2, with

Longbrake and Councilwoman JoAnn Pogue dissenting, previously rejected appointing former Chamber of Commerce Director Wayne Colburn to the position captured by Long.

## Events Transpired To Narrowly Deny Clayton's Ascendancy After Council On October 2 Unanimously Resolved To Extend Her A Contract *from front page*

with running the city in May. On October 2, after conferring/negotiating with Clayton in a closed-door session outside the scrutiny of the public, Mayor Helen Tran and the entirety of the council had concluded that they could simply dispense with the city manager recruitment effort and hire Clayton to serve as its full-fledged city manager going forward.

California cities are required by law to carry out votes to officially hire a city manager during a normally scheduled meeting of their respective city councils. As the second and last regularly scheduled city council meeting in October was canceled because council mem-

bers were in attendance at a California League of Cities convention on October 16, the vote to ratify Clayton's contract, which was to provide her with a \$325,000 salary, subject to an annual cost of living increase tied to the consumer price index and capped at 5 percent, another \$11,619.95 in perks and pay add-ons and \$115,693.41 in benefits, for an initial total annual compensation of \$452,313.36, was to take place at its first regularly scheduled meeting in November, on November 6, 2024. In addition, the contract the city council was to approve called for providing her with a one-time relocation benefit of \$10,000, if she were to move to a residence

within the boundaries of the City of San Bernardino within two years.

The cancellation of the October 16 city council meeting would prove significant. During the five weeks between the October 2 and November 6 council meetings, Councilman Sanchez had initiated inquiries, capped with the filing of California Public Records Act requests, for information relating to the city's ongoing efforts to obtain state funding for planned homeless assistance programs in the city. Through the responses to his filing, Sanchez learned that less than two months after Clayton had taken on the acting city manager assignment, she had been informed by the California Department of Housing and Community Development that San Bernardino had been selected to receive

a \$17 million Homekey grant to pay for a sizeable percentage of a \$24 million homeless shelter the city intends to build on Sixth Street. Clayton had not informed the city council about the state's offer of the money and, again without informing the council, notified Sacramento that the city was declining the money. Sanchez would also learn that the city had under Clayton's watch further failed to lay claim to another \$3 million grant from San Bernardino County to pay for homeless service efforts because the city had not made three adjustments to its planned homeless assistance strategy that would have qualified it to receive the money. When this was brought up for discussion during the closed session prior to the public session at the November 6 council meeting in which Clay-

ton's hiring was to take place, the council elected at that point to pull the ratification of the city manager's contract from the public portion of the meeting agenda, placing her hiring, or at that point possible hiring, into indefinite abeyance.

Throughout the remainder of November and into the earliest stage of this month, there remained several individuals and entities committed to having Clayton take on the city manager assignment. Those included Mayor Tran and both Fifth Ward Councilman Ben Reynoso and Sixth Ward Councilwoman Kimberly Calvin, developer and major campaign donor Scott Beard and both the San Bernardino Police Officers Association and the San Bernardino Police Management Association.

Tran, in particular,

wants to get Clayton in place as city manager for a number of reasons. Just prior to Tran becoming mayor in December 2022, Robert Field, who had been city manager since 2022, resigned. As a consequence, the entirety of Tran's tenure as mayor so far has played out without any real certainty as to the city's managerial echelon. Until Montoya was hired, the city was in what was essentially caretaker mode, as it was being looked after by an interim city manager – retired former City Manager Charles McNeely – who was filling the void as the city was looking for someone to take the long-term position. Thus, Tran was unable to formulate let alone actuate an integral game plan in terms of planning, organizing, directing and controlling an operational and urban

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## Foster & Davis Entered Into A Political Marriage Of Convenience, She Supporting His Pro-Growth Agenda And He Backing Her In Her Election & Early Installment As Mayor Pro Tem *from page 2*

and multi-family residential. More particularly, developers want multiple story apartments whenever and wherever they can get permission to build them in Redlands. The city council for years now has been doing as much as it can to meet those developers' expectations.

In 2019, the city arranged to put on the March 2020 ballot Measure G, which called upon the city's residents to eliminate, in one fell swoop, the restrictions of Proposition R, Measure N and Measure U, allow developers to construct up to 27 housing units per acre, eliminate height limits on buildings in the city, relieve developers of the requirement that in building their projects they have to provide infrastructure to maintain traffic-bearing capacity on the city's streets equal to what was available prior to the development taking place, permit residential land use designations to be placed into the city's general plan that did not previously exist and abolish the requirement that developers carry out socioeconomic-cost/benefit studies for the projects they are proposing, among other things.

Cunningham, who at that point was 93 years old, was sly enough to recognize that the forces at City Hall and their development industry allies were threatening to undo much of what he had accomplished. He rallied and was involved in the thick of things in coordinating opposition to Measure G, which was soundly rejected at the polls, with 9,321 votes or 64.88 percent opposing it and 5,052 voters or 35.12 percent in favor of it.

City officials, nevertheless, remained wedded to a pro-development approach and to pushing the idea that the city should allow multiple story apartments – ones to be built as high as the developers fancy making them – in those districts

around the city that are close to the existing rail stations on the commuter line that stretches from Redlands and through central San Bernardino Valley, western San Bernardino County and then through Los Angeles County all the way to Union Station in downtown Los Angeles.

In an effort to blunt the resentment Redlands residents have toward them over their pro-development orientation, the city council members have in recent years have engaged in a strategy of making adjustments to the city's zoning map to essentially empower the planning commission with the authority to approve controversial high-density apartment projects that otherwise would have required city council approval. As a consequence of the blanket rezonings, the apartment projects are deemed to be in compliance with the city's zoning map and other elements of the city code, meaning no variance or general plan amendments, which can only be granted by the elected members of the city council, are needed to approve these high-density apartment project.

In September 2021, the Redlands Planning Commission considered and approved two projects proposed by Vantage One Real Estate Investment. One of those involved constructing 138 apartments and three restaurant buildings on three acres at 212 and 216 Brookside Avenue, the former sites of the long-shuttered San Bernardino County Superior Court Redlands Courthouse Annex and the city's former police station, safety hall and city council chamber, as well as on the site of two homes, across from the U.S. Post Office. Some 750 feet north of that project, Vantage One obtained permission for an even more intensive use of just under an-acre-and-a-half of property,

one involving 100 units per acre at the northeast corner of Redlands Boulevard and Eureka Street, on property located at 200 West Redlands Boulevard. That project, consisting of 149 apartment units on 1.49 acres of ground, supplanted a 40,000 square foot furniture store.

Perhaps the most apt illustration of the degree and manner in which the Redlands' city council members have assumed an attitude diametrically at odds with the sentiment of the constituents they represent was the political career of Paul Foster, one of Denise Davis's political mentors who left the council voluntarily in 2022, reportedly just steps ahead of federal investigators who had interested themselves in the ways in which he had been compromised by the development industry.

In the 1990s, Foster came across as someone who was cast from the same mold or cut from the same cloth as Cunningham. Employed as an executive in the human services division of Kaiser Permanente, Foster was interested in Redlands history and maintaining the vestiges and character of the community for succeeding generations. He was a member of the Redlands Historic and Scenic Preservation Commission, and he had made repeated representations that he was in favor of controlled growth as a last reasonable resort since development in the city could not be banned outright. He was given a berth on the planning commission, in which position, it was asserted, he would apply a scrupulous standard that would ensure that whatever was to be built in the city would be of the highest standard.

With the financial downturn of 2007, Foster, without drama, turned, becoming an advocate of the need for economic growth, a bellwether of which, he began saying, was the real estate industry and the building sector. It was not a subtle change but rather a pronounced one, though it did not gain a lot of at-

tention. With the support of the building industry, to which he had previously been somewhat at odds, Foster ran for city council in the 2010 election, which marked Redlands' switch to even-year electoral contests. Through a combination of the residual support he had from the no-growth/low-growth/controlled-growth advocates and the monetary support of the building industry which paid for an aggressive campaign that included signs, handbills, mailers, newspaper ads, community involvement and other promotional methods, Foster managed a third-place finish in a race for three contested seats on the council, by which he displaced then-incumbent Pat Gilbreath.

During his campaign and thereafter, Foster remained interactive with all order of Redlands social groups such as the Redlands Chamber of Commerce, the East Valley Association of Realtors, Boy Scouts Troop 3, the University of Redlands Alumni Association, the Plymouth Village Retirees Association and the Redlands Service Club Council. He eschewed having substantive exchanges with regard to municipal policy during those contacts, instead propounding his name and candidacy.

During his first two to three years on the council, beyond routinely asserting that he was committed to "moving Redlands forward" and "progress," Foster avoided taking any high-profiled or pronounced positions that might betray his movement into the pro-development camp. In the latter half of his first term, there was no mistaking that Foster was cozying up to the development industry.

Despite his gregarious approach with regard to involving himself in being seen at public events, as a politician he did not actively seek out the opinions and input of his constituents, insisting that he had long had his hand on the pulse of the community and knew what the city's voters wanted.

After his first reelec-

tion to the council, Foster was selected by his council colleagues for elevation to the position of mayor. He remained in that post six years.

According to some Redlands residents, it was around the time that he assumed the mayoralty that they detected an at first subtle and then ever more obvious change in Foster. He grew even more inaccessible than he had been. Particularly with regard to development proposals, Foster evinced virtually no interest in the views of his constituents, seeming to sense that they would be unwelcoming of any type of development. The only type of interaction he was prepared to engage in, or so it seemed, were meetings with the proponents of development projects. Foster grew deaf, or at best hard of hearing, to any expression of objection Redlands residents made to any of the various facets of project proposals that were to come before Foster and his council colleagues, and he grew impatient with any suggestions that development planned or proposed in the city, which he touted as "progress," be denied approval.

Consistently, Foster embraced virtually every development project that came before the city. Among his council colleagues, his enthusiasm proved infectious, and he reproved, either silently or acidly, any of his colleagues if they indicated they were so much as contemplating standing in the way of "progress." Generally, through wheedling and cajoling, he influenced the remainder of the council to go along with him in supporting development proposals if they were not already inclined on their own to do so.

Those who want to build something and accomplish things with their lives, Foster maintained, trumped those who want to leave things as they are.

In 2018, Denise Davis, a University of Redlands graduate who had settled in Redlands and was employed as the director of the Women's Resource

Center at the University of California at Riverside, ran for city council.

Running for reelection that year was Foster. He perceived Davis as bright, young, enthusiastic and energetic, even if a bit naive about the reality of politics and the way of the world, but above all else, someone who was malleable. Davis had the double advantage of a support network of students at Redlands University who were at the ready to assist her in her campaign as well as her association with Emerge California, a collective of Democratic women that was chartered with the purpose of empowering self-identified women leaders within the Democratic Party in successfully running for elected office. Emerge California tutored her on the ins and outs of both grass roots and standard campaigning and provided her with volunteers to augment the college students who were assisting in her campaign. She thus had a stream of campaign workers, committed to the same progressive causes she embraced, to go out on her behalf. There were as many as 30 canvassers armed with her campaign fliers walking right up to the doorsteps of the First District's high-propensity voters on Saturdays in the month-and-a-half ahead of the election and ringing doorbells to put in a good word for her and encourage those they spoke with to consider Davis's qualifications before casting their votes. This was a factor which made her potentially electable, particularly given that Redlands' was returning to by-district elections that year for the first time since 1993. Davis was competing against other neophyte candidates in the election, and Foster saw an opportunity to solidify his political sway over the city as a whole by aligning with her. He came to an accommodation with her in which he agreed to endorse her and she him, while offering to mentor her once she was on the council.

*Continued on Page 6*

## Chen & Sun And Then Sun & Wang Met With Communist Chinese Officials In China *from page 3*

referenced a high-level official in the Chinese Communist Party.

According to the affidavit, “In summary, the complaint alleged that Chen worked in the United States at the direction of the People’s Republic of China to further the People’s Republic of China’s campaign against practitioners of Falun Gong, a spiritual practice banned in the People’s Republic of China. Specifically, the complaint alleged that Chen and his associate offered to pay and did pay cash bribes on behalf of the People’s Republic of China to a purported Internal Revenue Service agent (who was in fact an undercover law enforcement agent), in exchange for assistance in filing a defective whistleblower complaint as part of a People’s Republic of China Government-directed scheme to revoke the tax-exempt status of a 501(c)(3) organization run by Falun Gong practitioners.”

On June 9, 2023, Chen was indicted by a grand jury in the Southern District of New York on the conspiracy and acting as a foreign agent charges, on a charge of bribing a public official and on a money laundering count.

“On July 24, 2024, Chen pleaded guilty to Counts Two and Three, thereby admitting he had acted as an illegal agent of the PRC government in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 951. On November 19, 2024, Chen was sentenced in the Southern District of New York to twenty months’ imprisonment. While in pre-trial detention, Chen reportedly told his cellmate that he was a Chinese spy, saying he worked for the PRC’s ‘610 office,’ which he described as a ‘spy agency.’ Chen also reportedly said that the ‘610 office’ paid him \$250,000 to move to the U.S. thirty years ago and had paid him \$52,000

per month since then.”

The affidavit continues, “Based on the contents of Chen’s messages on his devices, it appears that in September 2022, while visiting Tianjin, China, Chen had lunch with the chief of a municipal government office in the People’s Republic of China (‘People’s Republic of China Government Official 1’) and People’s Republic of China Government Official 2, who is identified in the chat as the assistant to the director of that office. Based on my review of his phone contents, Chen had extensive conversations with People’s Republic of China Government Official 2 about his efforts to influence politicians in Southern California, including Individual 1, and stated that he had assembled a ‘team dedicated for us,’ which included Sun and Individual 1.”

According to the FBI, Chen and the Communist Chinese government were seeking to influence local government in the United States through concentration on a former and a current county supervisor in Los Angeles County.

“On October 9, 2022, Chen sent People’s Republic of China Government Official 2 the name and picture of a local politician, writing ‘Former L.A. County Supervisor. Friendly to China. Will chat with him and his wife when back.’ People’s Republic of China Government Official 2 responded, ‘Ok thanks. I will communicate several things all together in a few days, to gauge the level of attention.’ On October 13, 2022, the following exchange took place between Chen and People’s Republic of China Government Official 2: PRC 2: Chairman, today, we briefed those several things we talked about the other day with the leader of our line in Beijing, I am going to update you here. First of all, the higher ups do confirm your capability and influence, promised that we can take your line and make it an official work put into record, this means after

it’s in the record we can have monetary support. Regarding the thing you mentioned about Taiwan, they think this is not the best time, their preliminary plan is that after the election they will disrupt new congressman who will visit Taiwan just like you proposed, when they start related work, they promise to remember your line, will give us instructions at that time, then we can execute, of course we can also apply for the same support from Beijing, but not this time. Regarding the line you mentioned about the county supervisor, they will approve current county supervisor, but not former county supervisor, but I personally agree that we can go through the current one from the former one, so we internally are willing to provide the preliminary funding for you to socialize with the former county supervisor, but not a lot at once, it will be enough for meals and conference, but if you succeed in contacting with the current one, I believe the support will increase, so let’s keep in touch about this, let me know before you meet with the former county supervisor, I will try my best to get you support. (Try to meet with him to find out more about the new county supervisor, write a simple report, and then find a chance to ask him to introduce

you to the new one directly). Lastly, I need a small favor from you, please give me a list of Chinese groups names that you can organize to ‘mobilize’, channels, or local Chinese groups, and Chinese media that can promote stuff, I am going to write it up for the higher ups to put in record. I plan on doing this in a few days, after this we can officially start working.”

According to the FBI agent’s affidavit, Chen responded by listing US SoCal Chinese-American Alliance, the US SoCal Chinese Alliance Association, the US Chinese Alliance, the US Chinese Community Alliance Conference and the US China Unification

Forum and their leaders.

According to the affidavit, on October 14, 2022, less than a month before Wang was elected to the municipal post in



Yaoning “Mike” Sun

Arcadia, there was an exchange between Chen and People’s Republic of China Government Official 2 relating to influencing members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

According to the affidavit, exchanges between Chen and Communist Chinese government officials suggest that Eileen Wang was a sleeper agent for the Chinese government or at the very least was being cooperative in working to assist agents such as Chen.

The affidavit relates that Sun did an extensive examination of Wang’s ancestry and connection to Chinese society. The affidavit quotes Sun as reporting that Wang, “[Individual 1]” was

“born in the late 70s. Han ethnicity. Born in Chengdu, Sichuan, China. Great-grandfather was [Relative 1] (commander during the Wuchang Uprising). [Relative 2] (Commander of Zhongshan gunboat). Father [Relative 3] (former [occupation redacted]). [Individual 1] emigrated to the U.S. from Chengdu in 1995, studied at [redacted]. Later served as a committee member of [redacted]. Established [names of businesses redacted].”

In an exchange with Sun on March 23, 2023, Chen suggested that Sun engage himself in creating problems for Falun Gong. The affidavit quotes Chen as saying, “Several questions: Does Wheel [Wheel being a Chinese term referring to Falun Gong] have locations in [California city]? Activities? Can you create some obstacles for them? If you can eliminate one or several locations, or create some obstacles, there will be rewards.”

The affidavit states that Sun and Wang visited China, where they apparently had meetings with Communist Chinese governmental officials.

“On or about August 22, 2023, Individual 1 flew from Los Angeles to Hong Kong,” the affidavit states. “On September 4, 2023, Individual 1 and Sun returned together on a flight from Shanghai, China to Los Angeles.”

Wang has cultivated a respected reputation in Arcadia as the successful operator of the Golden Apple Christian Academy.

According to the complaint, Sun served as the campaign manager for Individual 1, who was starkly identified as a candidate running for local elected office in 2022.

In Wang’s campaign filings with the City of Arcadia’s city clerk’s office, Wang’s California Form 47, referred to as an officeholder and candidate campaign statement short form, a document which essentially declares a candidate’s candidacy for office, Sun is listed as the treasurer for Eileen Wang for Arcadia City Council 2022. Thereafter, in her California Form 460s, which delineate the contributions to her campaign, Yolanda Miranda of Covina is identified as her campaign treasurer.

*Continued on Page 11*

## Kloepfer Grew Draconian In Exercising His Authority At The Slightest Hint Of Disrespect, Real or Imagined, In His Courtroom *from front page*

tion on January 5, 1981.

Though he was worldly, knowledgeable, clever, personable and possessed a sense of humor, upon taking up the authority of judge, Kloepfer grew somewhat imperious and, on occasion, perturbable, particularly when those in his courtroom were, or he deemed them to be, disrespectful, unprepared or unobservant of decorum or protocol. Some felt he manifested a superiority complex which he had cultivated while at USC.

He routinely applied contempt of court citations against those who displeased him, doing so in what was described as “equal opportunity” fashion – against crimi-

nal defendants and litigants, those who were appearing on relatively minor matters such as traffic citations, defense attorneys, plaintiff’s attorneys and prosecutors, those without much court experience and some seasoned lawyers who had spent decades as members of the bar.

After years of complaints were racked up against him, the Commission on Judicial Performance in April of 1985 detailed investigators to begin an inquiry into his comportment and in December of 1986 served him with a formal complaint that delineated what it said were 47 instances of misconduct involving abusing his power of contempt,

repeatedly insulting lawyers, litigants and court aides, and failing to uphold the rights of criminal defendants. Kloepfer had engaged in a litany of unjustifiably angry outbursts while exhibiting “a persistent pattern of abuse and arbitrary conduct” from his vaunted position on the bench, the Commission on Judicial Performance alleged.

Those included:

\* Telling Deputy District Attorney Robert Guzzino at the conclusion of a preliminary hearing in *People v. Garza, et al*, in February, 1982, “You guineas can’t get anything right.”

\* In July, 1982, stating to Deputy District Attorney Tracy Bartell in open court that she was an embarrassment to the People of the State of California, and it was *Continued on Page 15*

## Davis Had Little Interest In Overseeing Traditional Municipal Issues Such As Finance, Infrastructure, Public Safety & Development And Was More Interested In Promoting Progressive Social Causes *from page 4*

Foster understood well that if his gamble paid off and the young upstart was elected, she would represent another reliable vote for his pro-development agenda, a further hedge against the anti-growth/slow-growth/controlled growth contingent of residents he had to constantly stand off if he were to be able to deliver on his commitment to his true constituency, the developers, real estate speculators and principals in the construction industry who were supporting him in all the ways a politician can be supported, legitimately and illegitimately.

All went as planned. Foster and the other incumbent, Paul Barich, were returned to the council, representing the city's newly formed Fifth and Third districts, and Davis was convincingly elected with 51.62 percent of the vote against four competitors in the First District.

As was traditionally the case in Redlands, shortly after the new city council was installed, the council set about choosing its officers for the next two years, meaning the mayor and mayor pro tem. While the city had no firm mayoral selection policy, what had evolved was for all intents and purposes a mayoral rotation. As people were elected to the council, those with two years, four years or six years incumbency who had never previously been mayor pro tem would become mayor pro tem – a vice mayor who filled in for the mayor in his or her absence – for two years. Those who had been on the council four years or six years or eight years who had gone without previously having been mayor but had the experience of being mayor pro tem would become the next mayor. Generally, when it got to the point that the only people on the council were ones who had previously been mayor, then the mayoral

appointment would go to the person who had not been mayor for the longest time. Bestowal of the mayoral honorific was dependent, however, on the willingness of the individual so selected to fulfill mayoral duties, as the mayor was called upon to attend ribbon cuttings and ground-breakings and other ceremonies during business hours, which could be quite time consuming and might not be possible for someone who was employed or had unforgiving professional demands, particularly ones at locations outside Redlands.

At the end of 2018, Foster had been mayor



**Denise Davis, left, and Paul Foster campaigned together successfully in 2018, after which he mentored her as an officeholder.**

for most of the proceeding four years, which was partially a function of his dominant personality and partially because the other members of the council were too engaged professionally to accept the mayor's post. Paul Barich, who at that point was second only to Foster in terms of seniority on the council, would have been the logical choice for the mayoral designation, but his successful insurance brokerage monopolized his time. Eddie Tejada, first elected in 2016, was employed as a special education teacher of students with moderate to severe disabilities in the

Rialto Unified School District. Toni Momberger had been appointed to the council in 2017 and elected to serve out the remaining two years of an at-large council position in November 2018 on the same ballot with Foster and Davis. The decision was to sustain Foster as mayor for another two years and that Davis would be given the extremely rare honor of being elevated to mayor pro tem despite having no previous experience on the city council.

Once her tenure as councilwoman/mayor pro tem had begun in earnest, Davis showed little interest in the primary matters that are the traditional purview and function of local government: finances, the provision of public infrastructure and amenities, public safety and land use. In all of those

arenas, she followed the lead of her council colleagues. With regard to the issues of land use, zoning and the consideration and approval of development proposals, she simply defaulted to whatever Foster's position was.

Her real purposes as a councilwoman, Davis firmly believed, were basically two-fold, those being to embrace every progressive or woke cause within reach and to utilize her elective status to propel herself further along the political evolutionary path.

Instead of focusing on specific or even general issues of municipal man-

agement, urban planning, financing or public improvements, Davis's energy and attention went toward ensuring that local government stood by the principles of tolerance, diversity and inclusion in all that it did. Davis had not, exactly, hidden that she was a lesbian during her campaign, but had not made it a central issue, either. In office, whenever the opportunity presented itself, she referenced herself as a politician on the cutting edge, one who was openly and proudly outside of the heterosexual mainstream.

She pressed her council colleagues, albeit usually by bare 3-to-2 margins, to make gay pride month, transgender day, non-binary day and sexual assault awareness month proclamations and declarations. She was the prime mover in the city's acceptance of plans to paint, onto Vine Street near City Hall, a rainbow crosswalk mural that celebrated inclusiveness, one which included a reference to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community. She has since said that the rainbow mural crosswalk stands as her major accomplishment in office thus far. The vote to allow the artists to proceed with it passed by a bare 3-to-2 majority. That victory let everyone know of her firm belief that everyone should be included in public life and should have the opportunity to participate in the political process.

She publicly revealed that one of her primary objectives before she leaves the city council is to "diversify the dais," that is, to wrest control of Redlands municipal governance from the enclave of heterosexual white men who have traditionally dominated City Hall.

She pursued and succeeded in attaining other progressive goals. As much as anyone on the council, she inspired the city to seek and obtain a \$30 million Home-

key Grant through the California Department of Housing to convert the Good Nite Inn located at 1675 Industrial Park Avenue into a full-

dimensional shelter for the community's chronically homeless featuring 98 permanent supportive housing units, each with a kitchenette. She also was a key supporter of the city's unique utility bill assistance program.

In the 2020 election, Momberger had declined to seek reelection, Tejada was returned to the council without opposition, this time as the representative of District 2, and Jenna Guzman-Lowery was elected to represent District 4. Tejada, with a full four-year term in office under his belt and having made arrangements with the Rialto Joint Unified School District to give him two or three hours leave on those occasions when he might be needed to officiate during weekday hours in Redlands, was prepared to accept the

mayoralty for the next two years, as, under the circumstances, he was the logical heir apparent. Before that could take place, however, Davis ran a power play, one which she had fully designed herself and which was intended to deliver into her hand the mayoral gavel. In December of that year, she presented to the council and the Redlands community her plan calling for dispensing with the practice of leaving entirely to the collective council's discretion the selection of the mayor for a two-year term and instead setting up a rotational system, starting with District 1 and proceeding in numeric fashion one through five, conferring one-year mayoral terms on the council members. This was both logical and fair, she insisted, and made immediate sense now that the city had transitioned entirely to a by-district electoral system, such that Redlands citizenry would be guaranteed, on a geographical basis, equitable representation every five years.

Davis augmented her presentation with two further elements as part of the strategy. She had called upon a significant number of her supporters to lobby the city council both privately and pub-

licly to accept her mayoral rotation formula and she presented the idea as one which would undo more than a century of Caucasian male chauvinistic domination.

Redlands' history was replete with "backroom conversations" which inevitably led to "backroom deals" by which "rich White men" had "perpetuated the status quo" to "marginalize... women and minorities" while "suppress[ing] minority votes" to "prevent" anyone other than themselves "from assuming leadership roles," she charged. Her proposal, she said, would "guarantee minority representation and diverse leadership... rooted in equity." She saluted the city's shift to by-district elections in 2018, which she said was long overdue since it meant that each of the city's five "representatives are elected equally. Therefore, each should have an equal chance to serve as mayor and mayor pro tem." She said her proposal, with its one-year mayoral and mayoral pro tem terms instead of two-year terms would double the degree of diversity and fair distribution of the city's leadership.

Many observers noted that Davis had layered into the selection process she was proposing criteria calculated to give her the first opportunity to be mayor. As she represented District 1 and the rotation, as she originally proposed it, was to move in numerical order, she would be chosen. Simultaneously, she was proposing that the Redlands mayor pro tem be automatically promoted into the mayor's slot when the city's change of council officers took place. She was, at that point, the mayor pro tem.

Davis pointed out that in all of Redlands history there had only been three women mayors, but failed to note that the city had only had two Latino mayors and that her proposal as she was framing it would in all likelihood, if it were adopted, result in keeping the Hispanic Tejada from taking up the mayoral gavel as he

*Continued on Page 8*

**Public Notices**

FBN20240010185  
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

MS. SEXY BOSSLADY IN-DIGO 154 W. FOOTHILL BLVD SUIT A # 345 UPLAND, CA 91786: DEBRA A HUNT  
Business Mailing Address: 154 W. FOOTHILL BLVD SUIT A # 345 UPLAND, CA 91786

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: AUGUST 15, 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/ DEBRA A HUNT  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 11/05/2024

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 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 November 29 and December 6, 13 & 20, 2024.

**SUMMONS – (CITACION JUDICIAL)**

**CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO) 24PSCV02195**

**NOTICE TO ASHLEY BUSTAMONTE, AN INDIVIDUAL; AND DOES 1-100, inclusive**

**(AVISO DEMANDA-DO):**

**YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:**

**(LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):**

**THOMAS ANDREWS, an individual.**

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.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a

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statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CAL- ENDARIO 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 on 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, puede 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 poniendoso 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 direccion de la corte es):

POMONA COURTHOUS SOUTH 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA POMONA, CA 91766

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante es):

JASMINE MOTAZEDI, JM LAW FIRM, APC; 23586 CALABASAS RD., SUITE 204, CALABASAS, CA 91302, (818) 574-8186

DATE (Fecha): 17/08/2024  
Clerk (Secretario), by A. GREER

Published in the SBSC Rancho Cucamonga on: 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024.

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

**CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2427478**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: JANNAILE THOMAS filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: DARQUAN DREVON HANNAH JR to QUAN RASHAD THOMAS TRONE.

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any,

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

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: 01/29/2025, Time: 08:30 AM, Department: S33

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

Dated: 09/20/2024  
Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2024

FBN 20240010854  
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

MARGARITA KINGS 25791: RAUL TRUJILLO BRAVO  
Business Mailing Address: 27TH SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404

The business is conducted by: An Individual

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

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

/s/ RAUL TRUJILLO BRAVO, Owner  
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/02/2024

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 K4626

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 December 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2024.

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:**

**GARY ALLEN HARPER Case NO. PRO-VA2401004**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of GARY ALLEN HARPER A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Gemma Harper 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 ad-

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ministration 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., Gemma Harper 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 01/08/2025 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Blvd., 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 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.

Mathew Alden:  
255 N. D Street, Ste 200  
San Bernardino CA 92401  
Telephone No: 909-414-0797

Published in the SBSC Upland on: 12/13/2024, 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024

FBN 20240010409  
The following entity is doing business primarily in Riverside County as

DELAPAZ GLASS 13152 EDGEMONT ST. MORENO VALLEY, CA 92353: ADRIAN DE LA PAZ  
Business Mailing Address: 13152 EDGEMONT ST. MORENO VALLEY, CA 92353

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 informa-

**Public Notices**

tion on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

/s/ ADRIAN DE LA PAZ, Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 11/08/2024

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 J2522

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

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 13, 20, 27 & January 3, 2025.

FBN 20240010678  
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

VA COURIER SERVICES 6832 BLANCHARD AVE FONTANA, CA 92336: VA COURIER SERVICES, LLC 6832 BLANCHARD AVE FONTANA, CA 92336 -1539  
Business Mailing Address: 6832 BLANCHARD AVE FONTANA, CA 92336

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202464513365.

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/ ALYSIA CAMPBELL, Managing Member

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 11/20/2024

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 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 December 13, 20, 27 & January 3, 2025.

FBN 20240011268  
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

APEX ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS 11799 SEBASTIAN WAY, SUITE 103 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: MICHAEL SERGAH

Business Mailing Address: 11799 SEBASTIAN WAY, SUITE 103 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

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

By signing, I declare that

**Public Notices**

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

/s/ MICHAEL SERGAH

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/09/2024

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 J9965

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 December 13, 20, 27 & January 3, 2025.

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

**CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2434392**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: LIDIA GUZMAN-GUILLEN filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: LIDIA GUZMAN-GUILLEN to LIDIA GUZMAN

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

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: 01/21/17/2025, Time: 08:30 AM, Department: S37

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

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

Dated: 12/10/2024  
Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 13, 20, 27 & January 3, 2025.

**AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

**CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2433225**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Petitioner: AARON L BELCHER filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: AARON BELCHER to AARON EDWARDS.

**THE COURT ORDERS** that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated

**Public Notices**

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

Notice of Hearing:  
Date: 01/30/2025, Time: 09:00 AM, Department: S24

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

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

Dated: 12/13/2024  
Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 13, 20, 27 & January 3, 2025.

FBN 20240010088  
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

O.A.R. HANDY SERVICES 929 E FOOTHILL BLVD, SPACE 40 UPLAND, CA 91786: OSVALDO A REYNA  
Business Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 1574 UPLAND, CA 91785

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: October 20, 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/ OSVALDO A. REYNA, Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 11/1/2024

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 K4872

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 November 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2024. Corrected on December 13, 20, 27, 2024 & January 3, 2025.

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JIA JIA**

**CASE NO. PRO-VA2400909**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JIA JIA: A petition for probate has been filed by XIANXI MENG in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that XIANXI MENG be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests full authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow

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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 January 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at

San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District

Department F1 – Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335

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.

Dated: 11/20/2024

By: Valerie Campos, Deputy Court Clerk

Attorney for Xianxi Meng: ELIZABETH YANG, ESQUIRE

YANG LAW OFFICES

199 W. GARVEY AVENUE, Suite 201

MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754

(626) 360-0032 and (877) 492-6452

elizabeth@yanglawoffices.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on November 29 and December 20 & 27 2024 and January 3, 2025.

NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JIA JIA

CASE NO. PRO-VA2400909

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JIA JIA: a petition for probate has been filed by XIANXI MENG in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that XIANXI MENG be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests full authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to

Public Notices

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 January 29, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at

San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District

Department F1 – Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335

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.

Date: 11/20/2024

By: Valerie Campos, Deputy Court Clerk

Attorney for Xianxi Meng: ELIZABETH YANG, ESQUIRE

YANG LAW OFFICES

199 W. GARVEY AVENUE, Suite 201

MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754

(626) 360-0032 and (877) 492-6452

elizabeth@yanglawoffices.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on November 29 and December 20 & 27 2024 and January 3, 2025.

SUMMONS CROSS COMPLAINT – (CITACION JUDICIAL – CONTRADEMANDA)

CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO) CVRI2301609

Short Name Of Case: JESUS AVALO QUINTERO vs. MICHAEL MICHAELS

NOTICE TO CROSS-DEFENDANT

AVISO AL CONTRA-DEMANDADO

DARIO GONZALEZ, AN INDIVIDUAL; AND ROES I-20, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY CROSS-COMPLAINANT: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL CONTRADEMANDANTE):

GREEN ROOF DESIGNS, INC., a California corporation;

MICHAEL MICHAELS, an individual

NOTICE! You have been

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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](http://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.lawhelp-california.org](http://www.lawhelp-california.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.suacorte.ca.gov](http://www.suacorte.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, puede 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](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://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 re-

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cuperación da \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la 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): RIVERSIDE SUPERIOR COURT 4050 MAIN STREET RIVERSIDE, CA 92501 The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante es):

LAW OFFICES OF DAREN P. TRONE, APC 3838 ORANGE ST RIVERSIDE, CA 92501 (951) 686-2985 DATE (Fecha): 3/15/2024 Clerk (Secretario), by D. BROWN

Published in the SBCS Rancho Cucamonga on December 20 & 27, 2024 and January 3 & 10, 2025.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

CASE NUMBER CIV SB 2434925

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: RITA NASSER filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows: RITA NASSER to RITA RASHID

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

Notice of Hearing: Date: 01/28/17/2025, Time: 09:00 AM, Department: S24

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

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

Dated: 12/17/2024

Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 20 & 27, 2024 and January 3 & 10, 2025.

FBN 20240011136

The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

COMMISSION CHURCH 11376 5TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; CUCAMONGA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 11376 5TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Business Mailing Address: 11376 5TH STREET RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California under the number 1460077

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

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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/ JANELLE COLEMAN Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/06/2024

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 under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 20 & 27, 2024 and January 3 & 10, 2025.

FBN 20240011301

The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

THE IRON VAULT 290 N. BENSON AVE. STE 13 UPLAND, CA 91786; THE CUT SHOT COLLECTIVE, LLC [and] TIFANI McCLANAHAN 290 N. BENSON AVE. STE 13 UPLAND, CA 91786

Business Mailing Address: 290 N. BENSON AVE. STE 13 UPLAND, CA 91786

The business is conducted by: A JOINT VENTURE

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: NOVEMBER 27, 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/ TWILA KNIGHT POULIOT, General Partner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/10/2024

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 J9965

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 December 20 & 27, 2024 and January 3 & 10, 2025.

FBN 20240011144

The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as

WEST COAST GROWTH ADVISORS [and] WCGA: CARLY M PEPIN [and] AMARINDER S VIRK 26185 SKY RIDGE DRIVE TWIN PEAKS, CA 92391

Business Mailing Address: PO BOX 467 TWIN PEAKS, CA 92391

The business is conducted by: A MARRIED COUPLE

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: NOVEMBER 3, 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/ CARLY M PEPIN Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/08/2024

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 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 under federal,

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state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 20 & 27, 2024 and January 3 & 10, 2025.

FBN 20240010435

The following person is doing business as: JUNIPER STUDIOS 1353 W MILL ST SUITE 111PMB 101 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410; [MALING ADDRESS 1353 W MILL ST SUITE 111PMB 101 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92410]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ERIKA D GARCIA 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/ ERIKA D GARCIA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 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 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 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024 CNBB47202401MT

FBN 20240010401

The following person is doing business as: BANDA EL CORONEL 1123 E 25TH ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; [MALING ADDRESS 1123 E 25TH ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO EDGAR COVARRUBIAS

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: FEB 26, 2014

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

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 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 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 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024 CNBB47202402MT

FBN 20240010587

The following person is doing business as: CLEAR CHOICE ROOFING 208 AMBER CT HESPERIA, CA 92374; [MALING ADDRESS 208 AMBER CT HESPERIA, CA 92374]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO PAUL BATO, OWNER

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/ PAULL BATO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 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 state-

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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 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024 CNBB47202403MT

FBN 20240010549

The following person is doing business as: CP FORENSIC TAX & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES 5857 PINE AVENUE SUITE B CHINO HILLS, CA 91709; [MALING ADDRESS 5857 PINE AVENUE SUITE B CHINO HILLS, CA 91709]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO COURTNEY M. PETERO; MALIK CAMPBELL

The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. 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/ COURTNEY M. PETERO, GENERAL PARTNER

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 13, 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 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024 CNBB47202404MT

FBN 20240010225

The following person is doing business as: CRAMP PROPERTIES 1370 NORTH D STREET #109 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405; [MALING ADDRESS 1370 NORTH D STREET #109 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO CRAMP PROPERTIES, LLC 1370 NORTH D STREET #109 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405

STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 201409310216 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: APR 11, 2014

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

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 13, 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 11/29/2024, 12/06/2024, 12/13/2024 & 12/20/2024 CNBB47202405MT

FBN 20240010512

The following person is doing business as: SOCAL SOLAR DETAIL PROS. 515 GLENWOOD DR REDLANDS, CA 92373; [MALING ADDRESS 515 GLENWOOD DR REDLANDS, CA 92373]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO RYAN WORRELL

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: NOV 13, 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







Public Notices

FBN 20240010776 The following person is doing business as: LUCKY HOMES. 88 W NINTH STREET #31 UPLAND, CA 91786; MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 2193 ROSEMEAD, CA 91770; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SOLVE 888, LLC 8111 NEWMARK AVE 2193 ROSEMEAD CA 91770 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 201421110292 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: NOV 25, 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/ LISA CHAN, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 26, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202416MT

FBN 20240010777 The following person is doing business as: COMFY HOMES. 88 W NINTH STREET #31 UPLAND, CA 91786; MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 2193 ROSEMEAD, CA 91770; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO SPC 888 LLC 8111 NEWMARK AVE 2193 ROSEMEAD CA 91770 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 201421010230 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: NOV 25, 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/ LISA CHAN, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 26, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202417MT

FBN 20240011410 The following person is doing business as: CUSCATLAN TILE AND T. 211 W PARK ST ONTARIO, CA 91762; MAILING ADDRESS 655 N DUDLEY ST APT 7 POMONA, CA 91768; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO GABRIEL MARROQUIN 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/ GABRIEL MARROQUIN, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 13, 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

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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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202418MT

FBN 20240011528 The following person is doing business as: MC PALLETS. 3780 LA HACIENDA DRIVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; MAILING ADDRESS 3780 LA HACIENDA DRIVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MARIA E LIEVANOS MORENO 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/ MARIA E LIEVANOS MORENO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 17, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202419MT

FBN 20240011435 The following person is doing business as: MIRACLE MILE CAR WASH. 247 S E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401; MAILING ADDRESS 247 S E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO V&A INVESTING, LLC. 247 S E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 202463311637 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/ VAHEM MIRZAKHAN SAKI, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 13, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202420MT

FBN 20240011470 The following person is doing business as: JUAN PACHANGA NIGHTCLUB. 1380 E HIGHLAND AVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; MAILING ADDRESS 1380 E HIGHLAND AVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JUAN PACHANGA, INC. 1380 E HIGHLAND AVE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6134866 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares

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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/ JOHANNA A YEPES OVALLE, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 16, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202421MT

FBN 20240011438 The following person is doing business as: TURF NOVA. 10050 6TH ST STE K RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS 10050 6TH ST STE K RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO TURF NOVA, INC. 10050 6TH ST STE K RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6438658 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ VERONICA MORALES CORTEZ, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 13, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202422MT

FBN 20240011485 The following person is doing business as: LIGHT FILMS 706. 8561 LA GRANDE ST RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701; MAILING ADDRESS 8561 LA GRANDE ST RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ESPERANZA B MARTINEZ-MORALES, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 16, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202423MT

FBN 20240011484 The following person is doing business as: QUICK SNACK. 13044 ROSWELL AVE CHINO, CA 91710; MAILING ADDRESS 13044 RO-

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SWELL AVE CHINO, CA 91710; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO NORMAADALID ESCOBEDO RODRIGUEZ 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/ NORMAADALID ESCOBEDO RODRIGUEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 16, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202424MT

FBN 20240011488 The following person is doing business as: VAR CONSTRUCTION. 1026 E MESA DRIVE RIALTO, CA 92376; MAILING ADDRESS 1026 E MESA DRIVE RIALTO, CA 92376; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO VAR CONSTRUCTION, INC. 1026 E MESA DRIVE RIALTO CA 92376 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6487934 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ CARLA MARCO MARTINEZ, SECRETARY Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 16, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202425MT

FBN 20240011486 The following person is doing business as: LUXURY HAIR EXTENSIONS & SALON. 16049 BASELINE AVE #2 FONTANA, CA 92336; MAILING ADDRESS 16049 BASELINE AVE #2 FONTANA, CA 92336; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO EBONY L BECK 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/ EBONY L BECK, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 16, 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.,

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Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202426MT

FBN 20240011527 The following person is doing business as: UPLAND DENTAL CLINIC. 615 N BENSON AVE SUITE F UPLAND, CA 91786; MAILING ADDRESS 615 N BENSON AVE SUITE F UPLAND, CA 91786; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO HEMANT V PATEL 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/ HEMANT V PATEL, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 17, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202427MT

FBN 20240011208

Chino Hills Man Charged with Being A Communist Chinese Agent from page 5

The affidavit states that Sun is “the director of U.S. News Center, a purported media outlet he runs with Individual 1.” Sun’s LinkedIn profile identifies him as the director of U.S. News Center. Wang is the owner of U.S. News Center, according to the California Secretary of State’s office’s corporate licensing division. Wang is also the owner of the single family home in Chino Hills where Sun resides.

The affidavit states that during the campaign, Sun was in communication with Chen in conjunction with the effort to get Individual 1 elected. In the November 2022 election, Wang was elected to the Arcadia City Council. Shortly after the November 2022 election, Chen called upon Sun to put a report together on the election which was forwarded to Chinese government officials. Those Chinese officials were positively impressed and expressed thanks, according to the affidavit. Chen directly sent a message to Individual 1, according to the affidavit, telling her she was “doing a good job, I hope you can continue the good work, make Chinese people proud.”

In February 2023, Sun and Chen drafted another report to Communist Chinese government officials requesting \$80,000 to pay for further efforts to promote the People’s Republic of China and oppose “anti-China forces”

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The following person is doing business as: RE/MAX TIME COMMERCIAL. 10535 FOOTHILL BLVD STE 460 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS 10535 FOOTHILL BLVD STE 460 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO HOUSEKEY REAL ESTATE CORP. 10535 FOOTHILL BLVD STE #460 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 2955814 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ELVIS A ORTIZ-WAYLAND, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 06, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202428MT

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FBN 20240010899 The following person is doing business as: OUTSOURCE ADVANTAGE LAB 22545 BARTON RD STE 106 GRAND TERRACE CA 92313; MAILING ADDRESS 22400 BARTON RD 21-206 GRAND TERRACE CA 92313; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ROBERT YOUNG NWD LLC 22400 BARTON RD 21-206 GRAND TERRACE CA 92313 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION 202358911211 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/ MICHAEL J YOUNG, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 03, 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 12/20/2024, 12/27/2024, 01/03/2025, 01/10/2025 CNBBS1202429MT

in the United States. The affidavit states, “Neither Sun nor Chen has ever notified the Attorney General that he was acting, would be acting, or had acted as an agent of a foreign government or official.”

The charge of acting as an illegal agent of a foreign government carries a statutory maximum sentence of 10 years in federal prison. The charge of conspiracy to commit an offense against the United States carries a maximum statutory sentence of five years.

Assistant United States Attorney David Ryan, chief of the National Security Division, and Assistant United States Attorney Amanda Elbogen of the Terrorism and Export Crimes Section are prosecuting the case, with assistance from trial attorney Garrett Coyle of the Counterintelligence and Export Control Section in the Department of Justice’s National Security Division.

“The conduct alleged in this complaint is deeply concerning – the defendant is charged with acting on behalf of the People’s Republic of China to influence our political system,” said United States Attorney Martin Estrada. “We cannot permit hostile foreign powers to meddle in the governance of our country. My office and our law enforcement partners will continue to prioritize the security of our nation.”

“This case highlights the breadth of the PRC’s relentless intelligence and malign influence activities targeting the United

Continued on Page 15

## In November, The SB Council Broke Into Pro-Clayton And Pro-Carvalho Factions *from page 3*

evolution strategy for the largest city in the county. Montoya's regency was marred by the distrust that Councilwoman Calvin had toward him from the start and which she slowly infused into her council colleagues over the next six months.

Tran, like her predecessor, former Mayor John Valdivia, has discovered the stifling limitations of the 2016 city charter change, which took from San Bernardino's mayoral position the administrative authority that had been the mayor's purview under the 1905 San Bernardino Charter. As the mayoral post in San Bernardino was already one that had built-in political limitations even before the charter change and was given no further political authority under the 2016 San Bernardino Charter, Tran found herself trying to guide and lead the city when the only tools in her arsenal were her unfettered authority to place items on the city council agenda, ability to break a tie vote of the council, veto power on votes of 4-to-3 and 3-to-2, and her authority as the presiding officer at council meetings to control the ebb and flow of debate and discussion. Under normal circumstances, with the exception of matters involving the hiring and firing of the city manager, city attorney and city clerk, the mayor was not permitted to vote on matters decided by the city council. Thus, the mayoral prerogatives were greatly limited, and for a mayor to succeed in San Bernardino at present, the holder of the office needs either/and/or an uncommon level of charisma, charm or force of personality. Having spun her wheels for nearly two years as of this November, Tran examined the circumstance, concluding that to effectively govern and achieve a record of substance by the time she must stand

for reelection in 2026, she needed to recapture, by whatever means possible, the administrative authority that had been the province of past mayors. She came to an understanding with Clayton that upon Clayton being fully installed as city manager, the way would be cleared for Clayton to utilize her administrative authority to make it possible for the mayor to achieve as many of Tran's goals as there was practical time

Not firmly planted in either camp were Second Ward Councilwoman Sandra Ibarra, Third Ward Councilman Juan Figueroa, Fourth Ward Councilman Fred Shorett and Councilman Alexander. Tran's Plan A was to see if she could in some fashion or other persuade two among Ibarra, Figueroa, Shorett or Alexander that San Bernardino's near and mid-term future could best be secured by a coordinated and clear vision

dichotomy on the panel, signal relative favor toward Clayton. Second, if Carvalho could be removed from her role with the city, that would leave Clayton as the logical figurehead within the city's command echelon behind whom to unite. Tran scheduled a showdown with Carvalho for the November 22 city council meeting, at which she scheduled a vote of the council to terminate the city attorney. Knowing that she already had the

parliamentary procedure to prevent Mayor Tran from bringing the question of whether to terminate Carvalho to a vote that evening. In that way, Tran's effort to jettison Carvalho to prepare for Clayton's ascendancy failed. The meeting did, however, serve the purpose of giving an indication that Shorett's vote to promote Clayton would not be forthcoming if doing so meant that the city would need to end its arrangement with

was going to conduct a recruitment and competitive comparison of city manager applicants before filling that position, informed the council in the afternoon of December 4 before that night's council meeting that she would self-demote back into her deputy city manager post as soon as the council found another interim city manager. Clayton at the same time indicated she would apply for the city manager's post. Tacitly, Clayton was conveying that while she was indeed interested in becoming the city's long-term city manager, she was aware that if she competed for post and did not get it, there was no guarantee that she would be able to remain with the city as deputy manager. Indeed, if she was not hired as city manager, her role as interim or city manager would come to an end with the hiring of one of the other candidates. And the newly hired city manager, whoever that was, might not want to have as his or her chief assistant someone he or she had competed against – and outshone – to get the job.

But while Tran was taken aback by the developments, she was not daunted. She went to Plan B. As a consequence of public statements made by Flores and Ortiz, the mayor knew that both were in favor of conferring the fully-empowered city manager's post on Clayton. This, essentially, meant that the pre-December 18 and post-December 18 circumstances were identical in that Clayton had in her favor three solid votes in the form of Tran's and those of two of the members of the council, such that by waiting until after the new council was installed, Tran could effectuate Clayton's hiring by yet getting two more votes to promote her from among Ibarra, Figueroa, Shorett and Knaus. What was more, Knaus had publicly stated that she was looking forward to working cooperatively with the mayor and other members of the council and

## Letter To The Editor

I am writing to address a recent statement made of the San Bernardino Police Officers Association that was reported in your publication.

It has come to my attention that certain claims made of the association may contain inaccuracies that could mislead the public and affect community trust in law enforcement.

to pursue them.

A major complication existed in that both Reynoso and Calvin were to leave the council as of December 18 as a result of having been voted out of their positions during the 2024 election cycle, as was the case with Alexander. Tran thus found herself engaged in a full court press during November in which she was seeking to recreate at least five-eighths of the unanimous consensus that had existed on October 2 to offer Clayton a contract to serve as city manager.

The city council – which consists of what are essentially amateurs in the field of municipal operations – had by that point broken into what were essentially two camps. One of those – consisting of Reynoso and Calvin – would first look to Clayton for guidance and counsel with regard to the challenges facing the city and the policy or action to be taken in regard thereto. At the other extreme was Sanchez, who gravitated more often to turning to City Attorney Sonia Carvalho for direction.

These statements have significant implications, and it is essential that the information being disseminated is both accurate and fair. The San Bernardino Police Officers Association has endorsed Rochelle Clayton to become our next city manager with no promises of a better contract from her office. We have endorsed Rochelle Clayton due to her work ethic

with regard to the city's transformation from a political subdivision struggling to overcome its image of a municipality dogged by its 2012 bankruptcy declaration to one that is seriously engaged in creating a community dynamic of economic opportunity, and that the best hope to achieve that was to entrust Clayton with orchestrating a social, governmental and financial makeover. In executing upon Plan A, which would need to be effectuated on or before December 4, the last regularly scheduled city council meeting this month before the scheduled departures of Reynoso, Calvin and Alexander, the mayor hit upon the strategy of giving the council the opportunity to show Carvalho the door. Tran's aim in this regard was two-fold. It would test, indirectly, the sentiment on the council with regard to Clayton, since a willingness on the part of the council collectively or any individual council member singly to dispense with Carvalho would, given the Clayton/Carvalho

and her vision to make our city better. Rochelle Clayton has lived in our city for several years in the past and knows the city better than our previous city managers.

I urge you to consider the implications of these statements and the importance of ensuring that all claims are thoroughly fact-checked before publication. Transparency and accountability are

votes of Reynoso and Calvin lined up to ax Carvalho, Tran calculated that if she could find two more votes to do so, she could then turn her attention to the next regular city council meeting on December 4, at which she could then leap into the breach and attempt to get the council to hire Clayton as its long-term city manager.

As it would turn out, however, Carvalho maneuvered to place onto the November 22 agenda a council evaluation of her performance that was to take place in that meeting's closed session. This would give the city attorney an opportunity to say things to the council members in confidence and outside the scrutiny of the public. It is publicly unknown what deep secrets Carvalho, who was the deputy city attorney from 2018 to 2020 and who has been the city attorney since 2020, has knowledge of with regard to the city, its staff, the council and mayor. At the November 22 meeting, Councilman Sanchez, working in tandem with Councilman Shorett, repeatedly used

vital in maintaining the integrity of both the Police Officer Association and the media.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I believe it is crucial for our community to have access to reliable information that reflects the truth of the situation.

**Jose Loera**  
President

**San Bernardino Police Officers Association**

Carvalho and her firm, Best Best & Krieger. Tran further learned that evening that Alexander was not in favor of the city council of which he was then a member taking any action with regard to the future of either the city manager or the city attorney while he, Calvin and Reynoso were yet members. His position was that the reconstituted council that was to come into being on December 18 – which would have Kimberly Knaus in Reynoso's place, Mario Flores occupying Calvin's spot and Treasure Ortiz as his replacement – should be permitted to participate in the determination of who should hold the city's two most influential staff positions, since Knaus, Flores and Ortiz would be in the position of working with the city manager and city attorney over the next four years.

The failure to get Carvalho fired before the council changed three of its personnel on December 18 was a setback for both Tran and Clayton. In reaction, Clayton, anticipating that the city

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## Though She Went Right Down The Line With Her Male Mentor & Colleagues In Their Pro-Development Agenda, Davis Took Issue With Their Self-Assertion, In That It Thwarted Her Personal Ambition

*from page 6*

was about to just before she intervened with her mayoral succession proposal.

Tejeda, who under the existing and traditional system stood next in line to be mayor, objected to the imposition of her selection strategy with its implied favoritism toward distaff members at the exclusion of its agnate members as part of a deliberate strategy to undo what she implied were generations of inequity and a lack of diversity, one which would thus logically lead to her immediate selection as mayor and Tejeda's immediate exclusion from the top municipal leadership role. Tejeda's reaction provoked from her the observation that he "obviously had ambitions to be in a leadership role himself." In this way, she seemed to impute malevolence to Tejeda's ambition, while making no such association with her own.

Davis, having loaded the council chamber gallery with her supporters, pressed the council to accept the terms she was propounding. Sensing they were being stampeded, the council put off until the following month a decision on the mayoral succession.

In January 2021, Foster, Barich and Tejeda – feeling they were being demonized for being men and that a move was on to shame them into making Davis mayor simply because she was a woman – were cautious about how they should proceed, lest they learn too late that Davis was plotting to hatch a social media and publicity blitz depicting them as reactionary and bigoted misogynists which would not only damage them personally and politically but leave the city under a cloud. What did emerge through the confusion and rhetoric was that despite her spirited attack on the status quo and them, Davis had not cul-

tivated or even attempted to develop a mastery of the knowledge and skills normally involved in municipal operations and policy formulation. She had not made a study of city finances nor of the engineering issues faced by the public works division, nor staffing, equipment needed, operational and enforcement issues with regard to the police and fire departments and she had not even the vaguest interest or curiosity about what was taking place in the city's community development or planning divisions. For that reason alone, it was concluded either individually or separately by the three men on the council that Davis did not possess the necessities to be, nor merit the title of, mayor.

For Tejeda, Davis presented an even thornier problem. Like Davis, Tejeda is a Democrat, one with ambition toward higher office. In the March 2020 Primary Election, he had vied, unsuccessfully, for San Bernardino County Third District supervisor. He has contemplated runs for state legislative office, including assemblyman or state senator. He has not ruled out an eventual run for U.S. Congress. Antagonizing Davis, who is affiliated with and is indeed a darling of the most liberal element of the local Democratic Party, was not a move that would enhance whatever future electoral viability for higher office he has. Accordingly, he sought to avoid a direct showdown with Davis. In January 2021, despite Barich's misgivings about serving as mayor and the conflict it might have with his running his insurance agency, he went along with accepting that post. The council, by a 3-to-2 vote, with Davis and Guzman-Lowery dissenting, rejected adopting Davis's mayoral succession model, electing

to remain with the traditional system. When it came down to selecting who would serve as mayor for the duration of 2021 and 2022, Davis, who was nominated by Guzman-Lowery to serve as mayor, failed to take possession of the gavel when Foster, Barich and Tejeda voted against her. Tejeda's nomination of Barich was voted upon, at which point Davis recognizing her hopes of being mayor had been dashed for the next two years, joined with Foster, Barich and Tejeda in making Barich mayor. Tejeda was voted in as mayor pro tem.

In 2021, suspicions within the Redlands community with regard to Foster's connections to the development community had reached a fever pitch. Despite the perception that he was on the take, he did not desist in his militating on behalf of the development community. In July 2021, the city council considered a project that called for bulldozing more than six acres of 130-year-old orange trees on the 8.8-acre historic England Family Grove Estate to allow for the construction of 28 homes. After delaying more than four-and-a-half months, the city council, heavily influenced by Foster, voted unanimously to approve the project. The vote to remove the grove was something that, two decades previously, Foster as a preservationist would have opposed. In the run-up to the vote, however, Foster made a defense of himself and the philosophy he had since adopted, saying that despite his "sensitivity" to the city's preservationists' "passion, I have to weigh that against my belief in private property rights." Furthermore, Foster said, he felt those opposing development were engaging in illegitimate stall tactics by "finding a way to delay the project or delaying a decision." He and the council, Foster insisted, had "to look at the big picture. We cannot just be driven by emotion" and understood that "There are things more important than his-

toric preservation," one of which was economic development. Mature and responsible people understand the importance of not interrupting the march of progress, he said.

In September 2021, with indications that both state and federal investigators had interested themselves in the stridently pro-development stance of the city council and particularly Foster's central role in forming and maintaining that approach despite the intense resistance of a sizably active element of the community, Foster abruptly publicly announced that he would be departing from Redlands to move to Camano Island, located in the southeastern end of Puget Sound in Washington.

In December 2021, in what was one of Foster's last substantive acts as a member of the city council, he pressed the city council to take up the delayed vote with regard to the 28-unit residential development proposal on the England Grove Estate, despite the city having been challenged by attorney John McClendon with regard to inadequacies in the environmental clearance documents submitted in conjunction with the project application. Prompted by Foster, the city council unanimously approved the project.

The following month, Foster departed Redlands for Camano Island. The council appointed former City Councilman Mick Gallagher to serve out the remainder of Foster's term.

In the November 2022 election, which was conducted following the redrafting of Redlands' electoral map, Davis was handily reelected to represent District 1; Mario Saucedo, a member of the planning commission, was elected to represent the redrawn District 3; and Paul Barich was returned to the council, this time representing the redrafted District 5.

At the council's first meeting the following month, held on December 6, 2022, Saucedo was

sworn into office and Davis had placed on the agenda a discussion of the city's mayoral succession policy. She was again seeking to establish a one-year rotation of the city's council members into the mayoral post. She hoped that the council would adopt the policy, which called for numerically progressing up from District 1 in order to District 5 in designating the mayor and adopting having the council member in line to next be mayor serve as mayor pro tem prior to becoming mayor. By being less aggressive in forcing the issue and avoiding making inflammatory assertions that the city council had been and yet was a genderist institution, she hoped that the council might that evening adopt her proposal, setting in motion events that would see her accede to being mayor when the council was to meet on December 20 and select its officers. While the council discussed her proposal, it did not take any action on it that evening other than directing city staff to draft possible changes to the Redlands Municipal Code as it pertained to the selection of the mayor and mayor pro tem, which would come up for discussion at the following meeting.

City staff complied with that directive and brought such an item forth for the December 20, 2022 meeting, but scheduled that discussion for after the council was scheduled to vote on who would serve as mayor for the next two years. Davis knew she needed three votes to become mayor, which meant that she would need to cull one from Barich, Tejeda or Saucedo to add to her own and that of Guzman-Lowery. She had burned her bridges with Barich and Tejeda. She considered appealing to Saucedo for his support, but then analyzed the circumstance. Saucedo had worked as a Redlands municipal employee in the water, public works and parks divisions for three decades from 1988 to 2018. Despite what many considered to be a potential or real conflict

of interest, he had been appointed to the Redlands Housing Authority while he was yet working for the city. He had thus been welcomed into the fold long before he was appointed to the Redlands Planning Commission in February 2019, in which role he had gone consistently along with Foster's mayoral dictates to the planning commission for nearly three years.

What hopes she had of becoming mayor hung on getting the regimented mayoral rotation model she had proposed two years previously approved. But the vote on the process had been delayed until after the mayoral nomination and vote. Saucedo was a reliable member of the Redlands political establishment, she recognized, and she accepted that her ascension to the mayoral spot would need to be deferred again. When nominations for mayor were called for, Barich nominated Tejeda and Davis nominated Barich, who declined the nomination. There being no further nominations, Tejeda was declared mayor for the next two years.

Recognizing that her assuming the mayor pro tem post once again would, if her mayoral rotation model was accepted, put her into line to be the next mayor, Davis coveted getting that appointment. Guzman-Lowery obliged her in a gesture toward such an eventuality, nominating her to be mayor pro tem after Tejeda had nominated Barich for the vice mayor post. A vote was taken with regard to those nominations. Barich captured his own vote and those of Tejeda, Saucedo and Guzman-Lowery, with Davis voting no. Davis received her own vote and that of Guzman-Lowery, while Tejeda, Barich and Saucedo voted in opposition. Barich was declared mayor pro tem for the next two years.

Despite the vote putting Tejeda and Barich into the mayor and mayor pro tem slots through to December of 2024, the city council later in the

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## Davis Lining Dozens Of Her Supporters To Excoriate Tejada & The Other Men On The Council For Their Chauvinism Didn't Make Her Mayor *from page 13*

evening's proceedings took up Davis's proposed alternative method for the selection of the mayor and mayor pro tem. Davis explained that what she was calling for was a one-year seniority-based rotation with the most senior council member who had not already served as mayor becoming mayor, and the second most senior member serving as mayor pro tem. At the end of the one-year term, the mayor pro tem would then rotate into the role of mayor. An "opt-out" clause was included in the proposal to allow a council member to decline serving as mayor. The resolution authored by city staff that the council was to consider that night removed the previous language concerning the selection of mayor and mayor pro tem and the two-year length of their terms of office from the municipal code while substituting Davis's seniority-based one-year rotation.

Davis and Guzman-Lowery spoke in favor of the change, emphasizing that the prospective new methodology was designed to represent the districts equally and provide for inclusivity and diversity. Barich said he was not opposed to the rotation method in general, but wanted to retain the two-year mayoral term. Tejada said he was not convinced the rotation proposal would necessarily serve the city's best interests. He sought to assure Davis that she would ultimately become mayor if she were to abide by the standards that the council had long utilized. "I'm saying it right now in the open: I will personally nominate you in two years to be the mayor," he said to Davis.

Saucedo flatly indicated that he favored the current system that allowed for council members to determine who would fill the leadership roles for two years.

Five of Davis's supporters – Kathy Sadanala, Jenn Kim, John

Roach, Traci Lowenthal and Richard O'Donnell – spoke out in favor of the annual rotation method, saying it would promote equality, diversity and inclusion. Gail Howard and Andy Hoder opposed the strict rotational mandate, saying it emphasized the concepts of equality, diversity and inclusion to the exclusion of competence, expertise and possession of appropriate leadership skills in a post as important as the city's mayor.

The council carried out a lengthy dialogue, dwelling on the merits of a 2-year term versus a 1-year term, with some noting that a two-year term did not coincide with the existing election cycle nor provide a period during which the holder of the office would fully learn and settle into the duties assumed by the mayor. In reaching a consensus on accepting the specified rotation program, Tejada, Barich, Davis and Guzman-Lowery agreed to a compromise office-holding schedule keeping the two-year terms of office for the mayor and mayor pro tem. A motion by Davis, seconded by Tejada, to change Chapter 2.02 of the Redlands Municipal Code relating to the selection of the mayor and mayor pro tem and adopting an amended resolution to provide for the rotating schedule going into effect beginning in December 2024 and continuing thereafter every even numbered year passed by a vote of 4-to-1, with Saucedo dissenting.

To be fully effectuated, the revamped ordinance had to be given a second vote, referred to as a second reading. That took place on January 27, 2023.

In the November 5, 2024 election, Guzman-Lowery was defeated for reelection in District 4 by Marc Shaw, a member of the planning commission. In the gap between the election and this week's December

17 city council meeting there were indications that city officials had been rethinking the commitment to the rotational system approved with the December 2022 and January 2023 votes. On the agenda for the December 17, 2024 meeting was Item 3, "Discussion and possible action relating to... establishing the process for the selection of the mayor and mayor pro tempore and their respective terms of office and repealing [the rotational mayoral selection process]" to be followed by the "selection of mayor and mayor pro tem."

Even before the agenda for the December 17 meeting was posted, Davis and a number of her supporters cried foul. The city council was reneging on what it had offered the community in December 2022 and January 2023, they said.

While it was not yet established what the council majority's intent was and whether the council's four male members intended to change the rotational system simply to prevent having to rotate Davis into the mayoralty, it was widely circulated in the Redlands community that the last minute change was a baldly political move targeting Davis specifically that was aimed at keeping her from becoming mayor and lessening her chances at being elected to some higher office.

If the intention of the council and Mayor Tejada, who had personally requested that the rescission of rotational system be placed on the agenda, was to make a change to the process by reverting to the previous methodology of giving the council members the discretion to choose the mayor and mayor pro tem in any way they collectively saw fit and stay on track to honor Davis by using its recovered discretion to elevate her to mayor, that will not likely ever be known. Davis's acerbic reaction in which she reiterated all of the incendiary attacks on Redlands' male politicians that she had made in 2020 and then some recreated the tense atmosphere that existed

four years previously when she was denied the opportunity to serve as mayor.

She at once networked with her supporters in the community as well as in the Democratic Party in general and those in Emerge California to engage in a lobbying campaign to convince the council to stay the course that had been mapped out some two years previously. One element of that was to request her supporters to send emails to the city exhorting the council to maintain the rotational system and make her mayor. In doing so, Davis betrayed that she was the prime mover behind the email campaign when she collected all of the emails – 81 in total – that called for adhering to the rotation and making her mayor and re-emailed them to Redlands City Clerk Jeanne Donaldson to ensure that the city council got the message. Davis pointedly did not include in those re-emailings those that supported the city's return to the previous method of giving the council complete sway over who should be made mayor.

The language contained in more than two dozen of the emails was remarkably similar, leaving the impression that they were modeled upon a master letter.

The tone of many or even most of the emails supporting Davis did not, precisely, win friends among the council or positively influence them toward installing her as mayor.

The emails utilized the phrase "Do the right thing" and other wording calling upon the city council to "rightfully" act in urging that Davis be made mayor, implying or directly stating that any other outcome was "shady" or "lacked integrity."

"This council, based off some previous terrible decisions, is already on thin ice," warned Alycia Tornetta in an email.

"It is no surprise that now Councilwoman Davis is up for her mayor rotation, the other members of the boys club want to change the

process," wrote Ashley Killian. "As usual, Tejada never sticks to his word and works only for whoever is likely lining his pockets."

Doug Padilla demanded in his email that the council "Stop playing games," warning, "We are all watching."

Shana Higgins told the council that by denying Davis the opportunity to be mayor its members were "baldly misogynist."

Laura Roethe took issue with Tejada, blaming him for opposing Davis's ascendancy to mayor.

"The self-serving nature of his decision is absolutely evident, and I can only hope that his poor suggestion is rooted only in selfishness and not in misogyny," Roethe wrote.

Preventing Davis from becoming mayor, Adam Sipes wrote, "smacks of misogyny and marginalization."

Hannah Agon asserted that the effort to prevent Davis from becoming mayor "is transparently misogynistic, as the next person in line to be mayor is a woman."

Nooo Ichimura accused Tejada, Barich, Salceda and Shaw of being "sexist. It's quite embarrassing that male city council members are trying to silence female members."

Jill Sibler's email charged that Tejada is "driven by personal political gain" and was engaged in an unprincipled effort "to prevent council member Denise Davis her turn to be mayor per the 2022 agreement. Mr. Tejada's deviation from the historical norm to swear in the new mayor at the beginning of the council meeting and to instead open the meeting with discussion of a resolution he newly

introduced which changes the mayoral selection process and replaces the rotation process he affirmatively voted on in 2022 is a transparent strategy to deny the rightful appointment of Ms. Davis as mayor. Despite Mr. Tejada's previous declaration that he would support Ms. Davis' mayoral appointment, he now

seeks to oust her through his proposed resolution. Is it because Ms. Davis is a lesbian? Or because Mr. Tejada doesn't like her ideas for change or stance on issues he wants to enact? I suspect the die has been cast and the fix is in; that backroom politics are in play. I believe that Mr. Tejada has already conferred with some council members and the vote is now predetermined in favor of his resolution, the result being a mayor other than Ms. Davis."

Nancy Glenn wrote that "Proposing to keep the old method reeks of misogyny, homophobia, and a power-hungry grab."

In her email to the city council, Barbie Fiske-Phillips stated, "Many people including myself have lost confidence in local government. This resolution appears to be a completely blatant power grab by Mayor Tejada to prevent Denise Davis from becoming mayor. It stokes the growing sense among many of us that our city council functions through political maneuvering. The added appearance of 'the good ol' boys club' is apparent in Redlands politics and this is one more example of it."

Jessica VanOverbeke wrote that it was "very concerning to me that it seems like the motivation behind this move is possibly based on the fact that a woman and member of the LGBTQ community is next in line to be mayor."

Some oral statements made by several of the dozens of members of the public who came to the December 17 meeting and addressed the council during the public comment opportunity proved more scathing than the emails.

Jennifer Maravillas accused Tejada of breaking his promise to the community and of being loyal to the "southside rich folks on the countryside. You don't represent our full community. You've had plenty of opportunities to show us you're a decent, capable elected official. You failed us every single

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## Kloepfer Lost Patience With Prosecutors, Defense Attorneys, Police Officers, Defendants & Court Personnel Alike *from page 5*

frightening to think she represented their interests.

\* Castigating a court reporter in February 1983 for speaking without his permission when she asked a defendant, who was entering a guilty plea, to make his responses to the judge audible.

\* Rebuking a female criminal defendant during a pretrial in early 1984 when he attempted to assist him in the pronunciation of her name.

\* In open court during preparation for *People v. Leona Barnes*, on February 14, 1984 stating to attorney Joanne Nehmeh that she was not psychologically capable of putting on a trial.

\* During trial in the case of *People v. Dane Husted* in May of 1984 interrupting the testimony of defense witness Barbara Cooke, telling her not to say anything

and the “[f]irst rule is you keep your mouth closed.”

\* Denying defendant Kenneth Clark on February 21, 1985 the right to speak when he appeared for a misdemeanor pre-trial conference without his lawyer.

\* Issuing a \$5,000 warrant against defendant Judith Pearson on February 22, 1985 when her attorney appeared in court to be heard on a suppression motion relating to evidence to be presented against her with regard to a misdemeanor offense.

\* Issuing a bench warrant and forfeited Roger Park’s bail on September 16, 1985 after Park appeared in his court without his attorney, J. Brendan O’Neill, because O’Neill was that morning tied up in federal court on another case. After it was explained to Judge Kloepfer that Park was present in his courtroom, he still remanded the defendant to custody until the bail bond was reassumed.

\* Holding defendant Joseph Shepherd in contempt and putting him in jail for two days in

August 1984 after Shepherd, in response to being told he could not address the court, asked why.

\* Holding a woman, Lynn Cotterman, who was in his courtroom on January 8, 1985, in contempt, placing her in custody for two hours after she tripped while she was leaving the courtroom, hitting her knee on a bench and uttering a one-word expletive.

\* Threatening defendant William Saxe with contempt in October 1985 for whispering to his attorney during a hearing.

\* Telephoning the law office of Attorney Paul Abram on the afternoon of November 25, 1985 after Abram had filed a writ of mandate on behalf of this client, Linda Steed, seeking a review of Judge Kloepfer’s denial of a motion to strike a prior conviction. A peremptory writ was issued, which set an appearance date of November 26, 1985. In the call, Judge Kloepfer told Abram’s secretary that he took the writ as a personal affront, that he wasn’t going to stand for

it and that he would hold Abrams in contempt if he did not appear in court the following morning ready for trial.

\* Defying a writ of mandate granted by Judge Charles Bierschbach in April 1983 that he grant a continuance in the misdemeanor embezzlement case of *People v. Carol Bowman* after the prosecuting attorney, Deputy District Attorney Charles Blackwell, was called to the bedside of his ailing father and the substituting prosecutor, Deputy District Attorney Michael Martinez, was denied a continuance and sought, with the assistance of then-Supervising Deputy District Attorney Art McKinster, the writ. After a second writ was obtained, staying the proceedings, Judge Kloepfer was abusive to Martinez in front of the jury and angrily questioned McKinster as to why he had sought the writ. McKinster went on to become a Superior Court Judge and was later elevated to the appellate court.

\* In a series of cases, assessing attorney fees

against defendants, ordering that the money be taken out of previously posted bails. The orders were made without regard to the actual cost of services, without regard to defendants’ ability to pay, without notifying the defendants of their rights to a noticed hearing, without notifying the defendants of the rights they could assert at the hearings, and without notifying them of their rights to petition the court to modify or vacate its judgment against them.

In November 1989, the California Supreme Court, based on a recommendation from the Commission on Judicial Performance, removed Kloepfer from his municipal court judge position based on a determination that 25 of the 47 acts of misconduct alleged against him were true.

Kloepfer, represented by Elaine Grillo Canty of Upland-based Canty & Canty and Thomas C. Brayton of Pomona-based Jones, Mahoney & Brayton sought an en banc California Supreme Court rehearing

of the matter, but that request was denied on January 25, 1990.

Thus, the then-47-year-old Kloepfer’s hope of one day becoming a Superior Court judge died.

For many who lived in Rancho Cucamonga and its judicial district, their impression of the law and its forbidding nature was in some measure formed by Ken Kloepfer.

He handled some cases as an attorney thereafter, but eventually lost enthusiasm for the law both professionally and conceptually, though he remained somewhat engaged in politics and both national and international developments. He grew more interested in the simpler things of life, including raising dogs, tortoises and parrots.

He left earthly existence while in Upland on November 20, 2024, peacefully.

He is survived by his son, William, who was named after Ken Kloepfer’s father and grandfather, William Henry Kloepfer; and his daughter, Susannah.

-Mark Gutglueck

## Despite Setbacks, Positive Attitudes Toward Clayton Still Exist And Tran Wants To Convert That Into Her Promotion To Full City Manager Status *from page 12*

stood ready to engage in consensus-building for the betterment of San Bernardino. While that fell slightly short of an out-and-out endorsement of Clayton, it presaged a willingness to engage in a dialogue that the mayor considered to be promising. With the prospect of a fourth vote for Clayton in sight, it opened the way for those among Tran’s support network to approach Shorett, Figueroa and Ibarra to make the case for Clayton while simultaneously making the point that joining what was slowly coalescing into a ruling coalition on amicable terms with city management would offer them and their wards a definite advantage over being isolated as a single vote on a fragmented council. Indeed, representatives of the two police unions

and Beard approached council members, advocating on Clayton’s behalf.

Tran sought to lay the groundwork for Clayton’s hiring by the post-December 18 council by once again seeking, ahead of the installation of Knaus, Flores and Ortiz, to ease Carvalho out the door. At the December 4 council meeting, she placed on the agenda a closed session discussion of the dismissal of the city attorney and the appointment of an interim city attorney. Though she recognized that Sanchez, Shorett and Alexander would not be willing to terminate Carvalho, she was willing to explore whether Ibarra and Figueroa might be convinced that doing so would be in the best interest of the city.

The council ad-

joined into the closed session that night where, presumably, such a discussion ensued. Upon returning from the closed session, however, it was announced that no reportable action had been taken by the council.

Carvalho remained city attorney, but over the next week, as the countdown toward the December 18 changeover on the council proceeded, signals were exchanged, ones to which the public was not privy, but which nonetheless indicated to those in Tran’s camp that Clayton’s stock was rising. Word was that there was better than an even chance that Knaus would join with Tran, Flores and Ortiz to promote Clayton into the permanent city manager’s post and that among Ibarra, Figueroa and Shorett, there was a fair chance that one of the three would come through with a vote to back Clayton. Even more encouraging to Tran and Clayton, there

was a clearly discernible potential that once one among Ibarra, Figueroa and Shorett swung behind Tran on the Clayton issue, two and maybe all three would vote to elevate her, leaving Sanchez as the lone council member in opposition to her.

A tangible indication that something was up came when Clayton emailed the council with a “clarification” of what she had stated on December 4, when she more or less rescinded her self-demotion.

On December 18, the regularly-scheduled council meeting began with the seven members that have been in place since 2020, as the mayor and the community commemorated the service of Reynoso, Calvin and Alexander over the last four years. Thereafter, Knaus was sworn into office by Assemblyman James Ramos, Mario Flores was sworn in by Ernest Roney IV and Treasure Ortiz was sworn into of-

fice by Kimberly Calvin.

After those ceremonies were completed, Mayor Tran, using her authority as the council’s presiding officer, called for making a deviation from the standard seating arrangement on the dais that had Council Ward 1 through Ward 7 in numerical order situated left to right from the gallery’s perceptive with her between Ward 4 and Ward 5. Instead, the mayor rearranged the placement of the council, such that Councilwoman Ibarra was at the far left next to Councilwoman Knaus next to Councilman Sanchez

next to Councilwoman Ortiz next to Tran, next to Councilman Figueroa, next to Councilman Flores, with Councilman Shorett at the far right. She said this order would benefit the new members by placing them in proximity to the experienced members. “We have a rare opportunity as part of a transition of council,” Tran said. “As mayor and presiding officer of the council meetings, my primary goal is to help improve communication and help build consensus among the council. My goal, our goal, is to foster dialogue, collaboration  
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## Authorities Say They Will Stem Unauthorized Chinese Government Activity In This Country *from page 5*

States,” said Akil Davis, the assistant director in charge of the FBI’s Los Angeles Field Office. “The FBI will continue to use all the tools at its disposal to identify PRC intelligence operations,

disrupt PRC information laundering networks, and bring to justice those who seek to engage in criminal conspiracies to undermine the integrity of our elected officials.”

-Mark Guglueck

## Four-Fifths Of The Council - Men All - Rejected The Idea That Merely Being Elected To the Council Serves As Qualification To Be Mayor *from page 14*

time.”

Bruce Laycook said abandoning the mandated mayoral rotation was “divisive in nature” and “blatantly self-serving. The good ol’ boy network is not the way that you want to show your leadership in the city of Redlands.” He accused the council of making a “sexist decision” in passing Davis over. “It seems dishonest,” Laycook said.

Ross French asked, “What are the other members of the council so afraid of? Is Denise Davis that much of a threat to you, to your agenda, to the City of Redlands, that you feel the need to conduct this ham-handed charade in order to prevent her from serving as mayor?”

Tracy Lowenthal said, “Eddie Tejada is engaged in a power grab that undermines the integrity of our local leadership and the trust in our city council. His current attempt to block her rightful ascension is not only a betrayal of trust but a myopic and misogynistic maneuver that brings shame to our community, to you and your family.”

Germaine Miles accused Tejada of “misogynistic and fascistic maneuvering. You want to return to the completely nontransparent, backdoor deal-making, middle-school boys club.”

Patrick Mason accused Tejada of having said that as long as he was on the city council he would not allow Davis to be mayor.

In her remarks, Davis sought to dissuade the council from rescinding the rotational model she had successfully championed two years ago. Changing the mayoral appointment process, Davis said, was a misstep. “To abandon this policy now is not merely a question of fairness, it is a betrayal of the public trust. Leadership should not be concentrated in one person’s hands too long. My colleague who has held the role of mayor for the past two

years seemingly seeks to disrupt my turn to serve under the very system he benefited from. Changing the rules midgame sends the wrong message: that leadership positions are reserved for the most powerful, not for those who are willing to step up and serve when their time comes. It diminishes the very accountability this council is supposed to embody.”

Davis’s remark about Tejada having benefited from the mayoral rotational selection process and now seeking to deviate from it did not sit well with Tejada nor the others on council. Nearly four years previously, it was Tejada who had remarked that Davis had been the beneficiary of the council’s tradition of using its own discretion in appointing the mayor and mayor pro tem when she had been elevated, immediately after having been elected while she yet had no council experience, to the mayor pro tem post in 2018. In 2020, Davis had sought to cut in front of Tejada on the mayoral waiting list. While she had not succeeded in advancing to the mayoralty by that effort, it did result in Tejada being delayed from moving into the mayor’s slot for two years. Both her bid to be proclaimed mayor in 2020 and the accompanying proposal to change the mayoral selection process which she initially floated at that time and which the council, with the compromise substitution of a two-year term for Davis’s suggested one-year term which the council adopted almost two years ago, had flown in the face of tradition and the established order. Thus, to her four colleagues on the council earlier this week, Davis’s protests and those of her supporters that they were not honoring tradition and the established order were unconvincing.

Another element that played against Davis was the single dimension of the protest against depriving her of the oppor-

tunity to be mayor. Barich previously remarked that Davis was stacking the deck by having orchestrated the show of support for her proposal, his suggestion being that the show of outrage at jettisoning the mayoral rotation model was being staged by her and her supporters alone and was not a general manifestation across the entire community.

And, indeed, Davis’s support was not as deep as it might otherwise have been. Silent for the most part was the most civically active element of the Redlands community – the anti-growth/low-growth/controlled growth contingent of residents who have been at odds with the city council going back decades.

Davis had gone right down the line with, and continues to support, the other members of the city council in their unbending backing of real estate speculators, developers and the building industry, most particularly that portion of the building industry involved in residential development.

It was only within the last six months, on two votes relating to industrially-zoned warehouse/distribution facilities, one being the 357,510-square foot North Palisade Industrial

Commerce Center proposed by RP/NPP Redlands Industrial Owner, LLC at 1101 California Street on July 16 and Prologis Incorporated’s proposal to convert the former La-Z-Boy facility at 301 Tennessee Street into a 197,398 square foot distribution warehouse on November 19, that Davis, in conjunction with Guzman-Lowery, voted in a way that was substantially different from her colleagues with regard to land use decisions. Those break were isolated and temporary, precipitated by the opposition to warehouses expressed by the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, the Accelerated Neighborhood Climate Action Group and the San Bernardino County Young Democrats.

Davis remained and still remains at one with the remainder of the city council with regard to accepting the intensification of residential development in Redlands. Davis’s willingness to sign on with the political and social establishment in this regard ultimately deprived her of the assistance of a significant percentage of the Redlands population, which includes some sophisticated individuals who might have made the

show of support that she received from the progressive wing of the local Democratic Party on December 17 broader and more meaningful, perhaps taking things to a level that would not have allowed the council to withhold the key to the door of the mayor’s office at City Hall from her.

Saucedo said, “I don’t believe the rotating mayor system was good then and I still don’t believe it is today.” He said having a “rotating mayor diminishes the authority and effectiveness of the position. A rotating mayor often lacks the perceived legitimacy, leadership, strength needed to effectively represent the city. This can weaken the city’s position in negotiations with developers, litigants or unions where a strong consistent voice is essential. Reducing the mayor’s influence risks undermining of the collective strength of the council.”

Barich said, “I think people assume if we go away from the rotation that Denise is not going to be the mayor. You don’t know that. If we go back to selecting, I might nominate her.”

The council voted 4-to-1, with Davis dissenting, to rescind the mayoral rotation policy.

The council then

turned to selecting a mayor. Barich nominated Davis and Tejada nominated Saucedo. Barich and Davis voted to elevate Davis to the mayoral post, with Saucedo, Tejada and Shaw in opposition. Saucedo was then elected on a 4-to-1 vote, with Davis in opposition. Thereafter, Shaw was nominated to serve as mayor pro tem by Barich. No other nominations were made and Shaw was declared mayor pro tem.

Saucedo said, “I just want to [say] thank you to those that have the confidence in voting for me and I think that I will lead this city with integrity and collaboration and partnership to move this city forward for all residents of the city.”

Shaw said, “I appreciate the opportunity to serve.”

A handful of Redlands residents in the last three days repeated the observation made two years ago with regard to the irony that, had Davis gone along with making Tejada mayor in 2020, she very likely would have acceded to the mayoral position in 2022. The curse of her unfulfilled and vaulting ambition which overleaps itself, it was suggested, remains in place.

## The Day After The New Council Was In Place, Tran Took A Shot At Testing Whether Sufficient Votes To Promote Clayton Existed, Falling At Least One Short *from page 15*

and mentorship between our newly elected members and our more seasoned council members.”

Thereafter followed a relatively short, by the council’s standards, 37-minute and 28-second meeting which dealt with a public hearing on an updating of the city code with regard to accessory dwelling units and two quick items relating to the annexing of certain areas of the city into facilities maintenance districts and the levying of fees upon those properties. The council then voted on appointments of its members to various regional and governmental auxiliary and augmentation boards, which entailed substituting

Sanchez’s recommended list of appointments for Trans’. The council further voted to designate Figueroa as mayor pro tem, replacing Shorett.

The entire meeting played out in an atmosphere of goodwill and bonhomie, a far cry from what some expected, given that over the last two years Ortiz had been a recurrent critic of the council, that she was, in 2019 when she was a resident of District 3, Figueroa’s opponent for his council seat and in 2022 she was one of Trans’ opponents for mayor.

Striking while the iron was hot, Tran had previously scheduled a special closed session meeting of the council for the fol-

lowing morning at 11:15. To be discussed during that meeting were three items, listed as the appointment of the acting city manager, the appointment of the interim city manager and the appointment of the city manager, all of which pertained to Clayton.

While ratifying the contract of a city manager was not something that could take place at a specially-called meeting, what Tran was hoping to accomplish was to get a vote of the council replicating an approximation of what had occurred on October 2, when a consensus to hire Clayton was expressed.

On October 2, that consensus was unanimous. While Tran was realistic enough to recognize that unanimity was out of the question at this point, she still hoped she

could achieve majority direction to once again place Clayton’s contract on an upcoming agenda, potentially the council’s next regularly scheduled meeting on January 15, 2025.

The council convened at 11:17 a.m. on December 11, with both Councilwoman Ibarra and Councilman Flores absent. The council adjourned into its closed session at 11:21 a.m.

Upon returning from the closed session, Carvalho announced, “There is no reportable action on the closed session items this afternoon.”

Word emanating from those involved in city operations is that Tran is yet incubating a workable consensus that will keep Clayton as the city’s top administrator for the remainder of the 2020s.

-Mark Gutglueck