

# The San Bernardino County

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

# Sentinel

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Friday, January 2, 2026 A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with Countywide News Service 10808 Foothill Blvd. Suite 160-446 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 (951) 567-1936

## Second Censure Action In Four Years Underscores Shifting Barstow Political Alliances

The Barstow City Council, which for just over five years has been afflicted with precipitously shifting alliances and seemingly unpredictably divisive developments among personnel changes, whipsawed the historic and quintessential railroad town toward further political dysfunction last month with a vote to censure its longest currently serving member.

Once a model of progressive-leaning governance, the City of Barstow is now competing with Yucaipa, Montclair and the County Seat and winning in the contest to claim the title of the most disjointed and poorly-informed decision-making panel heading local government in San Bernardino County.

At the Barstow City Council's December 16 meeting, Mayor Tim

Silva, Councilmen John Williams and James Noble and Councilwoman Carmen Hernandez voted to censure Councilwoman Barbara Rose, ostensibly for launching misdirected personal attacks on City Manager Rochelle Clayton.

That circumstance grew out of a series of unclearly-sourced and unverified social media postings which accused Barstow City Manager

Rochelle Clayton of failing to evince sufficient excitement over the Barstow High School football team's march toward capturing the CIF State Division 4AA championship and what was said to be her attempt at undermining support of the team the night of what was a crucial championship series game for the team.

The Barstow community was understandably

enthused over the Aztec's 2025 performance. The team dropped its first three games in August and September to Capistrano Valley, Serrano and Sagerstrom, but from September 12 onward convincingly defeated Sultana, Burroughs and Victor Valley, beat Silverado 24-to-17, and then trounced Granite Hills and Adelanto before meeting up with Serrano **See P 2**

## Federal Court Condemns State Policies, Laws & Rulings On Schools' Parental Notice

In a sharp rebuke to a coterie of California's most powerful politicians, a federal judge last month struck down California school policies that prevented teachers from informing the parents of their students' assumption of a gender identity at a variance with that assigned them as a consequence of their outward biology at birth.

U.S. District Judge Roger T. Benitez's 52-

page decision and order issued on December 22 declared so-called "parental exclusion policies," which predominate in California's schools and which have been embraced and touted by Governor Gavin Newsom, California Attorney General Rob Bonta, California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and with only three exceptions all Democrats in

the state legislature, to be unconstitutional and an inherent violation of parents' rights.

Judge Benitez's ruling further vindicated efforts by nearly a dozen school districts around the state, including two in San Bernardino County, which either questioned the practice of purposely leaving parents in the dark about the in-classroom/on-campus comportment of their

own children or explicitly mandated that parents be informed of their children's putative gender transition and were sued or sanctioned by state officials and state courts for doing so.

In entering his ruling in the case of Mirabelli et al. v. Olson et al., Judge Benitez granted a permanent injunction against state officials, ruling that the government and school officials

cannot supplant parents in raising their children and overseeing the medical treatment they receive.

In April 2023, Elizabeth Mirabelli and Lori Ann West, middle school teachers in the Escondido Union School District, together with a group of parents who were not identified by name, filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Cali-**See P 3**

## Court Ruling Setbacks On Military Assistance Of Immigration Enforcement Presages Strategy Change

In the aftermath of a series of recent court setbacks to the Donald Trump administration, the federal government has dropped its opposition to a court order returning control of National Guard troops in Los Angeles to California Governor Gavin Newsom.

In a terse filing with

the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday, U.S. Justice Department lawyers indicated they are no longer opposing the administrative stay of the State of California's request to ban the use of military forces in the enforcement of federal immigration law. The federal government will, for the

time being at least, withdraw its request to keep the state militia under federal control.

The federal government is now up against three federal court rulings which have seemingly ended the Trump Administration's ability to rely on back-up from military force when the agencies de- **See P 3**

## Rialto PD To Obtain County's Largest Drone Surveillance System

In what is to be the most extensive use of drones in a law enforcement context yet in San Bernardino County, the Rialto Police Department will be incorporating an unspecified number of the pilotless aerial vehicles into its operations over the next few months.

On November 25, the

Rialto City Council approved having the city enter into a nine-year, \$14.3 million augmentation contract with Axon Enterprise Inc., which is also known as TASER International, to increase an existing contract it had for supplying the police department with surveillance, video, information pro- **See P 3**

## Conversion Of 1982 Citybank Building To Redlands City Hall Cost Approaching \$40M

The Redlands City Council is venturing another \$16.1 million in taxpayer money toward converting the former Citibank building into a new City Hall.

The \$16.1 million in construction and professional service agreements it signed off on which are \$100,000 more than the \$16 million it appropriated in June 2021 to purchase

the six story structure, which was also formerly known as Citrus Center, located at 300 East State Street.

Since acquiring the building, erected in 1982, at what city officials said was below-market price, city officials in the community development and public works departments and the building and safety and planning divisions

have focused on the internal improvements to the building that will need to take place before the lion's share of city departments migrate from their current offices at 35 Cajon Street onto the various floors of the 92,000 square foot structure.

The city began renovations to the sixth floor in 2023 and was set to begin moving some of

fices into it that fall, but it has taken longer than expected to clear the existing tenants out than was anticipated. At that time, the city tentatively awarded a design contract on the conversion work to Miller Architectural Corporation and retained Tilden-Coil Constructors in 2024 to provide construction management services on the comprehensive con-

version project.

In January 2024, the city council unanimously supported a termination agreement with Citibank to allow the company to leave the 300 East State Street address and relocated to 333 Orange Street. The city is reimbursing Property One, LLC \$1,100,000 to facilitate tenant improvements for Citybank's **See P 3**

## Three Deaths Off The Devil's Backbone Spur Closure Of Mt. Baldy Trails

Three hikers, including two experience mountaineers from Central America, lost their lives on Mt. Baldy late last month, reportedly while they were attempting to cross the treacherous Devil's Backbone.

An unsuccessful effort by would-be rescuers on December 29 to reach a 19-year-old man who fell hundreds of feet down the icy mountain as he and a companion braved the winter conditions in an effort to reach the ?? highest peak in California led to the discovery of two others who, alas, had already met the same fate.

Arctic and worsening conditions on the wind-swept mountain have prompted the U.S. Forest Service to close the wilderness area and all approaches to the peak to the public indefinitely.

According to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, "On December 29, 2025, at about 11:30 a.m., personnel from the Sheriff's search and rescue team and the Fontana Sheriff's Station responded to a request to locate an injured 19-year-old male hiker near Devil's Backbone. The hiker reportedly fell approximately 500 feet. His friend and hiking companion hiked to an area with cellular service and provided GPS coordinates to assist rescuers."

The sheriff's department narrative continued, "Search and Rescue ground crews began their ascent while Sheriff's Air Rescue initiated an aerial search. During the aerial search, deputies located the injured hiker and lo- **See P 2**

## Federal Government Wanted And Was Anticipating Local Law Enforcement Assistance With Immigration Enforcement In California It Did Not Get *from front page*

voted to immigration control encounter rough sledding in the form of civil resistance when rounding up suspected illegal aliens. One of those rulings applies to California, one applies to Illinois and a third ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court relates to the Illinois matter but presumably applies across the board to all cases where President Trump had presumed he had the authority to use the National Guard to support federal law enforcement in situations where the nation's citizenry passively or even actively obstructs federal agents.

Immediately after Donald Trump's January 20, 2025 inauguration, his administration began gearing up for an aggressive enforcement of U.S. immigration law. That effort included Tom Homan, who had served as the director of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency during Donald Trump's first term in office and had been designated to act as his "border czar" during his second term in office, taking charge of the former agency he headed as well as ori-

enting himself with regard to all aspects of the function of the Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Administration, the Department of Enforcement and Removal Operations and the Department of Justice.

California, with its roughly 2.7 million undocumented foreigners within its confines, was a priority for the administration's intended immigration enforcement program, and Homan and others recognized that there would be strenuous resistance to their efforts in the most heavily populated and Democrat-leaning areas of the state such as Los Angeles and San Francisco counties. Consequently, they hoped to initiate the enforcement program in areas such as San Bernardino, Riverside, Amador, Santa Barbara and Tulare counties where they believed sheriffs Shannon Dicus, Chad Bianco,

Gary Redman, Bill Brown and Mike Boudreaux would provide federal agents with the necessary support to conduct sweeps on a massive scale. A show

of resolve and effectiveness in which approaching 300,000 unregistered aliens would be detained, processed and expelled from the country within three months would send a message that the Department of Homeland Security and ICE meant business and reduce the incidence of resistance, federal officials calculated, bolster the effort throughout the state and serve to convince a substantial number of illegal aliens to self-deport and accept government assistance in doing just that. However, Dicus and Bianco, the highest ranking law enforcement officials in the state's fifth and fourth most populous counties at a combined 4.5 million and some 127,681 undocumented foreigners and approximately 145,882 in their respective counties, indicated that they were unwilling to lend their deputies to an effort to round up those without federal permission to be in the country because they did not want to risk the Hispanic population in their jurisdictions discontinuing its cooperation with law enforcement. This stymied Homan and the Department of Immigration and Naturalization Enforcement, and the immigration effort in the Golden State, dubbed

When Homan and other Trump Administration officials launched Operation Alta California in April, they encountered obstruction and active resistance. In 2017, during the first Trump Administration, the California legislature passed into law and then-Governor Jerry Brown signed California Senate Bill 54, commonly known as the "California Values Act" which prevents state and local law enforcement

Operation Alta California, did not start in earnest until April.

Meanwhile, Homan and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency, the Border Patrol and the Department of Homeland Security initiated action in Texas, Florida, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Georgia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Washington, Virginia, Maryland, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Tennessee, Connecticut, Michigan and Ohio, which ranked as the states with the second through the nineteenth largest number of undocumented foreigners living within them. Less intense, what were referred to as "token" efforts were taking place in Oregon, Indiana, Utah, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Montana.

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Published in San Bernardino County.

The Sentinel's main office is located at 10788 Civic Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with  
Countywide News Service  
Mark Gutglueck, Publisher

**Call (951) 567-1936**  
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agencies from using their resources on behalf of federal immigration enforcement agencies. Senate Bill 54 was passed in response to Executive Order 13768, an initiative in the early stages of the first Trump Administration to neutralize the creation of sanctuary cities, a large number of which had cropped up in California, declaring themselves jurisdictions outside the reach of federal immigration authorities while simultaneously codifying ordinances, regulations and restrictions and creating policies that prevented public employees from assisting federal authorities in the deportation of illegal immigrants.

As Summer 2025 approached, intense resis-

tance to the federal government's immigration law enforcement was in full swing, most notably in California, Oregon and Illinois. The Trump Administration asserted, with some though not an overwhelming degree of evidence, that the resistance was organized and coordinated, aggressive and potentially or actually violent and dangerous. On June 7, over the objections of California Governor Gavin Newsom, President Trump called upon the California National Guard to assist with maintaining order as crowds of protesters and resisters began throwing rocks, bricks and bottles at ICE agents and overturning vehicles in Los

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## Barstow Civic Officials Had An Almost Juvenile Fixation On The Success Of Its High School Football Team *from front page*

for a rematch in the first round of the California Interscholastic Federation championship playoffs on November 7, revenging the earlier loss in the season with a 34-to-12 victory and advancing to the quarterfinals. The Aztecs then blew out La Canada 34-to-6 before embarrassing Palm Springs 28-to-7 and defeating Apple Valley 10-to-7 on November 28 to capture the CIF Southern Section Division 7 Championship. On December 5 Barstow beat Immanuel for

the CIF 4AA Southern California title and on December 12 beat Sutter 17-7 in a come-from-behind win to capture the CIF State Division 4AA championship.

Throughout the Aztecs' impressive run in which it proved to be the first high school from the High Desert to garner a state football championship, a frenzy over the team manifested, which included accolades from a number of community luminaries. Absent from those registering those congratulations was City Manager Rochelle Clayton, a relative newcomer to Barstow. Clayton, who worked for 17 years with the County of San Bernardino, as assistant city manager for the City of Menifee, deputy & interim city manager/administrative services

director for the City of Banning, had been functioning in the role of interim city manager of the City of San Bernardino for ten months when she was hired by Barstow to come in as city manager last March.

Clayton resides in home in the upscale Woodcrest District of Riverside and the terms of her employment contract with Barstow were negotiated with Mayor Tim Silva and Councilwoman Barbara Rose, who was then the city's mayor pro tem. There was concern among some at the time of Clayton's hiring that the 82-mile one way one-hour and 15-minute commute in light traffic or 164-mile two-hour-and-30-minute in light traffic round trip daily commute for Clayton from

her Riverside home to her workplace could prove taxing and might over time diminish her enthusiasm for the job as well as her performance. It was noted at the time that the annual gross base salary of \$274,000, up to \$39,171 in perquisites and pay add-ons and \$44,450.12 in benefits, or \$357,621.12 in total annual compensation she is receiving from Barstow is substantially less than the \$325,000 salary and \$452,313.36 total annual compensation she was on the brink of receiving from the City of San Bernardino upon what was anticipated to be her acceptance as that city's fully established city manager.

Both Silva and Rose, however, were confident that Clayton was a good fit for Barstow and that

she represented the best option available for finding a municipal management professional to succeed Willie Hopkins, whose departure in 2022 to move into the city manager position in Compton had resulted in the city substituting Police Chief Andrew Espinoza and Assistant City Manager Kody Tompkins into the interim post.

At some indeterminate point in the Summer of 2025, however, Rose had, for reasons that are not entirely clear, grown disenchanted with Clayton.

By October, as the Aztecs' fortunes were advancing and Clayton found herself fully engaged in the minutiae of planning, organizing, directing and controlling municipal operations in

Barstow, with little time or opportunity to focus on anything else, John Garner, the administrator of the Barstow Citizens Facebook Page, began making occasional negative posting about Clayton, noting her apparent indifference toward the Aztecs gridiron achievements and the manner in which Barstow head coach Clayton Leleimene was driving the team toward a historic outcome.

Well ahead of the Aztecs' accomplishments on the athletic field, the city had scheduled the annual Christmas Tree lighting at City Hall for 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on December 5. As it would turn out, the Aztecs' game for the CIF 4AA championship fell on December 5 after Barstow High

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## Redlands To Pay \$15.43M On Construction In City Hall Conversion *from front page*

move, clearing the way to do the City Hall conversion.

Of the \$16.1 million appropriated the renovation \$15.43 million is to cover 15 construction contracts including those involving concrete, masonry, steel, electrical, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, plumbing and interior walls and drywall. In addition, the council approved a \$533,315.95 contract with Western Audio Visual & Security to install

audio, video and broadcasting systems into the new council chambers. Hilltop Geotechnical, Inc. was awarded a

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\$180,000 contract to carry out inspections and tests on the construction.

According to the city, a bidding process was conducted, which attracted 80 bids from different providers.

An incomplete tally



## Drones Give Police Real Time Surveillance Advantages *from front page*

cessing and storage, software, and artificial intelligence technology. The package the city purchased, Axon's Officer Safety Plan 10 (OSP 10), includes making upgrades to the body-worn and in-car camera system that has long been deployed by the department, the company's next

generation of digital information storage and retrieval system, automated video analysis, license-plate readers and the Rialto Police Department's first Drone-as-First-Responder program.

While the Drone-as-First-Responder fleet is to consist of unmanned surveillance craft provided through the company's Axon Air division, the department already had in place three drones as part of the department's unmanned air-

craft system, which has been referred to by using the nomenclature "UAS Drone."

According to the department, it has in its inventory a single DJI Mavic 2 PRO remote-controlled aircraft, purchased at a cost of \$1,500, and two EVO 11 PRO remote-controlled aircraft, purchased for a total cost of \$3,750, which are "utilized to enhance the safety of the community and officers." Each of those drones, equipped

with video cameras, have come into use, according to the department, "when its view would assist officers or incident commanders with the following situations, which include but are not limited to 1) major collision investigations; 2) search for missing persons; 3) natural disaster management; 4) crime scene photography; 5) SWAT [special weapons and tactics] tactical or other public safety and life

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## Schools Throughout California Have Assisted Students Intent On Transitioning Their Gender To Do So Without Parental Knowledge Or Intervention *from front page*

fornia against the Escondido Union School District Board of Education, the California State Board of Education, the California Department of Education and State Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond over a district policy which required them to dissemble and outright mislead parents when they were faced with a situation in which stu-

dents have assumed a gender at a variance with their natural sex. The suit contended that California school districts, in accordance with guidance provided by the California Department of Education, forced teachers to deceive parents if a student requested to go by a new name or pronouns at school.

The lawsuit stated teachers were required

to use "any pronouns or a gender-specific name requested by the student during school, while reverting to biological pronouns and legal names when speaking with parents in order to actively hide information about their child's gender identity from them."

Mirabelli and West contended in the suit that their First Amendment rights were violated by the district in its requirement that they lie to parents.

In rendering his decision, Benitez traversed the state's contention that

students' privacy rights outweighed parents' entitlement to participating in the upbringing of their children and wrote that as a consequence of parental exclusion policies in general and the parental exclusion policy in place in the Escondido Union School District, "The state purposefully interferes with a parent's access to meaningful information about their child's gender identity choices. It is a grave mistake to deprive parents of information about their child's gender at

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Beach and freshman at Santa Clara University, who was visiting home for the holidays, according to a statement from his family.

After recover operations for the remaining two subjects were completed and their next-of-kin notified, they were identified as Juan Sarat Lopez, 37 of Guatemala, and Bayron Pedro Ramos Garvia, 36 of Guatemala

According to the San Bernardino County

Sheriff's Department, Lopez and Garvia were Guatemalan nationals who were recently living in Los Angeles.

Scaling to the top of 10,064 Mt. Baldy is a rite of passage for dedicated hikers in Southern California. And for two-thirds of the year, doing so presents no special problems to those in shape to make the trek. But during the winter and the first month of spring,

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## Philosophically Speaking

### Imagine One Religion



*"Imagine no countries. It isn't hard to do. Nothing to kill and die for. And no religion, too." –from John Lennon's song, "Imagine"*

### By Phill Courtney

Like many people, I've always appreciated the messages contained in John Lennon's seminal 1971 song, which was released just after I'd graduated from high school. In fact, it perfectly captured some of the feelings I'd had for some time, as it did for many other people as well.

Of course, we now know that this wasn't and still isn't a feeling shared by everyone, and, even today, the song—which some said insulted people of faith because of that line about "no religion"—remains controversial, with perhaps the most recent example of that being the ironic push-back it received after it was played at President Jimmy Carter's memorial in January of 2025.

Yes, ironic is the word because it was one of the favorite songs of a man, it could be argued, who was perhaps one of the most—if not the most, religious of our U.S. presidents, and certainly more so than the man who currently occupies the White House.

But, sadly, despite this song being played endlessly on the way to its status as one of the most iconic of the 20th century—heard at countless memorials and services for those who have died or were killed in various tragedies, including his own—I suspect that John Lennon would trade all the tributes to its "greatness" in exchange for far more people embracing Imagine's messages in a world still badly beset by blind allegiance to numerous and divisive fundamentalist religions, and to the malignancies of nationalism.

So, too, I suspect, would Martin Luther King, Jr., who would undoubtedly also trade all the speeches; the streets; the statues; as well as the holiday dedicated to his memory, in exchange for a world which actually listened to his words, and both remembered and then followed them.

For instance, through the years, many people, including King and his contemporaries, the African American writer James Baldwin, and the black Muslim activist, Malcolm X, have made this observation about our country: that the United States is never more segregated than it is on Sunday mornings.

That's when Americans all go off in different directions to one of our many places of worship such as churches; mosques; temples; synagogues; and the scads of other "sacred spaces" we can choose from. Of course, for many, this observation also applies to Saturdays as well, or any other day of the week for that matter.

And why is that? Well, beyond the fact that, by numbers, there are basically five major religions in the world: Christianity; Judaism; Buddhism; Islam; and Hinduism, it's also been estimated that there are possibly over 4,000 other religions and sub-groups, which helps to explain the array of options to choose from. For instance, within American Christianity itself, there are a plethora of churches to pick, many with its own claim that theirs is the "best" or "truest" form of Christianity.

Again: why is that? And again, we can attribute these divisions basically to the many conflicting claims made by various religious faiths which focus

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**Simple Scheduling Around High School Football Championship Game & Traditional Christmas Tree Lighting Undid The Barstow Community** *from page 2*

defeated Apple Valley on November 28. There were calls for the city to reschedule or postpone the Christmas Tree lighting, which was met with a slight degree of deference by Clayton, who called for initiating the annual Christmas season celebration one hour earlier than previously scheduled, changing it from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on December 5.

There were several sharply worded postings made to the Barstow Citizens Facebook Page about the city's and city management's lack of sensitivity to the significance of the Aztec's appearance in the championship game. Garner, with some degree of relish, it seemed, permitted the postings calling for city officials to postpone the tree lighting to dominate the site and then authored a piece that was critical of Clayton and questioned her commitment to Barstow.

Garner's posting grew considerable attention in the isolated desert town. He had launched the Barstow Citizens Facebook Page during the mayoralty of Paul Courtney and had used it as a forum from which he disseminated his view that Courtney was "corrupt" and, after Courtney opted against seeking reelection, used it during the 2024 political season to oppose those who in his words "were supported by the good ol' boy structure." Earlier this year he transitioned Barstow Citizens into what he maintained was intended to be an online community newspaper, one that was to be restricted, he said at that time, to upbeat news and positive things about the community. "I won't be attacking anyone or anything but reporting on the good people of Barstow and the 'good' things happening here

that either are important or of interest to us," he had vowed.

Thus, when Garner posted what was a editorial-article hybrid alleging Clayton was seeking to undermine the accomplishments of the Aztecs in having made it to the CIF championship game, city officials or most of them, were taken aback. Silva, Noble and Williams and to a lesser extent Hernandez grew concerned that there was a growing perception that Clayton, who serves at the pleasure of the council, has slighted the community. In exploring the matter, they came to the conclusion that Rose had been actively fueling some of the expressions of discontent over Clayton's apparent refusal to change the date of the Christmas Tree lighting.

All four, who take part in the executive sessions of the city council that take place outside the earshot and presence of the public behind closed doors during regularly scheduled city council meetings, were aware that Rose for some time has had misgivings over Clayton's stewardship of the city. In separate dialogues with Williams, Noble and Silva, Garner claimed to have taken his cue from Rose and that Rose had been undercutting Clayton, suggesting that the city manager was purposefully disregarding the historic accomplishments of the Aztecs. In this way, it became the perception of the mayor, Williams and Noble that Rose had used the Barstow Citizens Facebook Page as a cat's paw against Clayton.

Councilmen Williams and Noble requested that the city council at its December 16 meeting consider censuring Mayor Pro Tem Rose related to her conduct and consider imposing sanctions within the city council's power under the city's ethics code.

On December 16, after Mayor Silva, in a normally rotation move that is made every year, appointed Noble to the mayor pro tem position to succeed Rose, the council considered the

censure request.

The hearing was marred by Williams and Noble often or consistently and both Mayor Silva and Rose at times blurring the distinction between the concepts of censorship and an act of censure as well as mispronouncing the word "censure" – i.e., "sen(t)-shər" as "censor" – "sen(t)sər." Webster defines censor "to examine in order to suppress or delete anything considered objectionable" or "to suppress or delete as objectionable." Webster defines censure as "to formally reprimand someone."

Despite City Attorney Matthew Summers having laid out a definition of censure and the process by which it is carried out in a staff report that accompanied the agenda item requested by Williams and Noble, throughout the hearing on December 16, reference was made to "free speech," by which Rose suggested that her constitutional rights were being abridged, while Williams, Noble and even the mayor appeared focused on the concept of limiting speech.

At various times during the December 16 meeting as members of the council headed off on a tangent suggesting that what was being pursued was an effort to "censor" Rose, Summers, who was unwilling to cast a spotlight on the ignorance of his political masters, did nothing to refocus the proceedings toward the legitimate matter at hand, to ensure that what was being carried out was an official "censure" of Councilwoman Rose, i.e., making a condemnation of her action or behavior.

The censure of Rose was further tarnished by Williams, Noble and Silva relying upon their citations of Garner's renunciation of his own posting related to Clayton. All three framed the censure of Rose as stemming from Rose's efforts to disparage Clayton indirectly through the use of the Barstow Citizens website by having manipulated Garner

through the provision of false, inaccurate or misleading information. Nevertheless, Garner was not present at the December 16 meeting and there was no direct statements from him offered into the record upon which to base the council's action.

Rather, Williams, who was given the first opportunity to make the case for censuring Rose, implied that Garner's posting critical of the city manager had been formulated based upon misrepresentations Rose had made about Clayton to Garner.

At the December 16 meeting, Williams, a former assistant football coach at Barstow High, said, "I talked to Mr. Garner the day that message came out. I asked him, 'Why? Why would you do something like that? Why would you write something so vicious and go after the city manager? Explain to me the details of what went on. Explain to me that in eight months he hasn't heard from Councilwoman Rose, but at the last minute she made the phone call. What that discussion was was incredible. Going after the city manager and doing what Councilwoman Rose did was basically take the wind out of the city manager's sails."

Williams said that by proxy what Rose had done was to tell the community that Clayton "is not invested" in Barstow. "What is our public going to be saying to us?" Williams asked. "What is our staff looking at when we hear our city manager is not invested?"

He said Rose was engaging in "personal attacks" on Clayton that were "ridiculous. The city manager's been through too much. I'm not going to sit back and watch it happen."

Noble at the December 16 meeting said, "When I heard what had happened and it came from one of us, that's very disturbing."

Noble then alluded to the 2021 censure of Mayor Courtney.

"We went through

this a few years back with another council member," Noble said. "We had to go through the same process. This is not good. We got beat up pretty bad from you guys out there because we waited and waited so long before any action was done. I'm tired of waiting. We're not going to be waiting anymore. If we do something wrong, we should be held (sic) accountable."

Rose in seeking to convince her colleagues to desist in censuring her, said, "What Councilman Williams is stating is based on hearsay. It's my word against John Garner's word. Prior to any consideration of proposed censure, I state the following: John Garner authored the referenced article entirely on his own initiative. I did not direct, request, encourage, review or in any way influence him to write the article. I expressly disavow the article's content and any suggestion I supported, endorsed or approved it. I had no involvement in nor do I condone what he wrote and the harm and adverse effects that has been caused on our city manager."

Williams, without saying so directly, suggested that Rose was prevaricating, and that there was proof of as much, implying that Garner has recordings of his conversations with her.

Williams said the "bottom line was she made the phone call. She had an alternative (sic) motive for doing that."

Referring once again to the censure as a "censor," Williams assured the public the council was doing the right thing in taking action against Rose, even though the entire rationale for doing so might not be disclosed.

"You guys may not know everything going on behind back doors," Williams said. "You may not see it all."

Rose constructed her defense along the lines that she had herself made no disparaging remarks about Clayton and the pointed criticism of the city manager was con-

tained in what Garner had written and posted.

"The article was and conceived, written and published entirely on his own initiative and discretion," Rose said.

Rose said she had made "several phone calls [to see] whether city would consider rescheduling" the Christmas tree lighting. She suggested that those calls included exchanges with Clayton in which she was trying to make the rescheduling "if at all possible.. to help residents avoid having to choose between two important community commitments."

Rose indicated that Clayton was likewise "doing everything she could to accommodate the situation."

She was not behind the bad publicity that Clayton had been subjected to, Rose insisted.

"At no point during our exchange did I ask John Garner to write a disparaging article about the city manager, contrary to Councilman Williams' allegations," she said.

She sought to suggest that it was Williams rather than she who was responsible for the aspersions cast on Clayton.

She said it was Williams who in the past had attacked city employees, other community members, police officers and all of the sitting members of the city council, and that he was the one "sowing unnecessary division within our community."

Moreover, she pointed out, Garner is Williams' friend.

Mayor Silva in his remarks relating to the censure, repeated and enlarged upon a theme earlier articulated by Williams and hinted at by Noble, that the members of the city council were knowledgeable about the manner in which Rose was conducting herself behind the scenes, both at City Hall and within the community at large. Specifically, Silva intimated without marshaling definitive evidence, Rose is militating against Clayton and is gunning to

*Continued on Page 6*

## Encountering State Resistance, Trump Administration Grew Reliant On Supreme Court's Permissiveness In Carrying Out Its Immigration Enforcement Agenda *from page 2*

Angeles. Some 700 national guardsmen were dispatched to hotspots around Los Angeles. After a degree of back and forth, President Trump relented, instead sending over 700 Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines stationed at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms to specific locations in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange counties to "protect federal personnel and federal property in the greater Los Angeles area."

Subsequently, with the spectacle of Marines on patrol in the nation's second largest city sinking in on all concerned, the Marines 2nd Battalion was withdrawn and were replaced with 300 National Guardsmen.

After the American Civil Liberties Union and Public Counsel took up the cause of three immigrants, a single U.S. citizen and a dual U.S./Mexican citizen – Pedro Vasquez Perdomo, Carlos Alexander Osorio, Isaac Antonio Villegas Molina, Jason Brian Gavidia and Jorge Luis Hernandez Viramontes – who had been taken into custody by the Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in May, United States Judge for the Central District of California Maame Ewusi-Mensah Frimpong in July 2025 concluded that "masked" federal agents had erred and violated the constitutional rights of those they had arrested by utilizing their place of work, their presence in a particular place, their ethnicity or race, the type of work they were engaged in and their language or accent as the basis of probable cause to detain, question them and ultimately take them into custody. Judge Frimpong ruled that blanket detentions and/or arrests are illegal and that laws relating to specific crimes, such as violating immigration stat-

utes, cannot be applied broadly but must be applied against each defendant specifically, with a credible recitation of the crimes alleged to have been committed by the arrestee and the grounds for making the stop and the arrest. Judge Frimpong opined that the federal agents were engaging, essentially, in racial profiling by questioning those who were speaking a language other than English, engaging in "roving patrols" in areas where those government agents believed undocumented aliens might be present, patrolling places such as big box hardware store parking lots where day laborers congregated or raiding businesses where in the past undocumented foreigners were known to have been employed. She ordered that the federal officers desist in making the arrests based upon the criteria they were using.

Penultimately, when the Trump Administration appealed to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, the panel consisting of Justices Berzon, Sung and Gould upheld Judge Frimpong.

Ultimately, however, the U.S. Supreme Court on appeal in September ruled 6-to-3 rejected that federal officials were engaged in a "racist deportation scheme," accepting the Trump Administration's assertion that federal agents working in Southern California, where 71 percent of the illegal immigrants originated in Latin America, were not engaging in discriminatory behavior by considering the use of Spanish to be a criteria distinguishing undocumented aliens from the native population or concentrating their patrols in or around businesses which have a demonstrated prior history of employing or attracting individuals in the country illegally.

Meanwhile, as the California case was play-

ing out before Judge Frimpong, Justices Berzon, Sung and Gould and the Supreme Court, the intensity of the deportation effort was being focused elsewhere. Resistance on the streets of Portland in Oregon and in Chicago was proving to be as spirited as it had been in Los Angeles in June, which prompted the administration to revive the approach of utilizing the National Guard as a martial element in the immigration control program. In the case of Chicago, the federal government turned to the Illinois National Guard. Fresh from the federal victory in the Perdomo, et al case, the Trump Administration moved to send members of the California National Guard to quell the civil disturbances in Oregon.

Ongoing throughout the duration of the Trump Administration's reliance on the National Guard to shore up the immigration enforcement activities of several agencies in various locales across the country there have been multiple challenges of the president's authority to bring those state militias to bear. In virtually all of those cases, the federal use of the National Guard has continued, with motions to have them stand down pending the outcome of the litigation denied. Over the course of the first ten months of Donald Trump's second term as president, there developed a pattern of lower federal courts generally making findings or rulings favoring the state authorities in those states with Democrat leadership who have challenged the Trump Administration only to see the Supreme Court, with six of its nine current members having been appointed by Republican presidents, reversing the lower courts again and again in one to fast-track decision after another, reliably granting the administration's emergency appeals, consistently setting aside rulings from district judges or appeals panels that had held up the Trump Administration's programs.

On only a handful of decisions relating to immigration enforcement had the administration suffered setbacks. When the administration acted to quickly deport migrants with criminal records, who were tied to foreign criminal gangs or organizations or terrorist groups by labeling them "enemy aliens," the Supreme Court checked the administration, ruling that it had to provide those to be shown the nation's door with due process to give them an opportunity to challenge the accusations against them.

With the overwhelming number of checks in President Trump's win column before the Supreme Court with regard to immigration policy and defeats that could be counted on less than one hand, the administration's assumption that the president held sway over virtually every state governor in the union when it came to directing the use of National Guard Troop seemed sound. From late spring through the summer into the fall and into the winter, virtually everyone, including better than 40 of the country's 50 governors seemed to accept that no matter how much governors of the states whose military forces had been commandeered by President Trump howled in protest, the nation's chief executive had the authority to order the National Guard into Chicago and Portland and Los Angeles to ensure that his immigration policy is carried out.

After President Trump sent the National Guard to Chicago, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker objected and the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago sued the Trump Administration, asserting the federalization of the Illinois National Guard was illegal. In October, U.S. District Judge April Perry ruled in favor of Pritzker, Illinois and Chicago, finding that the federal government had greatly exaggerated the lawlessness in Chicago that it claimed justified making the deployments in the Windy City. The

Trump Administration's rationale for ordering the federalization and deployment of the National Guard within Illinois lacked credibility, Judge Perry said, and she issued a temporary order blocking the Trump administration from taking command of the National Guard.

In November, Judge Karin Immergut, a Trump appointee to the U.S. District Court in Oregon, sided with Democrat-controlled Oregon state government officials, including Governor Tina Kotek, who sued the Trump Adminis-

tration for mobilizing the National Guard to assist in immigration law enforcement in Portland. Judge Immergut stated, "[T]hese deployments, which were objected to by Oregon's governor and not requested by the federal officials in charge of protection of the ICE building, exceeded the President's authority" and violated both the 10th Amendment and Title 10, Section 12406 of the U.S. Code. She issued a temporary restraining order blocking the mobilization.

Subsequently, in California, U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer likewise ruled against the Trump Administration in a lawsuit brought by the Golden State's overwhelmingly Democrat-controlled state government, saying the president did not have the authority to federalize the California National Guard, and blocked its deployment to Los Angeles, directing that control of the state's military arm be returned to Governor Gavin Newsom.

Breyer also said the Trump administration was improperly and "effectively creating a national police force made up of state troops" by sending California National Guardsmen to assignments outside California, including Oregon and Illinois.

Despite the plethora of pending lawsuits within various federal courts asserting the president was overstepping his power and was violating the Constitution in mak-

ing use of state militias, no one was rushing off to Las Vegas to place money on the prospect that the administration was going to lose in any of those suits. Motions made in conjunction with both the California suit and the Oregon suit were held in abeyance while the Illinois suit and the decision by Judge Perry were being appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

On December 23, the Supreme Court left Judge Perry's ruling barring the Trump administration from deploying National Guard troops in Illinois in place. In a three-page unsigned order, by margin of 6-to-3, the justices turned down the government's request to put the temporary restraining order issued by Judge Perry on October 9 on hold while litigation continues in the lower courts. "At this preliminary stage," the court said, "the Government has failed to identify a source of authority that would allow the military to execute the laws in Illinois."

Three justices dissented from the order. Justice Samuel Alito, in a 16-page decision joined by Justice Clarence Thomas, wrote, "Whatever one may think about the current administration's enforcement of the immigration laws or the way ICE has conducted its operations, the protection of federal officers from potentially lethal attacks should not be thwarted."

Justice Neil Gorsuch appeared to side with justices Alito and Thomas on their position that the federal government's request was not unreasonable.

Although the dispute came to the Supreme Court in its preliminary stages, the case was an important test of the president's power to utilize federalized National Guard troops, which are normally controlled by the states, domestically where martial law has not been declared. President Donald Trump's decision to deploy National Guard troops to the Chicago area, an

*Continued on Page 14*

## The Current Barstow Political Landscape Grew Out Of Previous Warring Among Former Mayor And Evolving Council Fac- tions *from page 4*

remove her from the city manager's position.

Before the vote, in response to Silva's inquiry, Rose acknowledged she had an exchange with Garner on social media and then spoke with him on the phone.

Mayor Silva inquired as to what Rose's intention was in phoning Garner. She said that in calling Garner she had sought to "share with him the excitement of the football team. We were conversing back and forth, excited about the football team. That was my intent, to share with him the excitement about the football team."

Silva asked why Rose had not simply engaged in a dialogue with Garner relating to the community pride being generated by the team on the Barstow Citizens Facebook texting app instead of conversing with Garner by phone, which was done privately rather than publicly. Rose said the question was irrelevant and not germane to the issue.

Mayor Silva said, "I just want to state that the public doesn't know everything. Councilmember Rose has been attacking the city manager for at least six months. We at this dais know that. This was not her first attack. This lady [Clayton] is getting pressured to leave because of these attacks. Why don't I do anything about it? I have sat down with council member Rose. I have sat down and contacted Council Member Williams. You don't know everything, so don't presume that I have not thought to change actions up here. I mentioned Day 1 when I came up here that I would not allow anyone up here to attack staff. I called Mr. Garner. I wanted his side of the story. My questions to him were basically to find if these were his ideas that he posted or were these ideas given to him. His opinion, what he stated was given to

him. Yes, it's hearsay. Yes, we have to believe one or the other. I don't understand why Councilmember Rose doesn't understand my question. It's very clear. Why did it have to go to where it could not be documented when they had a conversation that could be documented? That's fact enough for me, right there. I trust Mr. Garner. I know Mr. Garner. It's just very suspicious to me. Again, Councilmember Rose has been after this city manager for at least six months, and you out there have not seen it. Us back here have. Our city manager got beat up on social media because of the actions of one person. This council cannot allow that."

The vote to censure Rose was made by Williams and seconded by Noble. The motion passed 4-to-0, with Rose abstaining.

The votes of Silva and Williams to censure Rose were emblematic of the shifting alliances that have dogged the council going back several years.

In 2020, Paul Courtney, a Barstow native who had found business success through operating a janitorial company, PACE Services Corporation and had enhanced his reputation by founding a nonprofit entrepreneurial resource center, ECBarstow, to help people graduate from high school, enroll in college or start their own business, made a dynamic rise to the top of the political hill in Barstow, a desert railroad town that was once key to San Bernardino County's establishment as not only the nation's largest county but one of its more dynamic ones in terms of mining, manufacturing, travel and logistics at the turn of the 19th to the 20th Century. The ninth of the county's 24 municipalities to incorporate, Barstow was at one point the county's fourth largest city in terms of population, but since

that time had fallen to become, at 23,857 residents, the 20th largest of the county's 24 cities and incorporated towns.

Courtney, had a few things going for him. He was the son of William Courtney, a one-time Barstow police officer and former city councilman. In addition to owning PACE Services and being involved in ECBarstow, he had served on the Barstow Fire Protection District Board of Trustees from 2005 to 2010 and he was active in the Barstow Chamber of Commerce. In the 2020 election, he challenged Mayor Julie Hackborth-McIntyre, a niece of one of Barstow's most successful entrepreneurs, Ed Hackborth, the co-founder of the Del Taco fast food chain.

Courtney ran in league with two other newcomers to Barstow municipal politics, Barbara Rose, a 13-year member of the Barstow Unified School District Board of Trustees, and Marilyn Dyer-Kruse, an employee of the development company owned by Michael Lewis, Barstow's elected treasurer since 2012 and one of Courtney's major political backers. The three campaigned together and became known to many in the city as the "Troika," appearing on billboards, mailers and fliers they put out in common.

An important element of Courtney's appeal to the city's voters was to belabor that the city was in what he said was a precarious financial state, while he simultaneously emphasized the need to ensure that funds generated by Measure Q, a one cent-per-dollar sales tax override put on the local ballot for the November 2018 election by the city council and approved by 59 percent of Barstow's voters, were responsibly utilized. Measure Q was intended to generate roughly \$7 million annually in local funding for ensuring the provision of local fire protection and paramedic services; providing police services, including neighborhood police patrols, crime prevention and investiga-

tions while squelching gang activity and drug-related crimes; maintaining streets and filling potholes; keeping parks in decent shape; reducing response times to 9-1-1 emergencies; and funding both senior and youth programs.

Courtney, and by extension Rose and Dyer-Kruse, were assisted in their electoral efforts by public statements occasionally made by members of the city's Measure Q Resident Oversight Committee suggesting that the Hackborth-McIntyre Administration was not applying the Measure Q money available to the city with alacrity.

Ultimately, Courtney prevailed in the election over Hackborth-McIntyre, while Dyer-Kruse ousted incumbent Councilwoman Carmen Hernandez in the city's District Four city council race and Rose prevailed in the District Three contest against her opponent Leonard Williams, ultimately replacing former Councilman Richard Harpole, who had resigned from his then at-large council position to move with his family to Texas in December 2019.

Almost immediately after being installed as members of the city council, the Troika in short order rendered the two existing members of the city council, Tim Silva, who had first been elected to the council in 2006, and James Noble, who had been elected to the city council in 2018, political irrelevancies, at least temporarily. One of the first moves of the newly-composed council was to rescind the 90-day period for the review of the performance of the city manager and city attorney, the two positions at the city hired directly by the council, reducing the review time to 30 days. Then, only 28 days after their triple swearing-in, the Troika, with Silva and Noble dissenting, moved to force City Manager Nikki Salas, a vestige of the Hackborth-McIntyre era, out of her position.

On January 8, as the

city council was on the verge of placing Salas on administrative leave and firing Assistant City Manager Cindy Prothro outright at the end of the business day, Prothro, seeing the writing on the wall, tendered her "involuntary voluntary" retirement immediately. As was planned, Salas was put on administrative leave by a vote of the city council. Eleven days later, during a closed-door meeting, the council voted 3-2, with council Tim Silva and James Noble in opposition, to accept Salas's official resignation.

In arriving at their agreement the previous year to work hard together to change the Barstow political landscape, Courtney and Rose had cut a deal that called for Rose to be installed as mayor pro tem, the de facto vice mayor position. With the support of Dyer-Kruse, that agreement was kept, and the mayor pro tem honor was conferred upon Rose, preparing the way, perhaps, for Rose to one day become the full-fledged mayor herself upon Courtney's equally potential move to assume higher political office. In the interim,

it was expected and anticipated that Rose and Dyer-Kruse were to be loyal members of Courtney's ruling council coalition, such that he was to be the prime mover at Barstow City Hall, the dominant figure in local government.

Shortly after Salas's firing, things gradually began to go bad between Courtney and Rose. Rose, a strong-willed woman, began to question some of the things Courtney, an Alpha type, wanted to do. After a few meetings, it went from Rose playing the devil's advocate and asking tough questions but still voting in line with Courtney to on occasion and then more often voting against his proposals. Within three months, they were on the outs with one another. The differences continued to escalate and things grew ugly. At that point, their political partnership was

over. Courtney decided he did not want Rose as his mayor pro tem, at which point he arranged to remove her from the post and elevate Councilman Noble to the position.

In his rush to depose Rose as mayor pro tem, Courtney cast caution to the wind and violated a basic protocol in California governance pertaining to the state's open public meeting law, known as the Ralph M. Brown Act, which requires that all governmental business and decision-making be conducted in public and that prior notice of that action must be given to the public at least 72 hours in advance on the agenda posted prior to official meetings before a vote can take place. The Brown Act further prohibits a quorum – a majority – of the members of a governmental decision-making body from discussing such action before the official public meeting.

In his zeal to remove Rose as mayor pro tem and then orchestrate her replacement with Noble, Courtney had private discussions with Noble, Dyer-Kruse and Councilman Silva at several junctures in April. Then, on May 3, 2021 despite the consideration that no explicit prior announcement of considering the removal of Rose as mayor pro tem was made in the agenda for that meeting, Courtney ushered the council into a discussion of doing just that, whereupon Rose, seeing what was coming, resigned from the vice-mayoral post. With Courtney and Silva sensing that proceeding further might result in Rose making a legal challenge to the action, they postponed promoting Noble to mayor that night. At its May 17 meeting, after properly placing on that evening's agenda an item which consisted of staff's recommendation to appoint Noble mayor pro tem, the council voted 4-to-1, with Rose dissenting, to designate Noble as the mayor pro tem.

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## When The Chino Unified School District Moved To Inform Parents If Their Children Were Reidentifying Their Gender, State Officials Opposed Them *from page 3*

school." Judge Benitez noted that the basis for preventing parents from learning about their children assumption of a variant gender identity was that parents of students exploring or assuming such a transition have malintent toward their children. "The problem," Benitez wrote, "is that the parent exclusion policies seem to presume that it is the parents that will be the harassers from whom students need to be protected." Judge Benitez said seeking to protect students was admirable, but that the state cannot make a blanket assumption that parents are a danger to their own children. Judge Benitez characterized as "laudable" the efforts by state officials to support and protect transgender students, but that achieving those goals cannot entail disregarding the constitutional rights of others, such as the First Amendment rights reserved for Mirabelli and West and the fundamental rights affirmed in the Supreme Court precedents of *Parham v. J.R.* and the *Mahmoud v. Taylor* establishing the parent-child relationship as older and more fundamental than the rights of the state and that parents rather than school administrators hold the "high duty" to recognize symptoms of illness or distress in their children.

"The state defendants are, in essence, asking this court to limit, and restrict a common-sense and legally sound description by the United States Supreme Court of parental rights," Benitez wrote. "That, this Court will not do."

According to Judge Benitez, the state and the California Department of Education, through its imposition of the principle of parental exclusion was engaging a what he termed a "trifecta of

harm." This extended to damaging children by cutting them off from parental support, hurting parents by usurping their rights to engage in decision-making pertaining to their offspring and harming teachers by compelling them to lie.

Judge Benitez referenced the ordeal of two of the parents who were plaintiffs in the suit and that of their child, who was previously a middle school student, identified together by the alias "Poe family." The student was, according to Judge Benitez, "socially transitioned" by school staff without the knowledge of his parents, who did not become aware of what had taken place until the student experienced a mental health crisis and psychological breakdown, which resulted in hospitalization.

Judge Benitez referenced expert testimony heard at trial which held that social transitioning is tantamount to "medical intervention." The judge said parents are entitled under the law to exercise oversight over their child's medical treatment. "Had the parents been unaware of their boy's new gender expression, the boy may have continued through his years mistakenly thinking he must be a girl," Judge Benitez wrote.

Judge Benitez analogized withholding from parents information about their children's assumed gender identity to educators failing to share students' physical injuries or other health-related concerns with parents.

"When it comes to a student's change in gender identity, California state policymakers apparently do not trust parents to do the right thing for their child," Judge Benitez stated.

The California Attorney General's Office, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond and members of the State Board of Education testified at trial that parental exclusion on balance was more beneficial than disclosing to parents information about their

children's efforts toward gender transition because it would provide a "safer environment" for those students. The state defendants maintained they had a duty to provide safe learning conditions for students and that "outing" students to their parents could lead to bullying, harassment and both physical, psychological and emotional abuse. Students, despite not having attained the age of majority under both state and federal law, the defendants argued, had privacy rights and were entitled to "bodily autonomy." Schools and school districts were bound to provide students with those protections and guarantees, according to the defendants.

The defendants disputed that honoring a student's choice of gender identity, name or pronoun constituted medical treatment but was a social nicety or courtesy that grew out of basic human decency.

According to Judge Benitez, the defendants were unable to cogently demonstrate how perpetuating parents' ignorance about their children's assumption of an altered gender represented a "narrowly tailored solution to a compelling state interest."

"Simply because the decision of a parent is not agreeable to a child or because it involves risks does not automatically transfer the power to make that decision from the parents to some agency or officer of the state," Judge Benitez stated, concluding, "Disagreement is not abuse, and the court so finds."

The decision in *Mirabelli et al. v. Olson et al.*, which was litigated in federal court, marks a significant deviation from the tenor of decisions reached in cases dealing with the same topic in state court.

Federal law supersedes state law. According to the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution, (Article VI, Clause 2), federal laws made pursuant to the Constitution are the "supreme law of the land," such that if a state law conflicts with a federal law, federal law will override the state law, a concept referred to as preemption. In *Mirabelli et al. v. Olson et al.*, Judge Benitez ruled that the parental exclusion policy in place at the Escondido Union School District, which is virtually indistinguishable from policies in hundreds of other school districts in California, violated the 14th Amendment's substantive due process clause and the First Amendment rights of religious parents and teachers.

Judge Benitez's order grants summary judgment in favor of the plaintiffs and issues a permanent injunction. This effectively prevents schools or school districts from stopping teachers from disclosing to parents the gender identity their children have adopted in a school or classroom setting or in any way punishing those teachers for doing so. It prevents schools from requiring that teachers or educators lie to parents.

The ruling applies to all public-school districts in California, eradicating the parental exclusion policies now in place in hundreds of school districts throughout California.

Judge Benitez's ruling in *Mirabelli et al. v. Olson et al.* carries with it not just the possibility but the likelihood that it will undo several decisions in state court and parallel policies, including ones impacting a San Bernardino County school district.

The Chino Valley Unified School District was the first district in California to pass a parent notification policy, having done so in a very real way at legal peril and expense to itself, suffering multiple setbacks in court when the State of California filed suit against it in state court and in main prevailed.

By 2022, the Chino Unified School District's high schools and middle schools, as was the case in virtually all high schools and middle schools/junior highs throughout California,

existed as a sanctuary campuses for students of what was traditionally considered to be alternative sexual orientations to openly indulge their sexual identities without fear of exposure outside of that setting. This included the provision of on-campus "change rooms" where students, who had departed from home wearing attire consistent with their birth gender could change into clothes associated with the opposite gender and throughout the school day maintain that sexual identity, then go to the change room to redon the clothes they had left home in and return to their familial setting, thereby preventing their parents from knowing or discovering the dual nature of their gender diversion. Instead of banning the changing rooms or preventing male students from assuming the guise of females while at school or disallowing girls to take on the outer representation of themselves as boys, the district in July 2023, on a 4-to-1 vote with board members Sonja Shaw, James Na, Andrew Cruz and Jon Monroe prevailing over Board Member Don Bridge, adopted a parental notification policy, whereby the district's teachers were required to inform parents within three days if one of their children assumed a gender identity different from the sexual identification they were given at birth and/or what appeared on his or her birth certificate.

That parental notification policy was groundbreaking, as the district was the first in the state to codify such a policy. In addition, the board majority, which is not shy about its beliefs and philosophy, openly adopted the policy, doing so with much fanfare. This brought, before the vote to adopt the policy was made, a letter from California Attorney General Rob Bonta, a letter of opposition in which he vowed to take action against the district if it adopted such a policy and attempted to enforce it. California Superintendent of Public

Instruction Tony Thurmond, concerned that Chino Valley Unified's action in this regard might touch off a contagious round of similar policy adoptions in districts throughout the state, flew down from Sacramento to lobby against the policy at the board meeting when the policy was voted upon. Both Bonta and Thurmond characterized the policy as one that was hostile to the interests of the transsexual community, and they emphasized that many transsexual youths have parents who would be unaccepting of their life choices and would potentially subject them to physical and psychological abuse if they learned that they had assumed a variant gender.

Despite the opposition, the board majority adopted the policy. A little more than a month later, just as the 2023-24 school year was about to get under way, Bonta, in his capacity as California attorney general, sued the Chino Valley Unified School District in an effort to prevent it from implementing the policy it had adopted, and stem the trend of other districts elsewhere in the state adopting similar policies. In filing that suit, Bonta characterized the policy as "destructive" and "downright dangerous," while asserting that the policy "puts transgender and gender nonconforming students in danger of imminent, irreparable harm from the consequences of forced disclosures" and that as a consequence of the school district action, such students were "under threat" and "in fear," facing "the risk of emotional, physical, and psychological harm from non-affirming or unaccepting parents or guardians." The policy, according to the attorney general "unlawfully discriminates against transgender and gender nonconforming students, subjecting them to disparate treatment, harassment, and abuse, mental, emotional, and physical."

Bonta asserted that the need to prevent *Continued on Page 15*

**The Unsophisticated Alpha Types Who Have Risen To The Top Of Barstow's Totem Pole Find Themselves In Constant Power Struggles With One Another** *from page 6*

From that point on, Rose and Courtney were at war.

Courtney, in league with Rose's brother, Frank Maestas, who is estranged from his councilwoman sister, worked to expose to the world, using correspondence generated or obtained by Maestas, to reveal to the world that Barbara, allegedly, had engaged in a multiplicity of fraudulent, indeed felonious, acts, including tax violations, by falsely claiming guardianship over their disabled sister and routing two of her sister's COVID crisis-related stimulus checks to herself.

In response to Courtney using information about Rose's family situation to malign her, Rose, in turn, alleged in a complain to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office that Courtney, in league with her council colleagues, violated the Brown Act in the move to remove her as mayor pro tem. Deputy District Attorney Phil Stemler carried out an investigation into the matter, determining that Courtney, Noble, Silva and Dyer-Kruse had violated the Brown Act by the holding of serial discussions relating to the removal of Rose and her replacement with Noble, discussions that were not agendized and which occurred privately and outside of a public forum. The district attorney's office elected to not carry out criminal prosecutions based on City Attorney Summers assurance that he would hold a training session for the council to ensure they had a better understanding of the Brown Act to be able to avoid violating it in the future.

As 2021 wore, a number of factors, which included Courtney's dictatorial manner, resulted in his losing control over the ruling council coalition – consisting of

himself, Dyer-Kruse and Noble – he had formed in the aftermath of his falling out with Rose.

After Salas was sacked, Courtney and the remainder of the council retained Jim Hart to serve as Barstow's interim city manager. Hart's previous career as a municipal official included an extended tenure as the City of Rancho Cucamonga's administrative services director followed by ten years as the city manager of Twentynine Palms, more than two years as the city manager of Rancho Santa Margarita and ten years as the city manager of Adelanto. Members of the council, reportedly including Noble, grew concerned at the way in which Courtney as mayor used his position of authority to suborn Hart, a well-traveled municipal executive, to his will.

Word began to spread that Courtney had a financial interest in actions being taken by the city council.

This week, during a scheduled council hearing to consider the call to censure Courtney, the sponsors of the censure, councilmembers Tim Silva and Barbara Rose, acted as the mayor's de facto prosecutors.

The council learned that Courtney was spending what was deemed "an inordinate amount of time" at City Hall "micromanaging" city operations, allegedly dictating to Hart action that Courtney insisted upon, despite the council not having discussed or voted upon those directions.

In time, councilmembers Tim Silva and Barbara Rose, surprisingly since Silva deeply resented the direction Rose had adopted for the city upon first coming into office, began to form a team that was intent on documenting what they characterized as Courtney's misdeeds. Those, they said, involved:

– Courtney using his weight as mayor and without bringing the matter before the council, to induce Hart to cancel a city contract with Main Street Murals Inc., a nonprofit corporation based in Barstow devoted to featuring artistic renditions along historic Route 66;

– The mayor forcing Hart, unbeknownst to the city council, to end the city's contract with a lobbying working on behalf of the city in Washington, D.C.;

– Without consulting with or a vote of the city council, Courtney having Hart allow a contract with the Harvey House, an historic train station in Downtown Barstow, to elapse;

– Hart, on repeated occasions, point blank denying that Courtney had threatened him in inducing him to take actions which were kept hidden from the remainder of the council;

– Courtney, in an effort to create the appearance that the city was making substantial economic progress during his tenure in office, generating fliers purported to have come from the city's finance department that falsely touted a set of positive financial criteria relating to the creation twenty new businesses in the city. The fliers, put together by Courtney and his political operatives and distributed throughout the Barstow community, utilized the city's logo and the names of city council members on the letterhead.

– Courtney utilizing his position as mayor and access that position gave him to obtain correspondence from Frank Maestas and then took action to distribute the information in an effort to inflict personal and political damage on Rose.

– Courtney threatening city employees other than Hart to induce them into carrying out actions not approved by the remainder of the council which benefited him politically.

In December 2021, Silva and Rose used

the charge sheet against Courtney to call upon staff to schedule a censure vote against the mayor.

During the meeting at which the censure question was discussed and voted upon, Silva insisted the case against Courtney was airtight, though he was somewhat secretive in the way he presented the charges against the mayor. While presumably, Courtney knew whom he threatened, Silva stopped short of documenting in public who that employee was. It was not clear why Silva did not make that disclosure.

"A Barstow employee was threatened by the mayor of their position if they did not do what he wanted," Silva said. Silva implied the threatened employee worked in the code enforcement division, although he was not explicit.

"He did make a decision that employee would not do their job," Silva said. "He did threaten a city employee with firing."

When questioned by Silva, Courtney denied intimidating city staff.

Silva summarized Courtney's transgressions as "abuse of official capacity" and the "gain of personal benefit from the misuse of government property."

Rose said Courtney was involved in "the misuse of tax dollars, the use of power to intimidate our staff. He is hurting our city and continues to put our city at risk."

After presenting their case and giving Courtney an opportunity to respond, the council voted 4-to-0, with Courtney abstaining, to rebuke him. Silva managed to take it beyond that, getting the city council, including Dyer-Kruse, who had been and remained one of Courtney's primary political associates, to follow up with a secondary motion to have an independent investigation into Courtney's action.

Thereafter, some nine months later, in September 2022, based upon the preliminary findings of

that internal investigation, the council voted to bar Courtney from having direct access with anyone at City Hall other than City Manager Willie Hopkins.

Though he remained as mayor and was yet eligible to participate in, vote and preside over council meetings, Courtney's privileges as an elected official at City Hall ended. His office was sealed off and his key and passcode disabled.

No authorized statement regarding that action has been publicly made, although a written statement was, according to an employee within the city manager's office, distributed to city employees.

Silva, who at that point had served 16 years on the council, did not seek reelection in 2022, and he was replaced as the city's District 1 representative on the council by Carmen Hernandez.

In 2024, neither Courtney nor Dyer-Kruse sought reelection. Silva made a political comeback in 2024, vying for mayor and winning against three other candidates, including Carmen Hernandez. He captured 42.37 percent of the vote. Rose successfully ran for reelection. John Williams, in a four-person race to replace Dyer-Kruse, won.

Rose and John Williams were supportive of each other during the 2024 elections season. Likewise, Silva and Rose came across as aligned, as it had been a relatively short time since both had been instrumental in torpedoing Courtney's political career, and many Barstow voters, both in the city generally and in Rose's District 3 had a clear recollection of, and associated the two of them with, the issues that chapter of the city's history involved. After their swearing-in following the 2024 election, Silva designated, and the remainder of the council confirmed, Rose as mayor pro tem.

As things stand now, all five of the council members have been

aligned with each other at one time or another and have been rivals. Carmen Hernandez and Tim Silva were members of the council together from 2012 to 2020 and cast hundreds of identical votes together in that time. Hernandez in 2024, ran, unsuccessfully, for Mayor when Silva was elected. Silva and Williams were of like mind with regard to censuring Rose. Williams, before coming into office was highly critical of Barstow government. Silva and Rose were on opposite sides of the vote to fire Salas in 2021. They were closely aligned in pursuing the investigations into Courtney, censuring him and bringing his political career to a close. They were on the same page earlier this year in the effort to hire Clayton as city manager. They came to loggerheads over the issues that led to Rose's censure last month. In 2024, Rose and Williams came across as mutually supportive of each others' electoral efforts.

Williams accused Rose of seeking to disparage Clayton and force her out as city manager in making his justification for her censure. Rose has accused Williams of sowing dissension within the Barstow community and has suggested that Garner's posted attacks on Clayton more likely originated with Williams rather than from her. Rose supported Dyer-Kruse in the 2020 election over Hernandez. Hernandez supported elevating Rose to the mayor pro tem position. Hernandez voted to censure Rose. Hernandez supported Williams and Nobles in their sponsorship of Rose's censure. Noble and Hernandez went in separate directions in early 2025 when the city jettisoned Andrew Espinoza as both police chief and acting city manager and did not keep him in his post as police chief.

Former Assistant City Manager Kody Tompkins, who left Barstow in September 2024 to take on the post of director of operations and maintenance at the Vic-Continued on Page 14

**Public Notices**

ORDER TO SHOW  
CAUSE FOR CHANGE  
OF NAME  
CASE NUMBER  
CIVSB 2534462  
TO ALL INTEREST-  
ED PERSONS: Petitioner  
COCO LI filed with this  
court for a decree changing  
names as follows:

COCO LI to XIU  
MIN LI

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 sched-  
uled to be heard and must ap-  
pear 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: January 22, 2026  
Time: 8:30 AM Department:  
S 30

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

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

Dated: 12/11/2025

Judge of the Superior  
Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa  
Eileen Ramos, Deputy  
Clerk of the Court

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on  
December 12, 19 & 26, 2025  
and January 2, 2026.

FBN 20250011396

The following entity is doing  
business primarily in San Bernar-  
dino County as

GLOBAL INVESTMENTS  
[and] GLOBAL WEALTH  
BUILDERS [and] COREWISE  
ACADEMY [and] CORNER-  
STONE GROUP [and] ASPIRIVI-  
SION [and] AFFLUENTOPIA  
4195 CHINO HILLS PARKWAY,  
SUITE E-420 CHINO HILLS,  
CA 91709; GLOBAL TRANSFOR-  
MATION INVESTMENTS, INC.  
4195 CHINO HILLS PARKWAY,  
SUITE E-420 CHINO HILLS, CA  
91709

Business Mailing Address:  
4195 CHINO HILLS PARKWAY,  
SUITE E-420 CHINO HILLS, CA  
91709

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

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

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

/s/ ALISHA CHEN, CEO

Statement filed with the Coun-  
ty Clerk of San Bernardino on:  
12/08/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K4616

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 au-  
thorize the use in this state of a ficti-  
tious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal,  
state, or common law (see Section  
14400 et seq., Business and Profes-  
sions Code).

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

**Public Notices**

ORDER TO SHOW  
CAUSE FOR CHANGE  
OF NAME  
CASE NUMBER  
CIVSB2534328

TO ALL INTEREST-  
ED PERSONS: Petitioner  
MONICA E VAZQUEZ  
MADRIGAL GARCIA filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

MONICA ELIZA-

**Public Notices**

BETH VAZQUEZ MAD-  
RIGAL GARCIA to  
MONICA ELIZABETH  
MADRIGAL GARCIA

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 sched-  
uled to be heard and must ap-  
pear 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: January 21, 2026,  
Time: 09:00 AM, Department:  
S34

/s/ CINDY O GONZALES,  
Partner

Statement filed with the Coun-  
ty Clerk of San Bernardino on:  
12/09/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K7325

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 au-  
thorize the use in this state of a ficti-  
tious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal,  
state, or common law (see Section  
14400 et seq., Business and Profes-  
sions Code).

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

FBN20250010358

The following entity is doing  
business primarily in San Bernar-  
dino County as

PROPERTIES OASIS 353  
PIONEER ROAD LAKE ARROW-  
HEAD, CA 92352: REGINA A.  
MUNOZ

Business Mailing Address:  
11660 CHURCH STREET #367  
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: February 27, 2025.

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 Re-  
cord upon filing.

/s/ REGINA A. MUNOZ,  
Owner

Statement filed with the Coun-  
ty Clerk of San Bernardino on:  
10/30/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K3379

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K9238

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K7325

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 au-  
thorize the use in this state of a ficti-  
tious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal,  
state, or common law (see Section  
14400 et seq., Business and Profes-  
sions Code).

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K4616

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  
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this statement does not of itself au-  
thorize the use in this state of a ficti-  
tious business name in violation of  
the rights of another under federal,  
state, or common law (see Section  
14400 et seq., Business and Profes-  
sions Code).

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

MONICA ELIZA-

**Public Notices**

ness and Professions Code).

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on  
December 19 & 26, 2025 and  
January 2 & 9, 2026.

FBN20250011083

The following entity is doing  
business primarily in San Bernar-  
dino County as

BALLERS CLUB BARBER-  
SHOP 15791 SNOWY PEAK LN  
FONTANA, CA 92336: JOSE DE  
JESUS ROSAS BAUTISTA [and]  
JOSE ROSAS VILLA 15791  
SNOWY PEAK LN FONTANA,  
CA 92336

Business Mailing Address:  
15791 SNOWY PEAK LN FON-  
TANA, CA 92336

The business is conducted by:  
AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to  
transact business under the fictitious  
business name or names listed  
above on: February 27, 2025.

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 Re-  
cord upon filing.

/s/ REGINA A. MUNOZ,  
Owner

Statement filed with the Coun-  
ty Clerk of San Bernardino on:  
10/30/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is  
a correct copy of the original state-  
ment on file in my office San Ber-  
nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K3379

Published in the San Ber-  
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12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

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nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K9238

Published in the San Ber-  
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12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

I hereby certify that this copy is  
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K7325

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nardino County Clerk By:/Deputy  
K7325

Published in the San Ber-  
nardino County Sentinel on December  
12, 19 & 26, 2025 and January 2,  
2026.

## Public Notices

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 recuperación 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 corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y la dirección de la corte es):

Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino  
247 West Third Street, San Bernardino California 92415  
San Bernardino Justice Center

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Keith Levey, Esq.  
SBN#262598  
Law Offices of Keith Levey  
23371 Mulholland Drive,  
PMB 392  
Woodland Hills, CA 91364  
(818) 812-4444

DATE (Fecha): 4/18/2025  
Clerk (Secretario), by Eric  
Rowe, Deputy (Adjunto)

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 26, 2025 and January 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

**SUMMONS – (CITACION JUDICIAL)**  
CASE NUMBER  
(NUMERO DEL CASO)  
CIVRS2503461

NOTICE TO  
EDUARDO HER-  
NANDEZ; and DOES 1  
THROUGH 50, INCLU-  
SIVE.

(AVISO DEMANDA-  
DO):

YOU ARE BEING  
SUED BY PLAINTIFF:  
(LO ESTA DEMAN-  
DANDO EL DEMAN-  
DANTE):

GILBERTO AN-  
DRADE

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](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

## Public Notices

may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.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 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 entreque una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://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 corta 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 corta lo 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 recuperación 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 corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y la dirección de la corte es):

San Bernardino County  
Superior Court  
8303 Haven Avenue  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA  
91730

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Robert A. Piering, Esq.  
SBN#166858  
Piering Law Firm  
775 University Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
T: (916) 446-1944  
F: (916) 446-1222  
DATE (Fecha): 5/22/2025  
Clerk (Secretario), by Sabrina Jamison, Deputy (Adjunto)

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on December 26, 2025 and January 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

## Public Notices

ary 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

FBN20250011947

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

ENLIGHTENED LEARNING CENTER [and] ENLIGHTENED CHINESE CULTURE CLUB 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: ENLIGHTENED LEGACY CENTER LLC 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Business Mailing Address: 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202566011815.

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/ MARIO A ARROYO,

Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/26/2025

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 K7326

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202566011815.

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/ YI HU, CEO

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/23/2025

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 K4616

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 26, 2025 and January 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

FBN20250011863

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

COSMOSCOPE 9431 HAVEN AVENUE SUITE 100 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: DIEGO RAMIREZ [and] CALON HIGGINS

Business Mailing Address: 10307 STRONG AVE WHITTIER, CA 90601

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/ DIEGO RAMIREZ, Partner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/19/2025

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 K8168

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/ GILBERTO ANDRADE

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/19/2025

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 K8168

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/ GILBERTO ANDRADE

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/22/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

## Public Notices

ary 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

FBN20250011947

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

ENLIGHTENED LEARNING CENTER [and] ENLIGHTENED CHINESE CULTURE CLUB 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730: ENLIGHTENED LEGACY CENTER LLC 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

Business Mailing Address: 10722 ARROW RTE 610 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202566011815.

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/ MARIO A ARROYO,

Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/26/2025

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 K7326

The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California under the number 202566011815.

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/ YI HU, CEO

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/23/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

## Public Notices

ment on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy K8168

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 26, 2025 and January 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

FBN 20250009924

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

I LUV THREADS 13980 VALLEY VIEW LANE CHINO HILLS, CA 91709: YVETTE H SCAMPERINO

Business Mailing Address: 13980 VALLEY VIEW LANE CHINO HILLS, 91709

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

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

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

/s/ YVETTE H SCAMPERINO

Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 10/17/2025

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

FBN20250011967

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

JYNX DESIGN STUDIOS

11250 RAMONA AVE SPC 510 MONTCLAIR, CA 91763: MANUEL A ARIAS

Business Mailing Address: 11250 RAMONA AVE

**Personals**

\$10,000 REWARD for information regarding girl born August 4, 2001 whose parents (actors) were lost in a theater collapse in Colorado, April 27, 2003. Thomas W. Campbell, Attorney-at-Law 15 Williams St. New York, NY

Civil Service Employee wants to rent suburban detached apartment, 4 or 5 bedrooms 2 baths, will pay cash for the right setting Alfred Willenstein Post Office Box 843 Sempleton, Wis.

PERSONAL Lance Corporal who saw shy governess in rickshaw on the streets of Hong Kong on March 14 would like to meet up with her again. Steve Duvery of St. Louis Missouri.

**Public Notices**

fornia, 91362 (818)991-4600. By: Rita Terzyan, Trustee Sale Officer. (TS# 2024-1860 SDI-36029)

Published in the SBCS on 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SUNANDA A. ABEYSEKERA**

CASE NO. P R O V A 2 5 0 1 0 0 0 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of SUNANDA A.

ABEYSEKERA: a petition for probate has been filed by SAHAN ABEYSEKERA in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION for Probate requests that SAHAN ABEYSEKERA 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 February 5, 2026 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 knowledge-

**Public Notices**

able in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Sahan Abeysekera: Mathew Alden (California Bar Number 288429) 255 North D Street Suite 200 San Bernardino, CA 92401 (909) 414-0797 mralden123@gmail.com Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 2, 9 & 16, 2026.

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FBN 20250011211 The following person is doing business as: BLESS FADES. 2939 DEL ROSA AVE STE 3 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404; [MAILING ADDRESS 2939 DEL ROSA AVE STE 3 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92404]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JOHNATAN BARRERA 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ JOHNATAN BARRERA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 2, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202503MT

FBN 20250011300 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #102. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 W ORANGESHOW #102, INC. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364497 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/ MIRIAM GONZALEZ, SECRETARY Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202503MT

FBN 20250011160 The following person is doing business as: CLEAR VIEW POOLS, INC. 5630 W. MISSION BLVD. ONTARIO, CA 91762; [MAILING ADDRESS 5630 W. MISSION BLVD. ONTARIO, CA 91762]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO CLEARVIEW POOLS, INC. 5630 W. MISSION BLVD. ONTARIO CA 91762 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 4712791 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ROBERTO PEREZ, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 02, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202504MT

FBN 20250011292 The following person is doing business as: ISG CONTRACTING, INC. 1123 GLENWOOD COURT SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92047; [MAILING ADDRESS 1123 GLENWOOD COURT SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92047]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ISG CONTRACTING, INC. 1123 GLENWOOD COURT SAN BERNARDINO CA 92407 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B2025036448 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or

**Public Notices**

FBN 20250011281 The following person is doing business as: 392 ARROWHEAD. 392 S. ARROWHEAD AVENUE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 392 S. ARROWHEAD AVENUE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 392 ARROWHEAD, INC. 392 S. ARROWHEAD AVENUE SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364486 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MIRIAM GONZALEZ, SECRETARY Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 4, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202507MT

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FBN 20250011211 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026 CNBB50202512MT

FBN 20250011298 The following person is doing business as: 236 ORANGESHOW #113. 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408; [MAILING ADDRESS 236 W ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 236 ORANGESHOW #113, INC. 236 ORANGESHOW ROAD UNIT 113 SAN BERNARDINO CA 92408 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250364504 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 becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GURSEWAK S. CHEEMA, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 04, 2025 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



## Public Notices

ment 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 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026 CNBB51202505MT

FBN 20250011632

The following person is doing business as: IRISH SEA MOSS. 9668 MILLIKEN AVE STE 104-253 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS 9668 MILLIKEN AVE STE 104-253 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO Z A I N A L A B I - DEEN A AL-OMRAN 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/ MELITA D CACHAPERO

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/ MELITA D CACHAPERO, OWNER

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 12, 2025 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 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026 CNBB51202508MT

FBN 2025001161 The following person is doing business as: FONTANA FAMILY MEDICAL URGENT CARE. 9717 SIERRA AVE FONTANA, CA 92335; MAILING ADDRESS 9717 SIERRA AVE FONTANA, CA 92335; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO FONTANA FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER, INC. 9717 SIERRA AVE FONTANA, CA 92335 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION B20250209409 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/ ZAINALABIDEEN A AL-OMRAN, OWNER

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 12, 2025 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 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026 CNBB51202506MT

FBN 20250011785 The following person is doing business as: BENSON LIQUOR & MARKET. 5685 RIVERSIDE DR STE H & J CHINO, CA 91710; MAILING ADDRESS 5685 RIVERSIDE DR STE H & J CHINO, CA 91710; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MG CHOAHAN BROTHERS INC 5685 RIVERSIDE DR STE H & J CHINO CA 91710 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: DEC 12, 2025 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/ MAUREEN N. AR-CENA, SECRETARY

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 02, 2025 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 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202501MT

FBN 20250010701 The following person is doing business as: ROOTER FLUSHERS PLUMBING & DRAINS; ROOTER FLUSHERS SEWER & DRAINS; ROOTER FLUSHERS HYDRO JETTING & PLUMBING; ROOTER FLUSHERS HYDRO JETTING SERVICES; ROOTER FLUSHERS & PLUMBING SERVICES; ROTER FLUSHERS PLUMBING & DRAINS TRENCHES; ROOTER FLUSHERS JETTING & DRAINS; ROOTER FLUSHERS DRAINS & HYDRO JETTING; ROOTER FLUSHERS 8162 FRANKLIN ST BUENA PARK, CA 90621; MAILING ADDRESS 8162 FRANKLIN ST BUENA PARK, CA 90621; COUNTY OF ORANGE ROOTER FLUSHER INC 8162 FRANKLIN ST BUENA PARK CA 90621 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 4823909 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/ MANINDER CHO-HAN, SECRETARY

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 17, 2025 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 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026 CNBB51202507MT

FBN 20250011620 The following person is doing business as: MARIA VICTORIA HOME CARE-A. 11523 PEMBROKE STREET LOMA LINDA, CA 92354; MAILING ADDRESS 11523 PEMBROKE STREET LOMA LINDA, CA 92354; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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/ IGNAIN PEREZ, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 14, 2025 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 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202504MT

FBN 20250011799 The following person is doing business as: HORN COLLISION WORK. 10937 S. CENTRAL AVE ONTARIO, CA 91762; MAILING ADDRESS 10937 S. CENTRAL AVE ONTARIO, CA 91762; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO LEANG D. HORN

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/ LEANG D. HORN, PRESIDENT Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 18, 2025 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 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202503MT

FBN 20250011913 The following person is doing business as: GALICIA'S ICE CREAM & MORE. 1819 N E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405; MAILING ADDRESS 1819 N E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MAROS O RUIZ GONZALEZ

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/ MAROS O RUIZ GONZALEZ, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 22, 2025 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

ment as: IT WORKS " YOUR SMALL BUSINESS BUDDY "I & HANDYMAN SERVICES. 5620 TAOS TRAIL YUCCA, CA 92284; MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 168 YUCCA VALLEY CA 92286; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO LARRY C CATALDO

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/ LARRY C CATALDO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 11/2025, 11/28/2025, 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025 CNBB47202503CV CORRECTION DATES 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202504MT

FBN 20250011914 The following person is doing business as: GALICIA'S WATER & ICE CREAM. 8922 BEECH AVE # F FONTANA, CA 92335; MAILING ADDRESS 8922 BEECH AVE # F FONTANA, CA 92335; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELSY E SALAMANCA

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 on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ SUSAN E FUENTES, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 26, 2025 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 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025 CNBB49202502MT CORRECTION DATES 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026

FBN 20250011915 The following person is doing business as: CALIFORNIA HARD MONEY LENDER. 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 7614 REDLANDS, CA 92373; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO CALIFORNIA HARD MONEY LENDER INC 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA

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/ ELSY E SALAMANCA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 22, 2025 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original state-

FBN 20250011916 The following person is doing business as: CALIFORNIA HARD MONEY LENDER. 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS 1819 N E ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO CALIFORNIA HARD MONEY LENDER INC 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA

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/ VIRGINIA JOHNSON, DIRECTOR Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 03, 2025 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 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025 CNBB49202505MT CORRECTION DATES 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026

FBN 20250011917 The following person is doing business as: MONTEREY MORTGAGE. 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730; MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 7614 REDLANDS, CA 92373; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO CALIFORNIA HARD MONEY LENDER INC 8608 UTICA AVE STE 220MM RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730 STATE OF INCORPORATION CA

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/ SUSAN E FUENTES, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: NOVEMBER 03, 2025 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 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025 CNBB49202505MT CORRECTION DATES 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026

FBN 20250011918 The following person is doing business as: PUMP CHECK. 24325 SHOSHONE ROAD APPLE VALLEY, CA 92307; MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 5646 RIVERSIDE, CA 92517; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JON R LEE

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JAN 01, 1999 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/ JON R LEE, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 19, 2025 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 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202501MT

FBN 20250011854 The following person is doing business as: MARIA VICTORIA HOME CARE-A. 11523 PEMBROKE STREET LOMA LINDA, CA 92354; MAILING ADDRESS 11523 PEMBROKE STREET LOMA LINDA, CA 92354; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

The following person is doing

business as: IT WORKS " YOUR SMALL BUSINESS BUDDY "I & HANDYMAN SERVICES. 5620 TAOS TRAIL YUCCA, CA 92284; MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 168 YUCCA VALLEY CA 92286; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO LARRY C CATALDO

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/ LARRY C CATALDO, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: DECEMBER 11/2025, 11/28/2025, 12/05/2025, 12/12/2025, 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025 CNBB47202503CV CORRECTION DATES 12/19/2025, 12/26/2025, 01/02/2026, 01/09/2026, 01/16/2026, 01/23/2026 CNBB1202504MT

FBN 20250011919 The following person is doing business as: GALICIA'S WATER & ICE CREAM. 8922 BEECH AVE # F FONTANA, CA 92335; MAILING ADDRESS 8922 BEECH AVE # F FONTANA, CA 92335; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELSY E SAL

## Rialto PD Dismisses Civil Liberty Concerns Over Drones

*from page 3*

preservation missions; 6) in response to specific requests from local, state or federal fire authorities for fire response and/or prevention."

In November, the city council moved to appropriate the \$14.3 million to enter into the deal with Axon Enterprise Inc. under the belief that by doing so at that time it could lock in contract pricing at a lower rate than is available to other law enforcement departments presently or what will be available in the future, to ensure service continuity and reduce administrative costs.

The agreement was adopted as part of a 2025-26 budget amendment, done in the middle of the municipal fiscal year.

The Rialto Police Department has a "special" relationship with Axon. In 2012, when the company had made speculative investments in developing what was then largely untested bodyworn cameras intended for law enforcement officers, the Rialto Police Department agreed to enter into a "pilot program" in which the department's officers were outfitted with the devices. This was done despite what at that time was widespread resistance by police unions and police officer benevolent associations which were expressing doubts or opposition to body cameras, in particular concerns about possible distraction, officer safety issues and whether footage obtained from body cameras would become accessible by members of the public for use in legal proceedings against individual officers and departments and whether expenditures on camera systems would detract from other elements within a police department budget. As a result of an impact assessment, based on a study of 54 Rialto police officers wearing body cameras during the pilot program, an 88 percent decline in civilian complaints against officers and a 59 percent reduction in use of force

by the officers involved was demonstrated. This was partially responsible for the widespread acceptance of the body-worn cameras in policing and the Axon's crossover from a marginal company to one that was hugely profitable.

According to the Rialto Police Department, its use of Axon's artificial intelligence-driven policing assistance suite has already enhanced the effectiveness of the department and the deal it has entered into with Axon for the equipment and services it will supply going forward will ensure the department's officers have access to the most up-to-date tools available to shorten response times and improve crime prevention, criminal apprehension and investigation.

According to the city, the commitment of the \$14.3 million to Axon now will pay dividends into the future for Rialto's residents.

It was noted that the city's FUSUS system, which unifies incoming data from Rialto businesses' security systems and cameras along with the bodyworn camera videos and police reports is an Axon product.

Though few dispute that the Axon systems will be of assistance with the police department's law enforcement efforts, there are those who have concerns that the creation of data bases into which is repositioned a substantial amount of data and information with regard to innocent citizenry who are in no way involved in criminal activity gleaned from officers' bodyworn cameras, security cameras, license plate readers, records of financial transactions, victim statements, witness statements, field interrogations, investigative reports, passers-by and bystander summaries and the like, all of which is subject to meta evaluations and being processed through artificial intelligence analogs and algorithms represents privacy and Fourth Amendment unreasonable search violations. Civil libertarians have expressed reservations about allowing a company such as Axon

to not only have access to such data but evaluate it so as to render a judgment about a citizen's potential or probable innocence, guilt or status as a suspect, from which law enforcement officers or a judge would extrapolate a conclusion as to probable cause to arrest and individual, search premises or seize "evidence," which upon examination would prove out to not be evidence of any criminal activity.

According to the Rialto Police Department, such concerns are misplaced, since "The Rialto Police Department will utilize drones only for official law enforcement purposes and in a manner that respects the privacy of our community, pursuant to State and Federal law." Moreover, the department's leadership asserts that the data entered into the FUSUS system is under the control of the department and remains so unless and until higher-ups in the department consent to that data being shared with any other entities, including other police agencies, the district attorney or Axon itself.

In the Bay Area, residents have filed federal class action lawsuits against the cities of San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose alleging they are operating "Big Brother" surveillance systems that intrude on the constitutional and privacy rights of citizens. According to the suits, the cities' license plate readers track the movements and whereabouts of everyday drivers, including ones who are engaged in no illegal activity whatsoever. The surveillance involves sweeping 4th Amendment violations, according to the suits, as the surveillance systems allows agents of the government to unlawfully monitor civilians in their comings-and-goings and then store the data, log it and retrieve it from an artificial intelligence-controlled data base at will without probable cause for doing so.

The suits, which are limited to challenging license plate readers and not video surveillance systems or drones and their video capability, al-

leges the surveillance activity creates a detailed, longterm record of the movements of those people or vehicles captured on the readers. According to the suits, police officers can access the databases after watching short training videos with no requirement to show probable cause and little monitoring of how the data is used.

The San Francisco Police Department has acknowledged that out-of-state agencies, including departments in Georgia and Texas, have accessed the city's license plate data, as has the Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which violates California law and the City of San Francisco's sanctuary city policy.

While those suits pertain to license plate readers manufactured by Flock Safety Systems. Flock Safety Systems and Axon are both providers of automated license plate reader technology. While the basic functionality of Flock Safety Systems and Axon automated license plate readers is the same, the two systems have distinct features and capabilities. Flock Safety's license plate reader technology is designed to capture richer vehicle detail than the Axon system.

Nevertheless, the principles upon which the lawsuits against San Francisco, Oakland and Jose are based touch on

## Mt. Baldy Deaths

*from page 13*

precipitous. Under dry conditions in the late spring, summer and fall, a hiker who fell from that portion of the trail would most likely be able arrest his or her descent after a few yards and, with some effort, climb back up. In the winter, however, with both the top of the ridge and its sides coated with ice, even the strongest or the most skilled of climbers would be hard pressed stop his downward slide and, having done so, climb the steep icy grade back to the top of the ridge.

It appears that it is along one or more of

the same issues relating to constitutional rights and privacy rights violations growing out of the use of generative artificial intelligence to retrieve and provide surveillance data and write reports in the context of law enforcement operations that civil rights groups elsewhere have expressed concern about. This, potentially, leaves the City of Rialto vulnerable to similar legal challenge.

As pertains to the drones, in virtually every case, they can be hovering or flying over the scene of a crime or emergency providing video in real time to the department's dispatch center well before a ground unit arrives, giving the department's decision-makers information that can protect the public and enhance officer safety.

There are two other existing substantial drone programs in San Bernardino County.

One of those is the San Bernardino Police Department's \$750,000 drone first responder program, which was funded with \$562,500 allocated to the City of San Bernardino from the County of San Bernardino and \$187,500 provided to the city by a Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) grant.

San Bernardino's drone first responder program utilizes unmanned aerial systems, docking stations, cloud software, and related equipment

these stretches that Casanova, Lopez and Garvia lost their lives. Making matters more perilous, the winds are very strong in that area, gusting at times to 100 miles per hour. Indeed, the life expectancy of a hiker traversing the devil's backbone in the winter, with the ground below his feet iced over and the howling wind buffeting him from unpredictable angles, is a fraction – and a minute fraction at that – of the life expectancy of the general population. Modern day, serious, experienced and seasoned hikers who brave the climb to the peak of Mt. Baldy in the winter come outfitted properly with

which is operated by department members who have obtained training on operating and/or maintaining the drones and Federal Aviation Administration certification who deploy the miniature video-equipped planes over an area where officers have been dispatched before the patrol cars arrive, allowing supervisors to assess threats, locate individuals in need, and marshal resources more effectively. The drones have also been used to reduce response times and supporting search and rescue operations.

The Ontario Police Department's Real Time Information Center utilizes drones to improve police department response and increase department members' understanding of the circumstances they are about to encounter. The department's drone first response program, described as a "fledgling" one, is intended to enhance both officer and citizen safety through the relaying of accurate overhead visual information to officers. The real time information center's integration of the drone program and the leveraging of technology and data analytics it provides into the center's other assets and equipment

warm – i.e., woolen – clothes; broken-in hiking boots onto the bottoms of which are affixed crampons – traction devices with metal teeth that dig into the iced surface to prevent slippage – and an ice pick; not to mention communication devices such as a cell phone that can be used to summon help in an emergency. Nevertheless, unless the Forest Service has closed the area, there are no laws prohibiting inexperienced individuals from foolishly braving the mountain in an unequipped state. The mountain can be unforgiving to even the most experienced of adventurers.

*Continued on Page 15*

## Chino Unified, Its Parental Notification Policy Quashed By The State Of California, Seeing Vindication In Federal Court Ruling *from page 15*

"mental harm, emotional harm and physical harm" to those students who are products of families who are not accepting of their choice to deviate from their birth or biological gender trumps the right of all parents to be informed of their children's sexual identity choice.

Bonta's filing put the new policy on hold and on September 6, 2023, San Bernardino County Superior Court Judge Thomas Garza granted the State of California a temporary restraining order prohibiting the Chino Valley Unified School District from enforcing the policy.

Ultimately, the matter was transferred to

Superior Court Judge Michael Sachs. Judge Sachs, reacting to Bonta's claim that the district's forced disclosure provisions discriminate against transgender students who are "singled out" and that it ran afoul of California Education Code Sections 200 and 220 and Government Code section 11135 meant to ensure equal rights and opportunities for every student and prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression, perpetuated the restraining order preventing the policy's enforcement. According to Judge Sachs, the provision of the policy requiring that faculty in essence "out" transgender students to their parents was discriminatory based on sex, violating both the California Constitution and U.S. Constitution's equal protection clauses.

In making his ruling,

however, Sachs stated that the provision of the policy which pertained to informing parents whenever an alteration of their children's transcripts or official records were altered fell within the rubric of the U.S. Constitution. The district took that guidance to heart and in March 2024 revamped the policy, making no mention of sexuality or gender transition, instead mandating that parents be notified when their children's official school records were changed. This, from a practical standpoint, was inclusive of the intent contained in the policy adopted in July 2023 was inclusive of the intent contained in the policy adopted in July 2023, achieving what the advocates of parental disclosure wanted, while maneuvering around the legal constraints Bonta had constructed.

In a sure sign that

Monroe had scored a victory and hit a nerve, state officials then moved to preempt parental disclosure altogether by having Assembly Member Chris Ward, D-San Diego, author AB 1955, prohibiting schools from making a practice of notifying parents if their children are assuming a gender different from the one assigned them at birth. The bill was passed by both of California's legislative houses and was signed into law by Governor Newsom on Monday, July 15, 2024.

Almost as soon as Governor Newsom's signature was dry, the Chino Valley Unified School District and parents Oscar Avila, Monica Botts, Jason Craig, Kristi Hays, Cole Mann, Victor Romero, Gheorghe Rosca, Jr. and Leslie Sawyer, represented by attorney Emily Ray of the Austin, Texas-based Liberty Justice Center, sued Newsom, Califor-

nia Attorney General Rob Bonta and California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond in an effort to prevent the enforcement of AB 1955.

As this legal back-and-forth was raging in state court, Mirabelli vs. Olson was proceeding in federal court. Judge Benitez's ruling and order has direct and tremendous bearing on not only the decisions made in state court, obviating the finding and ruling by Judge Sachs, but impacting the suit brought by the district in July 2024 and rendering AB 1955 unenforceable.

The possibility yet exists that parental exclusion policies in California's school districts can be salvaged if Judge Benitez's ruling is overturned on appeal. The California Attorney General's Office filed an application to stay Benitez's order, pending an appeal. The attorney

general's petition states that "the severe public harms associated with nonconsensual disclosure of a student's private gender identity information weigh strongly in favor of [a]stay" and that without one being granted "teachers and school officials could begin informing parents about students' gender identities in ways that threaten substantial harm to students. Once that occurs, the harm is irreparable. The information cannot be un-disclosed."

According to the attorney general's office, "We believe that the district court misapplied the law and that the decision will ultimately be reversed on appeal. We are committed to securing school environments that allow transgender students to safely participate as their authentic selves while recognizing the important role that parents play in students' lives."

## With The Supreme Court Skeptical That Resistance To Immigration Agents Constitutes A Civil Disorder Crisis Justifying Martial Imposition, Trump Administration Must Go To Plan C *from page 5*

nounced in early October, followed the use of National Guard troops in other major cities with Democratic mayors, including Washington, D.C. In deploying the National Guard, Trump cited lawlessness on the streets during protests of the federal agents' presence and/or the agents'

need for back-up in their enforcing efforts.

In her November 7 ruling relating to the use of troops for crowd control during immigrant round-ups in Portland, Judge Immergut acknowledged that "violent protests did occur in June." Nevertheless, she stated that the Trump

No one appears willing to go on the record about it, based on the belief that doing so would risk termination.

Barstow long held a respectable spot within San Bernardino County history and culture. With Needles, Colton and San Bernardino, one of four of the county's railroad towns, it was the ninth of San Bernardino County's current 24 municipalities to incorporate, doing so on September 30, 1947. It is today host to one of the county's eight current courthouses and the location of one of the county's 17 historic courthouses. In 1966 it became the first San Bernardino County

administration expression of need for National Guard troops to quell protests near an Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility there did not comport with the actual circumstance. The June protests, Judge determined "quickly abated due to the efforts of civil law enforcement officers." Since that time, she wrote, protests at the facility have been "predominately peaceful." Immergut concluded that "even giving great

City to elect a woman, Ida Sessions, mayor. Another Barstow Mayor, Lawrence Dale, was once the foreman of the San Bernardino County Grand Jury. Barstow was the first San Bernardino County City to hire a woman, Dianne Burns, as its police chief.

Exactly when things began to fall apart for Barstow, or more specifically its city council, is difficult to say. Of note is that in December 2009, then-Barstow Mayor Joe Gomez was accused of inappropriately touching the wife of a never-publicly-identified Barstow police officer during a Christmas Party. In January 2010, Go-

deference to the President's determination," his administration "did not have a lawful basis" to call up the National Guard in Portland.

The departments of Homeland Security and the Immigration And Customs Enforcement Department, which already went to Plan B when they did not get law enforcement agency help with implementing Operation Alta California, are now formulating Plan C, consisting

mez was charged with sexual batter. He denied the charges and the matter dragged on for more than four years, finally being resolved when, as former mayor, after the original charge had been

of utilizing access to communications, digital data and other information pertaining to the presence of unregistered foreigners in "soft" locations such as residences and other locations where obstruction by a substantial number of protestors is unlikely or impossible. "Swarms" of agents are to quickly detain and hand them off to transportation specialists before moving to the next designated location. The transportation spe-

reduced to misdemeanor batter, he agreed to plead guilty and was immediately sentenced to no jail time and three-years probation. Some date the declension in the nobility of Barstow's elected

cialists will deliver these pre-identified targets, for whom paperwork is to be prepared in advance, to an immigration detention facility augmented with on-site hearing facilities manned by an attorney working for the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review and designated as a federal immigration judge, thus expediting deportation to be effectuated within 24-to-36 hours.

leadership to the incident involving Gomez. Many consider the virtual illiteracy of two of the city's current council members to be a major embarrassment.

—Mark Gutglueck

## Shifting Barstow Alliances *from page 15*

tor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority, and Espinoza, who moved into retirement after more than 27 years with the city, are at liberty to speak about but still somewhat guarded in expounding upon their perceptions of the dysfunction at Barstow City Hall that has come about because of the conflicts among the city's political leadership. Among employees yet working with the city, there runs a similar current of belief that the city operations are hampered by strife at the top of the organization.

## Mt. Baldy Deaths *from page 14*

In April 2017, 78-year-old Suek "Sam" Kim of Culver City, an avid hiker who had reached the 10,064-foot summit of Mount Baldy more than 700 times and was the unofficial record holder for the number of times scaling the peak, perished on the mountain.

British actor Julian

Sands, then 65, who was an active mountain climber for decades, went missing on the mountain in January 2023. His remains were recovered five months later near the summit.

Crystal Paula Gonzalez-Landas, an experienced hiker, died in January 2023 when she fell and slid between 500 to 700 feet down the ice-covered Baldy Bowl

below the mountain summit.

Kim and Sands and Gonzalez-Landas were among the legion those attempting to climb Mt. Baldy, which is officially known as Mount San Antonio, but were instead claimed by it.

In December 2019, after 52-year-old Screenivas Mokkapati of Irvine was climbing to Mt. Baldy's summit with

**Mt. Baldy Deaths***from page 15*

three other hikers but became separated from the group and went missing, an intensive search for him was begun by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's search and rescue division. A week into the search, a volunteer crew member, Tim Staples, 32, became separated from his search partner, thereafter fell into an ice chute and was killed. Mokkapati's remains were found on June 19, 2020, at an elevation of about 7,800 feet on Mt. Baldy's northwest side.

On March 10, 2018, a hiker in the Mt. Baldy wilderness, Xiangfeng Ma, 41 of Anaheim, was reported as missing when he did not return home. Ma's vehicle was eventually located at Mt. Baldy and San Antonio Falls roads. Based upon that information, a search party numbering 40 sheriff's search

and rescue team members initiated a search. Bad weather hampered the search and because of cloud conditions and falling rain and snow, a helicopter could not be deployed. On March 12, 2018, after a change in the weather, a helicopter crew was dispatched to the area. Just after 8:30 a.m., the flight crew spotted foot tracks in the area of Devil's Backbone Road and Forest Service Road 3N06D. Crew members traced the tracks down a slope of the mountain and found Ma's lifeless corpse near a stream.

Between January 2016 and March 2017, four people hiking along the Devil's Backbone during the winter pitched off the trail to their deaths.

Lloyd Charton, 69, died when he fell approximately 300 feet from the Devil's Backbone on March 11, 2017, while attempting to cross the trail. Another man hiking with him likewise plunged

from the same precipice at the same time, but survived after being hoisted by a sheriff's department helicopter.

Yucheng Jia, 26, of Torrance was found dead near the Devil's Backbone on February 8, 2017, four days after he went on a hike, intending to reach Mt. Baldy on February 4. His body was recovered by a sheriff's helicopter on February 9 because dangerous atmospheric conditions prevented the helicopter that originally located his corpse from effectively reaching the spot where he had fallen.

On January 16, 2017 a woman eluded death after she slipped from the Devil's Backbone portion of the trail and slid an unspecified distance down the steep and ice-encrusted ridge. A San Bernardino County Fire department helicopter, Air Rescue 9, was dispatched to the scene, roughly two miles from the 10,064 elevation

summit. After she was plucked from below the ridge, she was transported because of her injuries to Cow Canyon Saddle, where a ground ambulance unit retrieved her.

A 45-year-old San Diego man whose identity was never released by authorities fell to his death while hiking across the Devil's Backbone on Saturday February 20, 2016.

On February 2, 2016 Daniel Nguyen, 23, was walking along the Devil's Backbone Trail around 7 a.m. with a friend when his companion slipped. Nguyen tried pulling the other hiker to safety but as he did so, he himself slipped off the trail and down the mountainside, with fatal consequences.

This week, because of the inclement weather, including rain and low temperatures along with ice and wind, the Mt. Baldy wilderness has been closed. The latest closure is a result of inclement weather,

including rain and low temperatures, according to a sheriff's department spokesperson.

Violators of the closure face fines and prison time.

"This proactive measure follows the recent, tragic discovery of three deceased individuals in the area," the Sheriff's Department state.

The U.S. Forest Service is working with local authorities to close seven trails on the mountain and in the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument from January 1 at least thought January 7 in response to "extreme environmental hazards."

The closed trails are:

- Forest System Trail No. 7W12 – Mt. Baldy Trail
- Forest System Trail No. 7W02 – Mt. Baldy Bowl Trail
- Forest System Trail No. 7W05 – Devil's Backbone Trail
- Forest System Trail No. 7W06 – Three T's

Trail

- Forest System Trail No. 7W07 – Icehouse Canyon Trail

- Forest System Trail No. 7W07A – Chapman Trail

- Forest System Trail No. 7W08 – Ontario Peak Trail

Affected recreation areas are:

- San Gabriel Mountains National Monument
- Mt. Baldy Trail
- Mt. Baldy Day Use Area

- Lower San Antonio Day-Use Area
- Icehouse Canyon Saddle via Icehouse Canyon

- Manker Flat Campground

"Our primary responsibility is the preservation of life," San Bernardino County Sheriff Shannon Dicus said in a statement Wednesday. "Closing these trails is a necessary step to mitigate ongoing risks. We urge the community to respect these boundaries."

**Imagine** *from page 3*

on questions about the supernatural realm, such as: What happens when we die? Is there a soul? Are there angels and demons? Is there a heaven and a hell, or do we enter into a cycle of endless reincarnations? The answers too are endless.

Once again: why? And the basic reason can be found in the fact that these answers can't be discerned by observing the natural world around us since they are entirely supernatural—therefore unprovable due to the absence of any evidence that can only be acquired through our five senses, and rely, instead, on "faith." Hence, all the conflicting arguments about religion.

As one way of moving this from the specific to the general, here's a story. Back in the Sixties, when my family moved to another town, my mother selected the First Baptist Church not because of any specific creeds (nor did my dad), but because they had "good programs for youths," which they did, and which I enjoyed for many years, even though

I never became a Baptist. But, a couple of years after we started attending the church, it underwent a painful schism when the minister (whom my parents liked so much they asked him to speak at my dad's father's memorial service), instigated that schism when he began insisting that the Biblical verse about speaking in tongues must be one Baptist "proof of faith." However, after that, most of the congregation chose not to go along with it, and that eventually resulted in the dismissal of the minister, who then, in turn, took some third of the church with him.

For me it was an early "wake up call" about the many spiritual questions that fixate on—and are summed up in that one memorable question: "how many angels can dance on the head of a pin?"—questions that lead inevitably to the many debates that divide people rather than bring them together, which, for me, has always been one of the most harmful aspects of religions in general.

So, the most important question that re-

mains is this: how can we cross these chasms? And it's always seemed to me that one of the best ways we can do that is by focusing exclusively on what we can agree on rather than what we can argue about.

And what might some of these points of agreement be? Many truths, of course, can be taken from various faiths, but, since I was raised in the Christian tradition, it's pleasing to know that a number of them can be found within the teachings we've been told were espoused by this man called Jesus as recorded in the Gospels.

Some of these teachings might include much in the Sermon on the Mount; the implications contained within perhaps my favorites parable: The Good Samaritan; the message to "welcome the stranger;" the "Golden Rule;" and, of course, Jesus' main message to "love God and love your neighbor;" but also, and importantly, those considered our "enemies"—a "radical" proposition when considered in the context of recent history, when many people claiming Chris-

tianity have bombed their enemies rather than loved them.

Which is not to say that we haven't seen many arguments about what it means to, for example "welcome the stranger," and just who our "neighbors" are, but I've encountered basically no one (and perhaps I've been fortunate) who say they can't see the wisdom contained in the "Golden Rule" (even when they don't follow it), and loving everyone (even the unlovable) — and it's there where we can find the common ground necessary for one religion.

I recognize that this particular "leap" is difficult for many people who want certainty about such ideas as the resurrection; that heaven awaits "believers;" or, for others, the possibility of reincarnation; that there is some "meaning" beyond, as Shakespeare put it: "this veil of tears," and the comfort of "knowing" you'll see your loved ones again.

However, as one of my favorite unencumbered theologians, Alan Watts, once put it in the title of perhaps my favorite

of his many books: The Wisdom of Insecurity, the arguments arise because we can't with honesty have the security of certainty in this world, and that it might be best not to concentrate on convincing others that our particular supernatural explanations are the "correct" ones.

Instead, let's embrace a theology that recognizes what we can know for sure about our present existence: that we're physical creatures living on the surface of a physical planet in the midst of a universe that's, yes, still mysterious in many ways, but still physical, and that the lives of everyone who has to live on this planet would be immensely improved if everyone embraced what could be called a "one world" religion based on the Golden Rule and loving your neighbor—and your enemies.

Imagine: wouldn't it be wonderful if we could go anywhere in the world and when we went to a "sacred space," or even anywhere, find ourselves fully embraced by those around us because we've all simply agreed to "love one another,"

free from the divisiveness that emerges when we cling to the idea that "my religion is true—yours is false" and, instead, embrace the same religion. Maybe that's what John Lennon had in mind when he sang the words "imagine...no religion..." in his song.

But, at a time when, for millions, religion is withering away on many fronts, that doesn't mean that the world doesn't still need it. And it doesn't mean that religion necessarily must be a negative word when we know that it refers to a universal religion of love embraced by all. Which is why I say, instead of no religion: imagine one religion. It isn't hard to do.

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