

San Bernardino County Cities Defy Statewide Pattern Of Obstructing Immigration Enforcement

With the close of 2025 approaching and after that the one-year mark of the Second Donald Trump Presidency, cities and local public officials in San Bernardino County continue to buck the trend among well over 100 cities throughout California that have proven hostile to the stepped-up federal immigration law enforcement.

Perhaps the major hallmark of Donald Trump's second go-round as the nation's chief executive has been the green light he has given the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Border Patrol, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the State Department, the Department of Enforcement, the U.S. Justice Department and the U.S. Department of Labor in preventing those from other coun-

tries coming into the United States without visas, work permits or being registered along with efforts to rounding up the more than 20 million illegal aliens already in the country. The administration's stated goal is to deport as many of those 20 million as possible by the end of Trump's current four-year term, to include as many of the 2.2 million undocumented aliens estimated to be in California.

On September 23, the Department of Homeland Security announced that in the eight months between Donald Trump's January 20 inauguration and September 20, two million illegal aliens had been removed from the country or had self-deported. Based on that statistic, the immigration enforcement effort was on a trajectory to deport 12 million by January 2029, when Trump is scheduled to leave office.

That projection, however, is based on the limitations on manpower and assets devoted to immigration enforcement that were in place when the current administration began. Since January, the federal government has beefed up the assets utilized by those various agencies in the mission to round up those in the country illegally. Moreover, the federal government late last spring initiated a recruitment effort to increase the number of Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE], Department of Homeland Security, Border Patrol, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Department of Enforcement agents. Based on the expansion in the number of agents and the federal government's overall enforcement capability, together with evolving detection and apprehension tactics, it is anticipated that

80 percent of President Trump's stated goal of removing 20 million illegal aliens from the country will be achieved during his second term in office.

A precept of the Trump Administration is that anyone who engages in a violation of the nation's immigration law is by definition a criminal. It further presumes that a substantial number, perhaps even a majority of the undocumented in the country are making use of social benefits to which they are not entitled, detracting from those available to American citizens.

The vast majority of the president's political opponents either do not consider the failure of foreign nationals to register their presence in the United States to be a crime or believe it to be a de minimus offense that does not merit an enforcement effort. They are adamantly opposed

to the federal government's enforcement of immigration law against anyone who does not qualify as a "violent offender."

Several California's cities, including its larger ones such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Oakland, and Sacramento have actively resisted the Trump Administration's immigration policies by filing lawsuits challenging federal action with regard to immigration law enforcement. They have declared themselves "sanctuary jurisdictions," passed local protective ordinances and organized, allowed and encouraged large-scale protests against immigration raids to take place. In addition, some of the state's major political leaders, including Governor Gavin Newsom, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, California Attorney General Rob Bonta and Los Angeles

Mayor Karen Bass have led, inspired or sponsored administrative, legislative and legal efforts to shield residents from aggressive federal enforcement action.

The American Civil Liberty Union and Public Counsel in July filed suit against Department of Homeland Security Director, the Department of Homeland Security and multiple federal agencies and offices on behalf of Pedro Vasquez Perdomo, Carlos Alexander Osorto, Isaac Antonio Villegas Molina, Jason Brian Gavidia and Jorge Luis Hernandez Viramontes which alleged the plaintiffs' rights were being violated by the Department of Homeland Security, ICE, the U.S. Border Patrol and the U.S. Office of Enforcement and Security when they conducted roving patrols and then detained those who appeared to fit the profile of an unregistered mi- See P 2

FPPC Hitting Adelanto Councilwoman With \$76,500 Campaign Fund Report Withholding Fine

Adelanto Councilwoman Stevevonna Evans is on a trajectory to be fined \$76,500 by the California Fair Political Practices Commission for having consistently failed to provide accounting for four of her political campaigns going back to her initial election to the city council in 2018.

In their report to the Fair Political Practices

Commission for Item 6 on the commission's November 20, 2025 meeting, Marissa Corona, the senior counsel to the commission, and Jay Gehres, the commission's special investigator, state that "Stevevonna Evans was a successful candidate for Adelanto City Council in the November 6, 2018 General Election, an unsuccessful candidate for

San Bernardino County Board of Supervisor in the March 3, 2020 Primary Election, an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor of Adelanto in the November 8, 2022 General Election, a successful candidate for Adelanto City Council in the November 5, 2024 General Election, and is currently in office as a member of the Adelanto City Council. Commit-

tee to Elect Stevevonna Evans 2018 Adelanto City Council (the "2018 Committee") was Evans' candidate-controlled committee during the November 6, 2018 General Election and Stevevonna Evans for Board of Supervisors 2020 (the "2020 Committee") was Evan's candidate-controlled committee during the March 3, 2020 Primary Election. Evans

did not establish a candidate-controlled committee for the November 8, 2022, and November 5, 2024 General Elections."

According to Corona and Gehres, Evans is being charged with 27 total counts of violating various sections of the California Government Code pertaining to accounting for both the money donated to her political war chests and expenditures

made from those campaign coffers in support of her electioneering efforts.

The Political Reform Act has been in place since 1974. It set standardized rules on how politicians in California can finance their campaigns for office and requirements with regard to transparency in terms of requiring disclosure of who and what See P 3

Supervisors Approve Two No-Bid Mental Health Services Contracts At A Cost Of \$22.5 Million

San Bernardino County this week entered into two separate no-bid contracts in a total amount exceeding \$22.5 million for the provision of psychiatric and mental health care for mentally disturbed county residents including criminal defendants who have been institutionalized in lieu of standing trial.

In response to a report and recommenda-

tion from Georgina Yoshioka, the director of the county's department of behavioral health, the board of supervisors on Tuesday December 16 unanimously approved entering into a \$17,803,500 contract with Helping Hearts Kern, LLC for enhanced adult residential facility services.

According to Yoshioka's report, which was

presented to the board of supervisors by the behavioral health department's assistant director, Jennifer Alsina, the expenditure of the \$17,803,500 will secure the services of Helping Hearts Kern, LLC for a period of not quite three months less than five years, running from December 16, 2025, through September 30, 2030.

Yoshioka and Alsina told the supervisors the will not come from the county's operational budget but will be funded by revenue made available through the State of California's Mental Health Services Act approved by California voters' passage of Proposition 63 in 2004, which called for setting aside money for mental health programs through

the imposition of an additional one percent tax on individual income in excess of one million dollars.

According to Yoshioka's report, "The department of behavioral health is responsible for providing mental health and substance use disorder services to county residents experiencing severe mental illness and/or substance use

disorder. Helping Hearts Kern, LLC is one of a select few state-licensed adult residential facility providers who provide specialty mental health services at the highest level of enhanced treatment. Clients are discharged from locked facilities such as state hospitals, detention centers, institutions for mental disease, Arrowhead Regional Medi- See P 3