

Dr. Dre Reveals His Next Unexpected Career Move After Over 40 Years In the Music Industry

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Bakersfield
News Observer

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Take One!

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Letters, Lunch and Memories: How Bakersfield Children Thanked Their Veterans

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

The question was written in pencil on lined paper, under a hand-colored American flag.

"How old were you when you joined the military?" an 11-year-old named Leslie asked.

Her letter, addressed "Dear Veteran," was one of dozens of handmade cards and notes spread across the tables at the American Legion Post 26 hall in Bakersfield. Veterans and their families gathered there for lunch on Veterans Day, after the annual parade through downtown. Students from Walter Stiern Middle School and Shirley Lane School made the cards, hoping that veterans would read and take them home.

Some cards were simple. "Thank you for serving our country," wrote Damon, a student at Norris Middle School, on a card he colored with a red, white, and blue heart.

Others asked questions. Anthony, who said he goes to Walter Stiern Middle School, wanted to learn "what drills you guys do and how many times you do the drills."

"I hope you know that you are hard workers and that we are grateful to you," he wrote.

Sherlyn sent a painting with a single line: "Thank you for your unselfish service to our country."

Leslie told her reader that she likes volleyball, reading and playing her instrument, and that her favorite thing about living in the U.S. is the schools. Then she turned the question around: "What do you love most about this country?"

For many veterans who filled the hall that day, their responses came out in conversation.

Chief Ricardo Ybarra, the parade coordinator and a Navy veteran, said the parade, now in its 107th year by his count, is about the sacrifices most people never see.



Photo by Cecil Egbele

"We miss birthdays. We miss anniversaries. We miss births," he said. "We'll never get those days back."

Ybarra said Post 26's work goes beyond one day in November. The post has a veteran services officer who helps veterans move into civilian life, a food basket program for veterans in need and a Christmas program for veterans' families.

What ties it together, he said, is the bond between service members across every branch.

"We're brothers or sisters," Ybarra said. "And that that close knit thing is really what it's all about."

For 78-year-old Villanueva, military service began with the draft in 1968. He spent a year in Vietnam and then returned home to marry his wife of 52 years, Diane.

"I love life, my wife and my family," he said.

He recalled being fortunate to return home, knowing that many of his friends did not.

"I was thankful to God that I came back," he said.

These days, he looks forward to Veterans Day as a chance to see the friends he served with. Every year there are fewer of them, he said, and because of age, walking the parade route is now harder. Next year, he and his comrades plan to ride on a trailer.

The crowds that turned out to honor them meant something deeper to him.

"When we came back from Vietnam, we didn't get that kind of respect," he said. "So now we're here today, and we're getting that now. I love it"

Navy veteran Tina Miller served 10 years on active duty and two years in the reserves, with assignments that took her from Florida to Germany to Washington, D.C. What she treasures most, she said, is the camaraderie of serving alongside people from different walks of life.

"It's tremendous just to do something for your country and honestly not ask for anything back," Miller said.

As the day's celebration drew to a close, the children's letters waited on the tables for veterans to carry home. Leslie ended hers the same way she began it.

"Thank you for keeping us safe," she wrote.

After the Uniform Comes Off: A Veteran's Journey From Baghdad to Healing

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

After 34 years in the U.S. Army, including a deployment to Iraq, Bakersfield resident Michele Spencer says the psychological toll of war followed her home. Today, she reflects on her experience and the role of wellness in healing.

When Michele Spencer returned home after a year of military service in Iraq, she expected to resume her normal life. The reality was much different.

"I didn't know what the heck I just did for a whole year in Baghdad," Spencer recalled in an interview at the World War II Memorial Park in Bakersfield.

The now-retired U.S. Army colonel said she returned home carrying questions about the war, its consequences, and the meaning of the freedom military personnel were sent to defend.

"What was Iraqi Freedom? Because I certainly didn't feel any freedom," she said. "I don't know who was free. Were the Iraqis, or was it us?"

Spencer described suffering from post-traumatic stress. She came to a new understanding of the challenges soldiers face long after leaving a war zone.

Now living in Bakersfield, Spencer, the author of *B.A.G.H.D.A.D. Yoga*, reflected on her healing journey using yoga, mindfulness, sound therapy, and other wellness techniques

It's a different perspective on Veterans Day and the usual emphasis on military uniforms and medals. Her story considers the psychological experiences veterans carry home.

An average of 17.5 veterans died by suicide each day in 2023, according to the most recent annual report from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

'The Army Called My Name'

Spencer said she joined the Army to have her college loans repaid and was "very naive politically" at the time. She credits her mother, a community organizer, with teaching her to lead.

Spencer served in the Medical Service Corps, the Army's health care administration branch, working largely in combat support hospitals and in civil affairs. Her career took her from Texas to Washington state, Florida, Georgia, Washington, D.C., Maryland, and finally Hawaii. She was then deployed to Baghdad, Iraq. She spent about half of her service on active duty and half in the Army Reserve before retiring in 2020 at the rank of colonel.



Michele Spencer, shares her experience after 34 years in the U.S. Army (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

As a Black woman in uniform, Spencer said she refused to let others define her by her skin color. Still, she said she did face hardships she believed came from being a woman of color, but she said, "I had to stand on my own principles."

'Suck It Up and Drive On'

Spencer said military culture teaches young service members to bury their feelings.

She recalled a familiar military expression: "Suck it up and drive on." The expectation to remain focused on the mission, she said, can leave little room for soldiers to express fear, grief, or other difficult emotions.

Unless service members have trusted colleagues, often called "battle buddies," to share their experiences with, those feelings may remain unaddressed.

"A lot of times in the military, they're unable to really express it," she said.

Spencer believes the consequences can extend beyond the period of active service, affecting relationships, families, and the ability to adjust to civilian life.

Michael Akinbolawa, a licensed clinical social worker with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, said military training builds that toughness for a reason, but post-traumatic stress, he said, hits differently.

"When it comes to PTSD, it has nothing to do with being tough because it's actually dealing with your brain now. It's dealing with your memories. It's dealing with your entire psychology," he said. "That trauma stays in the brain for a very long time."

He said emotional or psychological triggers can be "anything," including news reports, movies and social media posts.

Finding life beyond the uniform

Spencer said the transition into civilian life can be difficult, particularly for people who have spent much of their adult lives in the military. She said veterans may also struggle to explain their experiences to people who have never served.

Veterans who leave after a long career, or who prefer to stay among military friends, may find the transition harder, she said.

Some miss "that friendship, that schedule, that discipline," she said.

Spencer cautions against assuming that every veteran has the same experience.

Someone who deployed to a war zone but worked primarily in an office, she explained, may have a very different experience from someone who participated in combat operations.

Her own career, she said, gave her some exposure to civilian life because she spent approximately half her service in the Army Reserve.

Still, she said veterans must find ways to establish new relationships and interests as they adjust to changing circumstances.

"It takes maturity, courage and curiosity to continue on with your life because it changes," she said.



Michael Akinbolawa, a licensed clinical social worker with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, West LA VA Medical Center (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

A family with history of unspoken trauma

Most of the men in Spencer's family served in the military, including her grandfather, who was a World War I veteran. She was the only woman.

Her father served about six years in the Navy during the Korean War, working in communications aboard a ship. Spencer said he once woke in the middle of the night to find the ship on fire. Many of his shipmates perished in the blaze. "You cannot be at war and not be traumatized," she said.

Her father kept that story to himself for decades.

"He really didn't talk to me about the Korean War until I went to the Iraq war," Spencer said.

Finding a different kind of strength

Continued on page A2



The Kern County WWII Veterans Memorial at Jastro Park, Bakersfield (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

Rediscovered Draft of MLK Jr.'s Iconic Speech Could Sell for $10 Million After Remarkable Journey

Rediscovered Draft of MLK Jr.'s Iconic Speech Could Sell for $10 Million After Remarkable Journey

The seven-page manuscript, written in blue ink on yellow legal paper, is expected to fetch more than $10 million when it goes under the hammer at Christie's in New York on Jan. 22, 2027, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. But its value extends beyond the auction block.

King completed the draft in the early hours of Aug. 28, 1963, at Washington, D.C.'s Willard Hotel, just hours before addressing about 250,000 people at the March on Washington. After days of conversations with advisers, including speechwriter Edward T. Clayton, King reportedly spent the night refining his message and making revisions before the pages were typed.

… But here's the fascinating twist: the handwritten draft does not contain the words "I Have a Dream."

King famously went off-script that afternoon, setting aside his prepared remarks to deliver the now-iconic dream sequence on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Gospel legend Mahalia Jackson, standing just behind him, reportedly called out for him to tell the crowd about his dream. King took the cue, and the rest, as they say, is history.

The draft does, however, include the speech's opening and its unforgettable closing declaration: "Free at last, free at last; thank God almighty, we are free at last."

The manuscript's journey is just as remarkable. Civil rights activist Xernona Clayton discovered the pages among her late husband Edward's belongings in the 1990s, tucked inside an envelope marked "speech," . She rediscovered them in 2024.

Now, at 96, Clayton is putting the document up for auction through Christie's, with proceeds expected to benefit charitable organizations, including the Xernona Clayton Foundation and Atlanta's King Center. Before then, it will be displayed at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta from Nov. 16 through Nov. 22.

Martin Luther King III called the speech a "treasure." He added, "It is poetic that the past will protect the future… Now, for the first time, the public will have the opportunity to be inspired by this document."

After Atlanta, the pages will be exhibited in Chicago and New York before the January auction. But the manuscript represents something money cannot measure– a tangible connection to a movement that transformed the United States and the world. Preserved through the hands of those who helped shape King's words, these pages remind us that MLK's dream was, and remains, a call to action.

Toddler Declared Dead Then Was Found Alive in the Hospital Morgue

An Arizona family alleges medical negligence after their 18-month-old son was declared dead, then found alive hours later with severe brain injuries.

A family gathering in Arizona quickly became a nightmare that would forever change one family after 18-month-old Vincent Lorenzo Fiordilino was found floating face-down in a backyard swimming pool during a Super Bowl party.

Despite desperate efforts to save him, a doctor declared the toddler dead. But in a shocking turn of events, Fiordilino was discovered alive in a hospital morgue, setting off a chain of events that has culminated in a massive lawsuit against several medical officials.

According to the family's lawsuit, Dr. Aryan Toosi pronounced Vincent dead at 6:20 p.m. on Oct. 23. The family believed they had lost their child. However, concerns later arose about signs that the toddler might still be alive.

"As I was hugging him, air came out of him," his mother, Alexus Fiordilino, said in an interview with The New York Times.

Alexus and her family alerted a police officer and hospital staff that Fiordilino seemed to be breathing, but they were told the movements were signs of "agonal breathing," which she recalled being described as "the final death breath," according to the suit.

The family has alleged that concerns about Fiordilino's condition were not adequately addressed after he was declared dead. After his parents alerted medical staff, Fiordilino was rushed to Phoenix Children's Hospital for emergency treatment.

News that Fiordilino was alive brought his family a measure of hope, but it was soon overshadowed by fears about the extent of his injuries. According to the family's lawsuit, the toddler suffered severe brain damage associated with oxygen deprivation and faces significant long-term medical challenges.

"I can't believe Vincent was all alone in there," the mother said. "It haunts me still to this day when I think about it. I hate that he went through five hours in a morgue by himself, struggling to breathe."

Now, the family wants to know how a child could be pronounced dead and later found alive, and whether opportunities to intervene were missed. They are suing Dr. Toosi and Dignity Health, which operates Mercy Gilbert Medical Center, alleging negligence in the care. The case places the hospital's handling of the incident under scrutiny, seeking accountability for the harm the family says their son suffered.

Vincent survived, but his family says the consequences of that day may follow him for the rest of his life. "If there was a competent doctor in the room that day, it would have gone very differently," Alexus continued. "Our boy was [denied] medical treatment that would have significantly changed the outlook of his life."

World & Nation

MHU Commemorates ASCORE and Anniversary of Desegregation

By Staff Reports
Black Press USA Wire

A week of events at UNC Asheville, Mars Hill University, and downtown Asheville.

In 1961, two young women broke the color barrier to become the first African American students at two Western North Carolina colleges: Etta Mae Whitner Patterson at UNC Asheville and Oralene Anderson Graves Simmons at Mars Hill University (then Mars Hill College).

Both women were students at Asheville's Stephens-Lee High School, where they were members of the Asheville Student Committee on Racial Equality (ASCORE). Through nonviolent protest, ASCORE led efforts to desegregate many Asheville stores and businesses.

Patterson and Simmons, who later founded the Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Asheville and Buncombe County, have since received honorary doctorates from their alma maters in recognition of their achievements and lifelong service to their communities.

To commemorate ASCORE, honor the leadership of Etta Patterson and Oralene Simmons, and mark the 65th anniversary of the desegregation of UNC Asheville and Mars Hill University, UNC Asheville's Department of History and Mars Hill University's Liston B. Ramsey Center for Appalachian Studies invite the public to attend "Stories of ASCORE: Lessons in Courage, Desegregation, and Community Activism."

The program will feature two panel discussions with Drs. Patterson and Simmons, along with other former members of ASCORE. Panelists will discuss how their experiences integrating Asheville's businesses and institutions prepared them for their college careers, professional lives, and continued community activism.



Oralene Simmons (left) and Etta Whitner Patterson, two women who helped change the course of higher education in Western North Carolina.

The first panel discussion will take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, in the Blue Ridge Room of Highsmith Union at UNC Asheville. The event will feature a presentation by Dr. Patterson and a panel discussion with Dr. Simmons, Marvin Chambers, Jesse Ray, and Al Whitesides. The panel will be moderated by Deborah Miles, retired director of the former UNC Asheville Center for Diversity Education.

This event is sponsored by UNC Asheville's Department of History and Africana Studies Program, with generous support from King and Pam Prather. A free visitor parking permit is required for the UNC Asheville event. Please visit the university's parking website for instructions on obtaining a permit for the evening's program.

The second panel discussion will take place at 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2026, in the Tony and Terry Floyd Conference Center in the Mars Hill University Campus Center. The event will feature Dr. Simmons, Annette Coleman, and Elizabeth Colton. The panel will be moderated by Jonathan McCoy, professor of history at Mars Hill University.

This event is sponsored by the Liston B. Ramsey Center for Appalachian Studies, with generous support from the university's Provost's Office.

In addition, at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, in Pack Square in downtown Asheville, Mayor Esther Manheimer and the Buncombe County Commission Chair will proclaim ASCORE Day and present honors to Etta Patterson and Oralene Simmons. Holly Jones of the North Carolina Governor's Office will also participate in the ceremony.

For more information, contact Leila Weinstein at Mars Hill University (Lweinstein@mhu.edu) or Ellen Holmes Pearson at UNC Asheville (epearson@unca.edu).

Based on reporting by The Urban News.

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HBCU Love: Spelman's Dr. Letitia Plummer Makes History as Harris County's First Black Elected County Judge

By Texas Metro News
Source: Black Press USA Wire

Canonical URL: https://texasmetronews.com/hbcu-love-spelmans-dr-letitia-plummer-makes-history-as-harris-countys-first-black-elected-county-judge/

Letitia Plummer is the next Harris County judge, and the Spelman College alumna made history in Texas' most populous county. On Tuesday night, the former Houston City Council member defeated Republican Orlando Sanchez. As a result, she becomes the first African American elected to lead Harris County.

Early unofficial results showed Plummer with about 62% of the vote to Sanchez's 38%. Shortly after 9 p.m., Sanchez called Plummer to concede. He then asked his supporters to back her once she takes office.

The win also makes her the first Muslim elected to the post. According to the Houston Chronicle, that makes her the highest-ranking Muslim executive official in Texas history.

A Historic Night in Houston

Plummer succeeds Lina Hidalgo, who chose not to seek another term. Now, a Spelman woman takes over the top job in a county of nearly 5 million people.

ADVERTISEMENTIn Texas, the county judge is not a courtroom role. Instead, the job leads the Commissioners Court, which runs the county's budget, roads, flood control and public health. So the seat carries real power over daily life in the Houston region.

The general election was never especially close. However, the road to November was brutal. In the March 3 primary, Plummer finished second behind former Houston Mayor Annise Parker. Parker took about 47% to Plummer's 37%, sending the race to a runoff.

Then Plummer flipped the script. On May 26, she beat Parker in the runoff with about 51% of the vote. From there, she turned to Sanchez and never looked back. Houston Public Media has full coverage of election night.

Letitia Plummer's Road From Linkwood to Harris County Judge

Plummer grew up in Linkwood, a neighborhood south of Brays Bayou near Buffalo Speedway. Her family history runs deep in Houston. Her grandfather was a Tuskegee Airman flight instructor. After the war, he became the first African American investigator for the Harris County district attorney.

ADVERTISEMENTHer father, Matthew Plummer Jr., studied dentistry at Harvard. Later, he served in the Peace Corps, where he met her mother in Africa. Her mother brought Yemeni and Indian roots to the family. As a result, Plummer grew up in a multicultural household that shaped her outlook.

As a teen, she attended what is now DeBakey High School for Health Professions. Then she headed to Atlanta for Spelman. There, she joined Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

After Spelman, she came home to Texas for dental school at Baylor College of Dentistry. Like her father, she became a dentist. She went on to own dental practices in the Houston area, including in Pearland.



From Dental Chair to City Hall

Plummer's political career started with a 2018 run for Congress. She made the Democratic runoff in Texas' 22nd District but lost to Sri Preston Kulkarni. Still, the campaign put her on the map.

A year later, she won Houston City Council At-Large Position 4. She took office in January 2020. In doing so, she became the first Muslim woman elected to the Council.

On the Council, she focused on police reform, food deserts and apartment inspections. She also chaired the Government Operations Committee. Notably, fellow Spelman alumna Carolyn Evans-Shabazz served alongside her on the Council.

In 2025, she launched her campaign for county judge. Then she timed her exit from the Council so the city could fill her seat during a regular election. That move saved Houston the cost of a standalone special election.

What She Ran On

Plummer pitched herself as a unifier for a Commissioners Court that has often split along party lines. She promised to build stronger working relationships among its members.

She also called for better county services and changes to the county's Flock camera contract. In addition, she pushed back on state leaders for exerting authority over Harris County.

On election night, she spoke about her personal struggles with surrogacy. She said that experience helped inspire her decision to run.

Why Letitia Plummer's Win Matters for Spelman

Spelman women had a big night across the country Tuesday. In New York, alumna Adrienne Adams won the lieutenant governor's race. Now Plummer will run one of the largest counties in America.

Together, the wins show how far the Spelman network reaches in politics. Both women built careers outside government before winning office. And both broke barriers on the way up. For more on the school, check out our Spelman College coverage. You can also follow our Keisha Lance Bottoms coverage for more HBCU wins from election night.

What Comes Next

Plummer will take office in January. Between now and then, she will build her team and prepare for the county budget fight. For more on her path, the Houston Chronicle tracked her rise through a political roller coaster year.

Stay with HBCU Buzz for continued coverage of Harris County Judge-elect Letitia Plummer as she prepares to take office.

In this article:HBCU LOVE, Letitia Plummer, Spelman's Dr. Letitia Plummer Makes History as Harris County's First Black Elected County JudgeBased on reporting by Texas Metro News.

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After the Uniform Comes Off: A Veteran's Journey From Baghdad to Healing

Continued from page A1

Engaging in combat is the most common cause of PTSD among veterans, Akinbolawa said. Military sexual trauma, accidents and childhood trauma are also leading contributors.

Left untreated, PTSD can push veterans toward alcohol and then drugs as a way to cope.

Akinbolawa said evidence-based PTSD treatments include prolonged exposure therapy, in which veterans gradually face the memories they avoid, and cognitive processing therapy, which helps them challenge guilt and self-blame.

Eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, commonly known as EMDR, is another proven therapy.

"It's a gradual process," Akinbolawa said. "We talk about the trauma, process it, and, as time goes on, they gain more control over their thoughts and feelings."

Spencer's journey toward understanding her military experience came through yoga, which she began practicing while stationed in Baghdad.

Yoga connects the mind, body, and spirit, Spencer said.

She now offers classes in sound therapy, massage and bodywork, yoga, breathwork and mindfulness. She described the work as helping the nervous system return to balance.

'Another Veterans Day'

For Spencer, the Veterans Day holiday is a time to ask harder questions about war itself.

"Here we are. Another Veterans Day. What are we talking about?" she said.

Spencer, who served for 34 years in uniform, wants people to think beyond the ceremonies and public expressions of gratitude.

Honoring veterans should also mean understanding their experiences and ensuring they have the support they need after service.



Michele Spencer's talks about her father's time in service during the Korean war (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

"As a veteran, it takes maturity, courage and curiosity to continue on with your life because it changes."

Kids on Campus: Success in Learning Together

By NNPA Staff Report
Source: BlackPressUSA

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and the National Head Start Association (NHSA) released the Year Two Annual Report of the Kids on Campus initiative, which advances the success of parenting students and supports the school readiness of young children from low-income backgrounds by expanding Head Start classrooms onto community college campuses. The five-year initiative aims to establish at least 50 such partnerships by 2030.

Nearly one in five undergraduates in the United States — approximately 3.14 million students — are parenting while pursuing their college education. For many, access to high-quality, affordable, and convenient child care remains one of the biggest barriers to completing their degree.

The initiative's core philosophy is rooted in two of the most effective strategies for reducing poverty: providing high-quality early childhood education and increasing adult economic mobility through education, training, and workforce pathways. Together, these approaches support two generations simultaneously, strengthening children's development while helping parents pursue long-term economic success.

"When we support parents, we uplift students," says Francisco Solis, president of San Antonio College (TX), which has a long-standing partnership with Head Start. "When families thrive, our community thrives. This is the power of a two-generation approach."The annual report outlines the rationale behind ACCT and NHSA's work, progress to date, next steps, and opportunities for community colleges and Head Start programs to engage with Kids on Campus.

As of March 2026, at the end of year two of the initiative:

110 community colleges and 130 Head Start programs have taken initial steps to connect and engage with Kids on Campus.

Partners have identified 43 potential matches between community colleges and Head Start programs interested in exploring partnerships across 19 states.

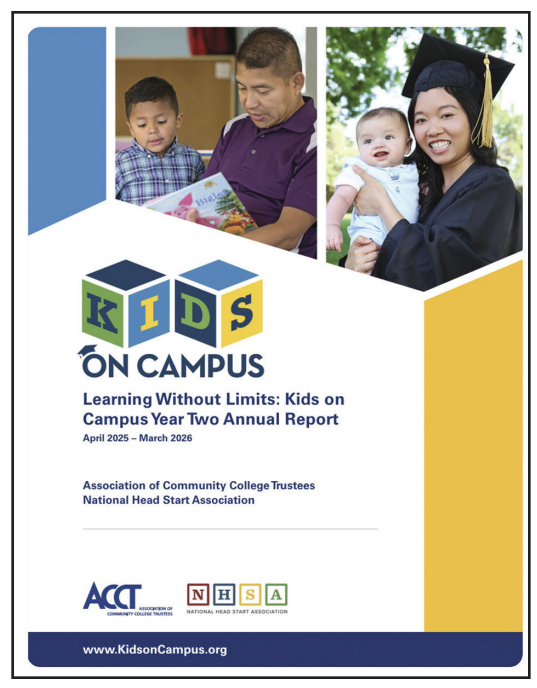
Five new Kids on Campus partnerships have launched in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Texas, with two additional partnerships in advanced stages of development in Texas.

"Before I found the Head Start on my college campus, it was extremely difficult," says Cristina Medina, a student parent at Palo Alto College, one of the newest Kids on Campus launched sites. "I was on the edge of mentally and emotionally giving up because being a full-time mom while going to school and work was hard with no support."

The initiative continues to grow nationwide through expanded partnerships, technical assistance, and collaborative efforts to strengthen on-campus child care and early childhood education opportunities for student parents and families.The report profiles active partnerships and explores the benefits and barriers they face, financial considerations, model sustainability, advice from the field, and what is next for Kids on Campus.

To access the full report, go to kidsoncampus.org/annual-report.

ACCT and NHSA invite community colleges, Head Start programs, and philanthropic supporters interested in transforming outcomes for children and families to contact kidsoncampus@acct.org.



Entertainment



US rapper Dr. Dre speaks on stage during the 2025 BET Awards at the Peacock Theatre in Los Angeles on June 9, 2025. (Photo by Michael Tran / AFP) (Photo by MICHAEL TRAN/AFP via Getty Images)

Dr. Dre Reveals His Next Unexpected Career Move After Over 40 Years In the Music Industry

Dr. Dre is opening up and sharing his next major move in his career. But it's not what you think!

By Shanelle Gena

While some heavyweight music producers similar to Dr. Dre may take their talents into other avenues like film or Broadway, the Compton native is going in a completely different direction. But it's not what die-hard hip-hop fans want to hear!

The seven-time Grammy Award winner recently divulged his next move to "All About the Benjamins" co-stars Ice Cube and Mike Epps on their podcast, "Listen and Laugh." During the Nov. 7 episode, Dre revealed he's taking time away from the music industry and his current way of life, sharing that he's about to go off the grid in 2027.

"For the first time in my entire adult career, I'm gonna take a break. I'm just gonna go away; I'mma go off the grid for a year or two. And come back," he explained.

The "Still D.R.E." rapper went on to explain that he's always felt "tethered" to the recording studio, even when he's out and about and away from the physical place. He shared that because of the tie, he's always subconsciously looking for something creative that he can take back to the studio. However, he's finally come to a place where he wants to try to experience life without that feeling and what it could be like if his world is centered around something other than music.

"You're never away from it; you're always tethered to this thing. And for the first time in my life, I won't be," he said. "That's [making music] taking up space that something else could be [taking up]. What if there's something else waiting for me that could give me the same exact feeling I felt when I discovered music?"

Dre's admission to go off the grid follows a pattern of other stars who are pivoting into different careers entirely or opting to live life outside of the spaces they once occupied. Take, for instance, Tyler Perry, who shared back in September on "Today with Jenna & Sheinelle" that he plans to relocate to Puerto Rico with his son in 2027 and significantly scale back his workload to enjoy life outside of Hollywood.

Then, there's André 3000, who traded in his signature rap verses for the flute, releasing his experimental instrumental album, "New Blue Sun," in 2023 and exploring a musical direction that looks nothing like his OutKast days. Meanwhile, Dave Chappelle has spent more than 25 years calling Yellow Springs, Ohio—a small village about 160 miles south of Cleveland—home, choosing to raise his family and build a community outside of the spotlight

It's pretty safe to say that there's clearly more than one way to redefine what the next chapter of life looks like after achieving success, and Dr. Dre is on his way to doing just that!

The Price Of Streaming Is Going Up, And Our Pockets Are Tired

Disney just released a full breakdown of its price increases for several of its subscription plans including Disney+, Hulu, HBO Max, and ESPN.

In today's episode of This Ain't A Malcolm X Speech, But 'Get Yo Hand Out Of My Pocket,' the Walt Disney Company is raising prices for several of its subscription plans, including Disney+, Hulu, and certain bundle options, and, man — are our bank accounts not stressed out enough?

Both standalone ad-free plans for Disney+ and Hulu are increasing by $2.50, or 13%, bringing the total cost to $21.49 a month for each, the entertainment giant told CBS News on Wednesday. The cost of Disney+ and Hulu plans with ads will both rise by 50 cents to $12.49 a month. The ad-free plan that bundles the services will also go up by $2 to $21.99.

The company said it will continue pricing its most popular bundle, a joint Disney+/Hulu subscription with ads, at $12.99.

The price hikes for new subscribers take effect immediately, while existing subscribers will see the new billing rates kick in next month.

The streaming service released a full breakdown of its new subscription prices, so if you're a customer, you can check and see how much extra change Disney will be wringing out of your pockets after turning you upside down and shaking you until the lint starts to fall out.

Maybe I'm being dramatic.

After all, it's just one service hiking its prices up by a couple of bucks. I'm not exactly being asked to choose between going ad-free and paying my mortgage this month just yet. I'll worry when this becomes a trend.

Price hikes among streaming services have become so common that The Verge has a dedicated page aggregating the news of them, which tends to arrive every few months. Apple, apparently high on Emmy fumes, has raised its prices four times in four years, keeping pace with many of its competitors despite a vastly smaller dedicated catalog. Depending on which version of Peacock subscribers use, they've seen their bills padded by five or six dollars a month just since the summer of 2025, including another increase last month. Netflix, meanwhile, hasn't gone up since March 2026. That's not a reprieve; that's a sign another hike must be around the corner.

So, basically, we can count on the entire streaming world to be out here collectively doing its best Marlo Stanfield impersonation.

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9th Annual Celebration of Black Cinema & Television



Lamorne Morris arrives at the 9th Annual Celebration of Black Cinema & Television on Monday, Nov. 16, 2026, at Fairmont Century Plaza in Los Angeles.
Richard Shotwell - Invision

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 26CUB00237
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
CHELSEA EDWARDS, DOES 1 to 50
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): JAZZLYN MCQUEENIE
N O T I C E !
You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.
The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Kern
1215 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93301
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
BRANDON B. HOLLADAY
THE LAW OFFICES OF YOUNG & NICHOLS
1901 TRUXTUN AVENUE,
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Tel. 6618617911
DATE (Fecha): 03/04/2026
Tara Leal
By Gricelda Evans, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served.
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES
(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER:
26CUB00237
To: CHELSEA EDWARDS
Plaintiff: JAZZLYN MCQUEENIE
Case Number: 26CUB00237
Seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
1. General Damages:
a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience $100,000.00
2. Special Damages:
a. Medical expenses (to date) $6,413.44
b. Future medical expenses (present value) according to proof
c. Loss of earnings (to date) according to proof
d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value) according to proof
SIGNED: Brandon B. Holladay
Date: April 22, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attorney for Plaintiff:
BRANDON B. HOLLADAY
THE LAW OFFICES OF YOUNG & NICHOLS
1901 TRUXTUN AVENUE,
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Tel. 6618617911
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB02677
Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Avenue,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Civil - Metropolitan Division Justice Building
PETITION OF: **ROSA MARIA SMITH AND LEON R. SMITH III**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **ROSA MARIA SMITH AND LEON R. SMITH III** Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
LE'ONISTY RYAN SMITH
Proposed name
LE'ONISTY RITA ANN SMITH
THE COURT ORDERS: that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: November 30, 2026
Time: 8:30 AM
Dept: L
Room:
The address of the court is: same as noted above
A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once a week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
Date: **September 28, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
By: Monique Silva,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Rosa Maria Smith and Leon R. Smith III
4900 Nordic Dr. Apt #9,
Bakersfield, CA 93309
(661) 376-4385
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB04139
Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxton Avenue,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Metropolitan Division - Justice Building
PETITION OF: **ELIZABETH ANN HERRIN**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **ELIZABETH ANN HERRIN** Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
ELIZABETH ANN HERRIN
Proposed name
BETTY ANN ALLISON
THE COURT ORDERS: that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
Date: January 4, 2027
Time: 8:30 am
Dept: L
Room:
The address of the court is: same as noted above
A copy of this Order to Show Cause must be published at least once a week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
Date: **October 20, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
By: Monique Silva,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Elizabeth Ann Herrin
174 Hickorywood ln, Bakersfield, CA, 93308
(661) 677-2833
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6315
Doing business as:
CENTRAL CAL CONSULTING at 7000 LUKE AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 7000 LUKE AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SERGIO JONATHAN OLMOS at 7000 LUKE AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **SERGIO JONATHAN OLMOS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 09/30/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/19/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/19/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6227
Doing business as:
HELPING HANDS ESTATE LIQUIDATORS at 2103 BASILONE WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing address: 2103 BASILONE WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CHERIE KAY BARROW at 2103 BASILONE WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **CHERIE KAY BARROW**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/14/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/14/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6327
Doing business as:
The Red Chickz at 4420 Coffee Rd Suite B, Bakersfield, CA 93308
Mailing address: 4420 Coffee Rd Suite B, Bakersfield, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
Patiala Restaurants LLC at 4420 Coffee Rd Suite B, Bakersfield, CA 93308
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Gurdish Kaur, Manager**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/19/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: Aimee X. Espinoza,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/19/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6360
Doing business as:
SIMPLY CENTERED at 15522 SANTA CLARA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 15522 SANTA CLARA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JOEY LEE ROLAND at 15522 SANTA CLARA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JOEY LEE ROLAND**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/21/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/21/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6344
FILE NO: 2026-B6345
Doing business as:
Sunrise Wellness Care / Sunrise Wellness Care Seniors at 5500 Ming Ave, Ste 170, Bakersfield, CA 93309
Mailing address: 5500 Ming Ave, Ste 170, Bakersfield, CA 93309
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
Universal Healthcare MSO, LLC at 5500 Ming Ave, Ste 170, Bakersfield, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Jeffrey Mihal, Managing Member / Owner**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/06/2020
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/21/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D. Hinojosa,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/21/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6406
Doing business as:
LA COCINA MICHOACANA INC at 5800 AQUAMARINE PEAK DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LA COCINA MICHOACANA INC at 5800 AQUAMARINE PEAK DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **ANDREA GABRIELA VEGA, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/22/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H. Mendoza,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/22/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6393
Doing business as:
DESENDER'S at 1408 FIELDSPRING DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 1408 FIELDSPRING DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LIERECHT DESENDER at 1408 FIELDSPRING DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **LIEBRECHT DESENDER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/10/2015
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/22/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/22/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6338
Doing business as:
CEDAR & SPARROW PRESS at 2530 SAN EMIDIO ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 2530 SAN EMIDIO ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MATTHEW LEE DARKE at 2530 SAN EMIDIO ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MATTHEW LEE DARKE**
The registrant commenced to

PUBLIC NOTICE

transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/20/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/20/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6432
Doing business as:
DITTOED_X at 4000 S REAL RD., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 4000 S REAL RD., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
VICTOR ANTHONY SANCHEZ III at 4000 S REAL RD., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **VICTOR ANTHONY SANCHEZ III**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/23/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEJA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/23/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6433
Doing business as:
AULAKH TRANSPORT at 3308 DAYBREAK CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311, KERN
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DEVENDER SINGH at 3308 DAYBREAK CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **DEVENDER SINGH**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/13/2018
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/23/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/23/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6342
Doing business as:
TAIL SWAG UNLIMITED at 7804 WESTDUMFRIES CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 7804 WESTDUMFRIES CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LAURA GENEVA ALBITRE at 7804 WESTDUMFRIES CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **LAURA GENEVA ALBITRE**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/20/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).

PUBLIC NOTICE

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
This statement expires on: 10/20/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Oct 28, Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice: This is to notify the following persons that his/her personal household and/or miscellaneous goods will be sold at public auction or private sale. Stor It Self Storage 4840 Allen Rd Bakersfield, CA 93314. The sale will take place online at www.storagetreasures.com; the bidding will end on November 18th, 2026, at 6:00pm.
B18 Cortney A. Rhonemus; K21 Robert A. Calderon; U23 Tawny Seagraves; I07 Mari Daigle
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice: This is to notify the following persons that his/her personal household and/or miscellaneous goods will be sold at public auction or private sale. Stor It Self Storage 4200 Patton Way Bakersfield, CA 93308. The sale will take place online at www.storagetreasures.com; the bidding will end November 18th, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
I051 Nasser Barham; J051 Yadira Colin
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 2026

Angela Marie Sanchez v. Jason Sanchez, Docket No. 2026-CV-85084, Rutherford County, Tennessee Circuit Court, ORDER OF PUBLICATION
Pursuant to T.C.A. 21-2-204, appearing from the allegations of the Complaint for Divorce in this cause, being duly sworn from affidavit, that Jason Sanchez, the Defendant, cannot be served with the ordinary process of law for the reason that after diligent inquiry the whereabouts of the defendant cannot be ascertained. It is therefore Ordered, that said Defendant enter an appearance 30 days after the last publication and file an Answer to the Complaint for Divorce, or judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Divorce. A copy of this Order is to be published for four consecutive weeks in the Bakersfield News Observer. Rutherford County Tennessee Circuit Court Clerk, 116 W. Lytle Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37130.
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED April 12, 2024 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY; IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANTION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.
On **November 25, 2026**, at **11 a.m.**, **LeBeau Thelen, LLP**, successor Trustee as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust or Mortgage recorded on **April 12, 2024** as Instrument No. **224041196**, Book ---, Page ---, of Official Records of the County Recorder of **Kern** County, California, executed by **Israel Martinez, an individual** as Trustor, in favor of **Gilliam & Sons, Inc., a California corporation** as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state).
At: **the front entrance to City Hall located at 1501 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301** all right title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust or Mortgage in the property situated in said County, California describing the land therein:
SEE EXHIBIT A
Assessor Parcel Number: **110-030-10**
The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The Street Address or other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: **9831 Rosedale Hwy, Bakersfield, CA 93312**
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for incorrectness of the street address or other common designation if any, shown herein.
Beneficiary Phone: **661-325-8962**
Beneficiary: **Gilliam & Sons, Inc., a California corporation**
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property.
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law

PUBLIC NOTICE

requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call **661-325-8962** or visit this Internet Web site , using the file number assigned to this case **Rosedale**. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.
Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: **$976,720.09** (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The Beneficiary May elect to bid less than their full credit bid.
The Beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the County where the real property is located and more than 3 months have elapsed since such recordation.
Trustee or party conducting sale:
LeBeau Thelen, LLP; 9801 Camino Media Ste 103, Bakersfield, CA 93309
(661) 325-8962
Date: **October 28, 2026**
LeBeau Thelen, LLP, successor Trustee
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES
(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER:
BCV-21-102361
Court Name: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Bakersfield Metropolitan Justice
Court Address: 1215 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
To: Yong Kyun Won
Plaintiff: Abel Ramirez Cervantes
Seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
1. General Damages:
a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience: $450,000.00;
b. Emotional distress: $40,000.00
2. Special Damages:
a. Medical expenses (to date): $157,181.17;
b. Future medical expenses (present value): $175,000.00;
c. Loss of earnings (to date): $15,000.00
SIGNED: Michael H. Moghtader, Esq
Date: August 17, 2026
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Michael H. Moghtader, Esq. (SBN 206421)
MHM LAW GROUP, APLC
16530 Ventura Blvd., Suite 606
Encino, CA 9143
Tel. (818) 996-9600
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES
(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER:
BCV-21-102361
Court Name: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Bakersfield Metropolitan Justice
Court Address: 1215 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
To: Young AE Won
Plaintiff: Abel Ramirez Cervantes
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SIGNED: Michael H. Moghtader, Esq
Date: August 17, 2026
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Michael H. Moghtader, Esq. (SBN 206421)
MHM LAW GROUP, APLC
16530 Ventura Blvd., Suite 606
Encino, CA 9143
Tel. (818) 996-9600
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6417
FILE NO: 2026-B6418
Doing business as:
LAV//PINNACLE / PINNACLE ENGINEERING at 12418 ROSEDALE HWY., SUITE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LAV CONSULTING & ENGINEERING, INC. at 12418 ROSEDALE HWY., SUITE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Christopher S. Quintana, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/17/2014
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/23/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name

PUBLIC NOTICE

under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/23/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6434
Doing business as:
F2S PARTENERS LLC at 529 KNOTTS STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 5106 EL PALACIO DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
F2S PARTNERS LLC at 529 KNOTTS STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Amber Falcon, Member**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/20/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/23/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/23/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6329
Doing business as:
HOMERUN MOBILE DETAIL at 14020 CHRISTELLA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing address: 14020 CHRISTELLA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MATTHEW THOMAS CAMPBELL at 14020 CHRISTELLA CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MATTHEW THOMAS CAMPBELL**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/20/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/20/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6454
FILE NO: 2026-B6455
Doing business as:
GOODBYETICKET.COM / GOODBYETICKET.COM 1 HOUR COURSE at 9800 GRIZZLY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing address: PO BOX 20423, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93390
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
GOODBYETICKET.COM LLC at 9800 GRIZZLY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **RANDY ONEAL, MEMBER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/26/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/26/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5919
Doing business as:
DRIVEN HIGHER at 15202 SAGE

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

VINEYARD CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: PO BOX 9530 HAGMAN RD., STE B363, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JENNIFER LOUISE BAIRD at PO BOX 9530 HAGMAN RD., STE B363, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
SHANNON MARIE GARCIA-BROWN at PO BOX 9530 HAGMAN RD., STE B363, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: General Partnership
SIGNED: **Jennifer Baird**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 09/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M Sales,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 09/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5792
Doing business as:
MON CHERI BOUTIQUE at 1505 19TH STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DROITURE VENTURES INC at 13110 SOLARIO LN, BAKERSFIELD CA 93306
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **MERCEDES AYALA, Secretary**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 08/24/2022
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 09/22/26
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 09/22/31

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6450
Doing business as:
LOTTIE GROVE at 15706 LAKE ARROWHEAD AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 15706 LAKE ARROWHEAD AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CYNTHIA KAY BURT at 15706 LAKE ARROWHEAD AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **CYNTHIA KAY BURT**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 12/01/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/26/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: Aimee X Espinoza,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/26/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6537
Doing business as:
FAST FINISH WWWBESTPRICECOURSECOM at 4560 CALIFORNIA AVE, STE 300, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSIFELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JACOB BRANDON MILLER at 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSIFELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JACOB BRANDON MILLER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/29/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/29/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/29/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6538
Doing business as:
FAST FINISH WWWMONEYSAVERCOURSECOM at 4560 CALIFORNIA AVE, STE 300, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JACOB BRANDON MILLER at 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JACOB BRANDON MILLER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/29/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/29/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6539
Doing business as:
LOWEST PRICE WWWSAVETIMECOURSECOM at 4560 CALIFORNIA AVE, STE 300, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JACOB BRANDON MILLER at 6305 KELVIN GROVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JACOB BRANDON MILLER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/29/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/29/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
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declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 10/26/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6478
Doing business as:
MARI'S CREATIVE CO. at 3601 EL HOGAR COURT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 3601 EL HOGAR COURT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MARISOL ROMO at 3601 EL HOGAR COURT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MARISOL ROMO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/27/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/27/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6496
Doing business as:
DOPAMINE CLUBHOUSE at 9927 METROPOLITAN WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311, KERN COUNTY
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ALEXANDREA GARZARO at 9927 METROPOLITAN WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **ALEXANDREA GARZARO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/28/2031

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6501
FILE NO: 2026-B6502
Doing business as:
KING HERNANDEZ HANDYMAN / PIMENTEL MOBILE CARWASH at 316 BALBOA DR, DELANO, CA 93215
Mailing address: 316 BALBOA DR, DELANO, CA 93215
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MIGUEL ALEJANDRO PIMENTEL HERNANDEZ at 316 BALBOA DR, DELANO, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MIGUEL ALEJANDRO PIMENTEL HERNANDEZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6493
Doing business as:
SUMMIT SUPPORT SERVICES at 122 S GREEN STREET #18, TEHACHAPI, CA 93561, KERN
Mailing address: 122 S GREEN STREET #18, TEHACHAPI, CA 93561
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SUMMIT SUPPORT SERVICES INCORPORATED at 15715 SAINT CLEMENT WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314

PUBLIC NOTICE

State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Tamerla Prince, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6503
Doing business as:
GWEN-TV at 135 OLIVE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing address: P.O. BOX 71355, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93387
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
GRANDMA WHOOPLE EDUCATION NETWORK INC at 135 OLIVE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Ali Morris, Secretary**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/13/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6232
Doing business as:
ROCK SOLID ROLLER WHEELS at 1006 BROAD STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing address: 1006 BROAD STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ROCK SOLID ROLLER WHEELS, LLC at 1006 BROAD STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Tavien Mabry, Manager**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/14/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/14/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5762
Doing business as:
THE CEO SALON AND MORE at 1110 CALLOWAY DR #100, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing address: 1110 CALLOWAY DR #100, BAKERSFIELD, CA
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CARLA ELAINE DAVIDSON OWENS at 1110 CALLOWAY DR #100, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **CARLA ELAINE DAVIDSON OWENS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/31/2008
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 09/21/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/14/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 09/21/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6237
Doing business as:
INDIGO GARDEN & CO. at 1927 20TH STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 3501 MALL VIEW ROAD 115-303, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
POPPY AND FIG HARVEST COMPANY LLC at 1927 20TH ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Christina Galvan, Manager**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/14/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/14/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF OFELIA SALAS
CASE NUMBER: 26PRJ01267
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of OFELIA SALAS.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Enedin Hernandez, Sr. in the Superior Court of California, County of Kern.
2100 College Ave.,
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Juvenile Justice Center
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Enedin Hernandez, Sr. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: December 4, 2026
Time: 8:30AM
Dept.: J-1
Address of court: same as noted above
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court

PUBLIC NOTICE

clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Gerald H. Oldfield, Esq.
McAtee & Oldfield Law Offices
1810 Westwind Drive,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 324-6010

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6370
FILE NO: 2026-B6371
FILE NO: 2026-B6372
Doing business as:
GECKOLOCO / GECKOLOCO GAMES / GECKOLOCO STUDIOS at 10605 HARPENDEN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311, KERN
Mailing address: 10605 HARPENDEN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
HECTOR MANUEL GUTIERREZ RANGEL at 10605 HARPENDEN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **HECTOR MANUEL GUTIERREZ RANGEL**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/20/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/21/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/21/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6399
Doing business as:
ROSETOWN FAMILY DENTISTRY at 1229 7-TH ST, WASCO, CA 93280, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 505 WEST COLUMBUS ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SAGARIAN, A PROFESSIONAL DENTAL CORPORATION at 505 WEST COLUMBUS ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Mike Sagarian, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/01/1997
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/22/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/22/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6070
Doing business as:
King Energy at APN#261-241-03/ Patterson Road & 190th Street East, Rosamond, CA 93560, Kern County
Mailing address: 16588 Endeavor Place, Chino, CA 91708
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
Ho Chien Electronic Group Inc. at 16588 Endeavor Place, Chino, CA 91708
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Parker Lin, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/1995
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/05/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J. Padilla,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/05/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2,

PUBLIC NOTICE

2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6587
Doing business as:
V'S CREATIVE TOUCH at 5700 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing address: 5700 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
VERONICA CAZARES at 5700 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **VERONICA CAZARES**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/04/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 11/04/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6268
Doing business as:
JUAREZ CONSTRUCTION CO. at 4108 INDIE CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 4108 INDIE CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
FRANK JUAREZ JR at 4108 INDIE CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **FRANK JUAREZ JR**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/15/1988
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/15/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 10/15/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6656
Doing business as:
ONE MORE COOKIE at 7513 LIME GROVE DR., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 7513 LIME GROVE DR., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SEENA ANASTASIA SORIANO at 7513 LIME GROVE DR., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **SEENA ANASTASIA SORIANO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/06/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 11/06/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5901
Doing business as:
BARBERS LOUNGE at 810 10TH AVE, DELANO, CA 93215
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ARMANDO CENDEJAS at 1121 WEAVER AVE, DELANO, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **ARMANDO CENDEJAS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/01/2016
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County

PUBLIC NOTICE

on: 09/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). 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
This statement expires on: 09/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B5544
Business Name you wish to abandon:
Blue Clouds Market at 1002 Wible Road Suite M, Bakersfield, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 1002 Wible Road Suite M, Bakersfield, CA 93304
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
Corner Market Holdings LLC at 1002 Wible Road Suite M, Bakersfield, CA 93304
Business was conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Ilias Touma**, Member
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: 10/30/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
J Padilla
Deputy
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
This statement expires on: 09/28/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 11, 18, 25, Dec 2, 2026

LIEN SALE

2018 KIA OPTIMA FOR SALE ON 11/30/2026
VIN: **5XXGT4L30JG180213**
Lien Sale will take place at 10:00 AM at **111 LANDFILL RD LEBEC, CA 93243**
MOUNTAIN TOWING
111 LANDFILL RD LEBEC, CA 93243

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, the landlord of the premises located at 561 North American Street Unit F, Shafter, CA 93263, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, the following abandoned personal property left behind by the former tenant:

- Machinery
- Chemicals
- Cars
- Furniture
- Forklift
- Large stainless steel vats
- Various boxes of items

Location of Sale:
Gould Auction & Appraisal Co.
6200 Price Way, Bakersfield, CA 93308
Date and Time of Sale:
Saturday December 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
Landlord/Authorized Agent:
JAAMS LLC
c/o LeBeau Thelen, LLP
(661) 325-8962

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 2026

EMPLOYMENT

Labminds Staffing and Recruiting has immediate openings for full time Medical Technologists, BS MedTech, AMT or ASCP certified, with 1 yr. experience. Located in Bakersfield, CA
Send resume to: Attn: Human Resource, 5201 California Avenue, Suite 260, Bakersfield, CA 93309

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 2026

SUMMONS
(CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 26CUB00625
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
DANTE D NAPLES, And DOES 1 through 5, Inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): LVNV FUNDING LLC
N O T I C E !
You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

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

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN
METROPOLITAN DIVISION - UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
LAURA M. D'ANNA, ESQ., SBN 266113; NELSON VENTURA, ESQ., SBN 362555
PATENAUDE & FELIX, A.P.C.
6800 Owensmouth Avenue, Suite 290,
Canoga Park, CA 91303-4216
Tel. 866-784-8084
DATE (Fecha): 02/20/2026
Tara Leal
By Alexandra Valles, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served.

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 26CUB00297
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Amrik Trans Inc.; Varinder Singh; and DOES 1 to 60, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Christopher Miller, Arlone Jones, and Malcolm Goldston

N O T I C E !

You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

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

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of the State of California, County of Kern
Metropolitan Division Justice Building
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Sara Ghafari, Esq.
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari
6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor,
Culver City, CA 90230
Tel. (818) 222-1923
DATE (Fecha): 01/29/2026
Tara Leal, Clerk
By Javen Silva, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served.

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

COMPLAINT—Personal Injury, Property Damage, Wrongful Death

Plaintiff: Christopher Miller, Arlone Jones, and Malcolm Goldston
Defendant: Amrik Trans Inc.; Varinder Singh
DOES 1 TO 60, inclusive
Case Number: 26CUB00297

1. Plaintiff (name or names): Christopher Miller, Arlone Jones, and Malcolm Goldston alleges causes of action against **defendant** (name or names): Amrik Trans Inc.; Varinder Singh; and DOES 1 to 60, inclusive
2. This pleading, including attachments and exhibits, consists of the following number of pages: 5
3. Each plaintiff named above is a competent adult
5. Each defendant named above is a natural person
a. **except** defendant (name): Amrik Trans Inc.
(2) a corporation
b. **except** defendant (name): DOES 1 to 10
(2) a corporation
c. **except** defendant (name): DOES 11 to 20
(1) a business organization, form unknown
d. **except** defendant (name): DOES 21 to 30
(3) an unincorporated entity (describe):
6. The true names of defendants sued as Does are unknown to plaintiff.
a. Doe defendants (specify Doe numbers): DOES 1 to 60 were the agents or employees of other named defendants and acted within the scope of that agency or employment.
b. Doe defendants (specify Doe numbers): DOES 1 to 60 are persons whose capacities are unknown to plaintiff.
8. This court is the proper court because
c. injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.
10. The following causes of action are attached and the statements above apply to each (each complaint must have one or more causes of action attached):
a. Motor Vehicle
b. General Negligence
11. Plaintiff has suffered
a. wage loss
c. hospital and medical expenses
d. general damage
f. loss of earning capacity
13. The relief sought in this complaint is within the jurisdiction of this court.
14. Plaintiff prays for judgment for costs of suit; for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for
a. (1) compensatory damages
The amount of damages is (in cases for personal injury or wrongful death, you must check (1)):
(1) according to proof
Date: 01/28/2026
Sara Ghafari, Esq.

_____
_____

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sara Ghafari
(SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF OR ATTORNEY)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER: 26CUB00297

Court Name: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Metropolitan Division Justice Building
Court Address: 1215 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
To: Varinder Singh
Plaintiff: Malcolm Goldston
Seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
1. General Damages:
a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience: $1,000,000.00;
b. Emotional distress: $500,000.00;
e. Other: Interest as permitted by law.: Undetermined
2. Special Damages:
a. Medical expenses (to date): $42,618.32;
b. Future medical expenses (present value): Undetermined;
c. Loss of earnings (to date): Undetermined;
d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value): Undetermined
SIGNED: Sara Ghafari, Esq.
Date: November 11, 2026
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Sara Ghafari, Esq. (SBN: 114204) / Ali Fesharaki, Esq. (SBN: 316559)
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari
6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor, Culver City CA 90230
Tel. (818) 222-1923

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER: 26CUB00297

Court Name: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Metropolitan Division Justice Building
Court Address: 1215 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301
To: Varinder Singh
Plaintiff: Arlone Jones
Seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
1. General Damages:
a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience: $1,000,000.00;
b. Emotional distress: $500,000.00;
e. Other: Interest as permitted by law.: Undetermined
2. Special Damages:
a. Medical expenses (to date): $7,149.00;
b. Future medical expenses (present value): Undetermined;
c. Loss of earnings (to date): Undetermined;
d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value): Undetermined
SIGNED: Sara Ghafari, Esq.
Date: November 11, 2026
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Sara Ghafari, Esq. (SBN: 114204) / Ali Fesharaki, Esq. (SBN: 316559)
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari
6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor, Culver City CA 90230
Tel. (818) 222-1923

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES (Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)

Case Number: BCV-25-101311
Superior Court of California, County of KERN
Court Address: 1215 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Metro Justice Building
PLAINTIFF: Mercury Insurance Company, a corporation
DEFENDANT: Abraham Flores, an individual
To: Abraham Flores, an individual
Plaintiff: Mercury Insurance Company, a corporation seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
2. Special Damages
AMOUNT
Property damage $18,342.84
Other: Uninsured Motorist Bodily Injuries
Date: 3/24/2025
S/ TODD F. HAINES, ESQ.,
Attorney for Plaintiff
Attorney or Party without Attorney: TODD F. HAINES, ESQ. SBN: 144429 Law Offices of Todd F. Haines 30495 Canwood Street, Ste. 100 Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Telephone No: 818-597-2240
Fax number: 818-597-2120
email: Xavier@haineslawoffice.com
Attorney for: Mercury Insurance Company, a corporation
11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/9/26
CNS-4095065# BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6588

Doing business as:
SPIRITUALREFLECTION.ORG at 900 4TH ST. APT 118, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing address: 900 4TH ST. APT 118, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
KEITH BROWN at 900 4TH ST. APT 118, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **KEITH BROWN**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/04/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 11/04/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6635

Doing business as:
ESCUELA TECNICA AUTOMOTRIZ EN SEMINARIOS at 3600 CHESTER AVE SUITE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301, KERN
Mailing address: 3600 CHESTER AVE SUITE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MARIA R CRUZ at 3600 CHESTER AVE SUITE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MARIA R CRUZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/05/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEJA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 11/05/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6695

Doing business as:
JJ'S PRODUCE at 5706 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 5706 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
J JESUS OROZCO GUTIERREZ at 5706 SAMUELSON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **J JESUS OROZCO GUTIERREZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/10/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: H MENDOZA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 11/10/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6708

Doing business as:
BELLA BRIGHT TEETH WHITENING at 131 CHESTER AVE STE B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing address: 7812 WILLIS AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MARIA ISABEL AVALOS at 7812 WILLIS AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **MARIA ISABEL AVALOS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/10/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D. Hinojosa,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 11/10/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6739

Doing business as:
GARCHA BROS at 9510 ORCHAD GRASS CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 9510 ORCHAD GRASS CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
KULVIR SINGH GARCHA at 9510 ORCHAD GRASS CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **KULVIR SINGH GARCHA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/17/2010
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 11/12/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/08/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B6144

Doing business as:
FTS - FIELD TECHNICIAN SERVICES at 4309 MONITOR ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: 4309 MONITOR ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SANDRA LETICIA VILLAGRANA at 4309 MONITOR ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **SANDRA LETICIA VILLAGRANA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 10/08/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. 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 to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
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
This statement expires on: 10/08/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Nov 18, 25, Dec 2, 9, 2026

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Features

Don't Pass the Torch. Expand the Circle.

By Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold and Noah M.P. Harris
Source: BlackPressUSA

On Nov. 14, hundreds of undergraduate women gathering at Morgan State University in Baltimore for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Undergraduate Leadership Institute will do more than listen to presentations. They will run the program. Graduate advisers will take seats in the back of the room.

This is intentional. Too many institutions invite young people to observe leadership without trusting them to exercise it. We believe the future of leadership depends not on one generation stepping aside for another, but on generations sharing responsibility now.

We have seen the difference from two vantage points.

For Dr. Ringgold, Morgan State is where that journey began. Initiated into Alpha Kappa Alpha's Alpha Delta Chapter in 1982, she recently reunited with two sorority sisters who guided her as an undergraduate, including a former chapter president whose example still informs her leadership today. Forty-four years later, she returns as director of the sorority's North Atlantic Region, keenly aware of what it means when someone invests in a young woman's potential. The homecoming carries added significance: Alpha Delta, chartered in 1926, is celebrating its centennial; and the chapter that shaped her is still helping shape new leaders.

For Ms. Harris, leadership is not a distant destination. She is a Bowie State University senior and president of its Eta Chapter who, this summer, was elected Alpha Kappa Alpha's International Second Vice President. As an undergraduate member of the sorority's international governing board, she carries student perspectives into decisions affecting the organization. A 2025 Leadership Fellows experience encouraged her to seek that larger platform. To her, leadership is measured by the people she can serve, not simply the position she holds.



(From left to right:) Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold and Noah Harris.

Our experiences challenge a familiar assumption: Young people must wait their turn. Founded in 1908 by Black college women, Alpha Kappa Alpha now counts more than 390,000 initiated members across more than 1,122 chapters. That reach brings a responsibility to open doors, not merely preserve tradition.

Deloitte's 2026 global survey found that 76% of Gen Z respondents were interested in pursuing senior leadership roles eventually, although only 6% of surveyed Gen Z and millennials named leadership their primary career goal. Many cited burnout, excessive responsibility and work-life balance as concerns. Young people are not necessarily avoiding leadership. They are questioning the conditions under which it is exercised.

At a time when companies are pulling back on women's advancement, Black women face persistent barriers. McKinsey and LeanIn.Org's 2025 report found that among companies studied, only 60 Black women were promoted to manager for every 100 men. Telling young women to wait their turn cannot fix an unequal pathway to leadership.

Experience matters. Seasoned leaders carry institutional memory, hard-won judgment and relationships that take years to build. But experience cannot develop in a waiting room. Young leaders need meaningful assignments, honest guidance and room to make mistakes. Experienced leaders must also be prepared to reconsider familiar ways of doing things.

We see that exchange in our own relationship. Ms. Harris draws on Dr. Ringgold's decades of sorority service and higher education experience. Dr. Ringgold listens when Ms. Harris speaks, recognizing that younger perspectives can challenge assumptions and reveal better approaches. Neither of us has all the answers. Both of us have something to contribute.

Our upcoming Undergraduate Leadership Institute will put that principle into practice. Undergraduate members will lead, with graduate members offering guidance and expertise. We're taking the same approach in planning our 96th North Atlantic Regional Conference, scheduled for March 2027, where undergraduate counterparts will work alongside graduate vice chairs in operations, programming, social activities and logistics. They'll help plan an event serving the entire region, not just their undergraduate peers.

That is the distinction between inclusion and influence. A seat at the table means little if the people invited cannot help determine what happens there.

Businesses, colleges, nonprofits and civic organizations can do the same. Pair mentorship with meaningful assignments. Involve emerging leaders in decisions before those decisions are final. Give them resources and room to grow. When they challenge a familiar practice, ask whether it still serves its purpose.

We should not ask experienced leaders to disappear or young leaders to wait. The goal isn't to pass the torch and walk away. It's to expand the circle of people empowered to lead and build stronger institutions together.

Dr. Tonja L. Ringgold is the North Atlantic Regional Director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Noah M.P. Harris, a senior at Bowie State University, is the sorority's International Second Vice President and president of its Eta Chapter.

Big Mama Said: Don't Just Remember the Village When You Need Votes!

By Terry Allen
Texas Metro News /Black Press USA Wire

Big Mama used to say, "Baby, don't come knocking on my door only when you need something. Come see about me when you need something, too!" And if you knew my Big Mama, you knew that wasn't a suggestion. That was a standard!

Well, Election Day has come and gone. The campaign signs are coming down, the political commercials have disappeared, and some politicians have already forgotten the roads leading into our neighborhoods. Isn't it amazing how quickly folks can find our churches, barbershops, restaurants, and community centers when they need our votes? They shake hands, hug babies, take pictures, and some even learn a gospel song! But Big Mama would ask, "Baby, now that they've counted our votes, who's counting our needs?"

Where are they when our schools need resources, seniors need assistance, Black-owned businesses need contracts, and young people need mentors and jobs? Big Mama would remind us, "You can't eat a handshake, and a photograph won't pay the light bill!"

But here's where the village must accept some responsibility. We cannot keep building election machines that disappear after Election Day. We need an ecosystem, connecting our churches, businesses, nonprofits, fraternities, sororities, educators, and community leaders into a year-round network of opportunity, accountability, and collective progress.

Imagine turning voter mobilization into economic mobilization. Imagine churches connecting families to resources, businesses opening doors for young entrepreneurs, and elected officials reporting measurable results instead of delivering another campaign speech. That's how we turn political influence into community investment.

And let's stop measuring success by how many politicians attend our events. Let's count jobs created, contracts awarded, young people mentored, and promises kept. Accountability isn't partisan. It's personal, and it belongs to the entire village.

Now, I'm asking you, my readers: Send me the name of an organization, business, or community initiative we should invest in and support. Let's connect our resources and build an ecosystem that strengthens the entire village! I have two organizations I'd like to add to the conversation: Don't Believe the Hype, which focuses on scholarships and educational opportunities, and City Men Cook, which provides mentoring, leadership development, and opportunities to invest in the next generation of young men. Both are about more than talking about change. They're about putting resources, relationships, and opportunities into action.



Photo credit Dion Sims Cheryl Smith DBTH Terry Allen City Men Cook

Big Mama understood that relationships require reciprocity. You cannot keep withdrawing from a community without making deposits. So whether your candidate won or lost, our responsibility remains. The election determines who holds office, but the village determines what accountability looks like.

Big Mama said, "Baby, if they know the road to your house when they need your vote, make sure they know the road back when you need results!"

The election is over. Now let's build something that outlives the campaign!

Hypertension and Heart Disease: Doctors, Advocates and Patients Are Tackling the Leading Cause of Death for Black Californians

By McKenzie Jackson
California Black Media

Andre Aikins, 55, serves as director of programs at the San Francisco-based Rafiki Coalition for Health and Wellness, an organization dedicated to improving health outcomes in the Black community.

For Aikins, that work is personal.

His father and older brother died from preventable illnesses in their late 50s, he said. So, when Aikins learned he had high blood pressure and borderline diabetes, the diagnosis came as a shock -- especially since he took pride in his healthy and active lifestyle.



Andre Aikins, 55, serves as director of programs at the San Francisco-based Rafiki Coalition for Health and Wellness.

"For a while, I refused to believe it and tried to deal with it my own way," recalled Aikins, a former math teacher and assistant principal. "After going to the doctor a couple of times, I was told it wasn't getting better, so I had to take prescription drugs, and I had to eat differently."

Those changes paid off, said Aikins.

"Blood pressure? Perfect. All my health indicators, including blood glucose, are below the range for diabetes."

But for some Black Californians, taking medication and adopting healthier habits aren't enough. Getting the right medical care can be just as critical.

Chris Goodloe, an Inland Empire resident, was doing everything right. He exercised, ate healthy foods and took his prescribed medications. Yet his blood pressure remained stubbornly high.

Frustrated with what he perceived as inadequate care at his local Kaiser Permanente facility, Goodloe sought help from a Black female doctor in Murrieta after experiencing a panic attack.

That decision, he said, made all the difference.

The doctor referred him to a specialist who prescribed a diuretic to help control his blood pressure. Goodloe credits that breakthrough to finding a physician who listened.

"I hate to make this about race, but if I hadn't seen the Black lady in Murrieta I would have never gotten to a specialist," he said.

Goodloe's experience underscores how access to attentive, effective medical care can shape health outcomes, particularly for Black patients navigating a health care system in which disparities persist.

Those disparities are especially troubling when it comes to cardiovascular disease, a leading cause of death among Black Californians.

According to the 2026 California State of Public Health Report, Black Californians have the highest reported stroke prevalence, and their cardiovascular disease death rate is 1.6 times the statewide average. Additionally, 2023 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention survey data show that Black Californians had the highest prevalence of hypertension among racial and ethnic groups in the state.

Dr. Powell Jose, a Northern California-based Sutter Health cardiologist and heart disease researcher, said high rates of hypertension remain a significant challenge in the Black community. A Sutter Health study found that Black patients under 50 had the highest rates of heart disease, stroke and heart failure compared with other groups, he said.

"When we dug into why that was the case, it was mostly related to traditional risk factors not being well controlled," Jose explained.

Experts say those findings are particularly concerning because hypertension is a major contributor to cardiovascular disease. Left untreated, high blood pressure damages blood vessels over time, significantly increasing the risk of stroke, heart attack and heart failure.

Dr. Alexis Simpkins, a vascular neurologist at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles who specializes in stroke care and cerebrovascular disease, said many people don't know they have hypertension because they aren't routinely screened.

"Hypertension is often called the 'silent killer,'" she said. "High blood pressure is the number one preventable risk factor for heart disease and stroke. Hypertension is treatable. The goal is detecting it and managing it before a serious event happens."

Aikins pointed to diet, lack of exercise and mental well-being as factors contributing to the disproportionate burden of cardiovascular disease among Black Californians. He also said reluctance to seek medical care can compound those risks.

"When you go to the doctor, most of the time we say, 'I'm okay,' unless we are on our deathbed," Aikins said. "We don't get regular checkups unless our arm is falling off."

Simpkins, an American Heart Association (AHA) volunteer expert, said the exact cause of "essential hypertension" is unknown. Rather than focusing on a single cause, she encourages patients to follow the AHA's Life's Essential 8 framework, which emphasizes healthy eating, physical activity, quality sleep, avoiding tobacco, managing cholesterol and blood sugar, maintaining a healthy weight and controlling blood pressure.

But as Goodloe's experience illustrates, personal responsibility is only part of the equation. How the health care system responds to patients with uncontrolled hypertension can be equally important.

Dr. Steven W. Chen, associate dean of clinical affairs and professor at the USC Mann School of Pharmacy and an AHA volunteer expert, said patients can struggle with uncontrolled hypertension and other chronic conditions even after months of visits with primary care providers.

Chen described a problem known as "treatment inertia," in which patients repeatedly visit doctors with elevated blood pressure but leave without adjustments to their treatment.

"We have plenty of medications, all generic and inexpensive, widely available," he said. "They're just not being deployed well. That's a fault of our system."

To illustrate how more proactive care can improve outcomes, Chen pointed to a Los Angeles program led by the late Dr. Ronald Victor that brought pharmacists into Black barbershops to help patrons manage hypertension.

According to Chen, "About 90% of participants receiving the pharmacist-led intervention achieved blood pressure control, compared with 32% of those receiving usual care."

Chen said Victor's "secret sauce" was a poster featuring a patient's photograph and testimonial that connected blood pressure management to personal goals and family milestones.

"It wasn't medical," Chen explained. "It was about things like, 'I want to be there when my kids graduate from high school, when my daughter gets married. The things you don't really think about so much, but when you start to put it together, it is what motivates you. That was remarkably effective at engaging participants."

Other health systems are also exploring ways to improve hypertension treatment and eliminate gaps in care.

A March study led by the University of California, San Francisco, found that the UC health system's use of the UC Way Hypertension Medication Algorithm helped thousands of patients achieve better blood pressure control.

Dr. Sandeep P. Kishore, an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCSF, said the program helped about 4,860 people control their blood pressure, with an estimated 72 strokes, 48 heart attacks and 38 deaths averted.

The tool provides clinicians with a step-by-step approach to medication adjustments and recommends closer patient follow-up. Between 2023 and 2025, blood pressure control among Black patients increased from 63.4% to 67.3%, while control across all patients rose from 68.5% to 73.9%.

"Nationally, we know Black patients are more likely to experience therapeutic inertia, where blood pressure stays high, but treatment isn't intensified or changed," Kishore said. "The UC algorithm gives clinicians a clear, science-backed next step and recommends faster follow-up, measurement, and clinical action, so patients reach their goals sooner."

Jose said Sutter Health has expanded remote monitoring programs that equip patients with wireless blood pressure cuffs and connect them with pharmacists who review readings and can adjust medications remotely.

Another option for patients whose hypertension remains difficult to control is renal denervation, a procedure that targets nerves surrounding the arteries supplying the kidneys to help lower blood pressure.

"I've had Black patients go through this procedure successfully, cut back on their medications, and have better blood pressure control," Jose said.

Jose also recommended that people have their lipoprotein(a), or Lp(a), levels checked at least once in their lifetime because elevated levels increase the risk of heart disease and stroke.

Simpkins emphasized that regular screening remains essential because patients cannot manage hypertension if they don't know they have it.

"High blood pressure is one of the most important risk factors we can intervene on," she said.



Chris Goodloe of the Inland Empire credits his breakthrough to finding a physician who listened.

"Even if prevention isn't possible, we know how to manage hypertension effectively. We need to make sure it doesn't become a barrier to quality of life."

At the community level, organizations such as the Rafiki Coalition are working to make prevention and early detection more accessible. The San Francisco nonprofit hosts events throughout the Bay Area to educate Black residents about health risks and encourage regular checkups.

This month, Aikins said, the organization plans to offer blood pressure screenings at a community event.

For Aikins, whose family history underscores the potentially devastating consequences of chronic illness, the message is simple: Take action before a health problem becomes a crisis.

"Don't take your health for granted," Aikins said. "Engage in preventive measures. When something doesn't feel right, get it checked out. Don't wait until you're bedridden."

Features

And Then What?

By Antjuan Seawright
Democratic Strategist BlackPressUSA

The historic Blue Tsunami we all witnessed across this country provided a clear mandate for Democrats and a clear demonstration that Americans want our elected officials focused on fixing the real problems they face every day instead of promoting a meaningless culture war that has zero impact on our lives while corporate fat cats pick our pockets to line their own.

But, that being said, I can't help but remember the words of Young Jeezy: And then what?

Look, I'm as blown away by the election results as anyone.

Last week, Democrats regained control of both houses of Congress, flipping at least 43 seats in the House and seven in the Senate. We flipped five governorships; 500 legislative seats took districts that have been red for a generation and turned them blue, and there are even more races left to be called.

According to The New Yora Times, the Black voter share grew dramatically. In Alabama, it went from 22% in 2024 to 26% in 2026. In Mississippi, it went from 30% in 2024 to 33% in 2026; in South Carolina, it went from 21% in 2024 to 24% in 2026. In Louisiana, it went from 27% in 2024 to 30% in 2026, and in Georgia, it went from 29% in 2024 to 32% in 2026.

That's a three- to four-percent growth in all of those states, and even in states like Michigan, Illinois, and New York, where there was no measurable change, that's compared to a presidential year, which, in and of itself, is absolutely huge.

In North Carolina, Senator-elect Roy Cooper got more votes from early voting than Michael Whatley got in total, and the same thing happened in Texas and Georgia. So, yes, I'm pretty excited.



Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA.

But I'm also a realist because I know progress isn't permanent and things can change in a heartbeat, especially if you don't keep your eye on the ball. I know that we need to protect this electoral progress, so we can't afford to mismanage our politics, our policies, or the promises we made on the campaign trail.

We can't afford to mismanage the broad coalition that propelled us to a historic election night.

That's what the Republicans did, and we see what it got them.

In 1967, Dr. King spoke at a similar moment, saying we had to choose between chaos and community, and in 2005, Young Jeezy asked the same question: "And then what?"

Our "what" is simple:

We have to lower the cost of living.

We have to save affordable healthcare.

We have to hold the crooks who've been running this country for the past two years accountable for their crimes.

Does that mean we launch a campaign of retribution that gets us bogged down in some neverending impeachment fight? Of course not.

We stand up against corruption while working for the people because they need our help more than they need political payback.

We choose community because we know too well what chaos looks like.

It looks like skyrocketing foreclosure rates and car repossessions. It looks like more than half of Americans are forced to rely on credit cards to pay for basic needs like groceries, rent and utilities, student debt has jumped since the Trump administration reversed course on Biden repayment and forgiveness plans and an unconstitutional war that costs us record-high diesel prices and fertilizer costs, along with 16 unnecessary American deaths.

It looks like Americans are having to take out loans to pay for groceries even though they're making six figures, and affordable housing is sitting vacant because folks still can't afford it, particularly with the dramatic cuts to SNAP and Medicaid we saw in Trump's "Big Ugly Bill."

According to the Federal Reserve, the net worth of Black households is down 25%. That's chaos.

We choose community. We choose raising the minimum wage, tackling price gouging, expanding voting rights, and putting back the subsidies that helped you pay for health insurance. We chose standing up for each other.

Young Jeezy asked the question, "And then what?" Community is the answer, and it's time to get to work.

Closing the Next Digital Divide — Communities of Color Must Have a Voice in the AI Future

By Rodney Ellis
Commissioner of Harris County Precinct One

Technology has long shaped who has access to opportunity. As artificial intelligence begins reshaping our workplaces, schools, and daily lives, we must ensure communities of color are not left catching up once again.

In 2020, the pandemic risked widening a digital divide that has put people of color at a disadvantage for years. Access to the technologies that are shaping the world should be available to all. When the internet emerged as the technology of note, children needed access for their education. Adults needed access to find work and succeed in their jobs. Increasingly, upward mobility and economic opportunity depend on having the skills to use the tools transforming our economy.

In Harris County, we worked to make sure our residents were not on the wrong side of that vast digital divide. Through the Office of Broadband, we distributed thousands of hotspots, established more than 100 public Wi-Fi locations, and invested in infrastructure to increase internet availability for under-resourced families.

Today, another divide is emerging. In 2020, the challenge was whether families could get online. Now, communities need to learn to navigate a world increasingly influenced by AI or risk being left behind. More than access, responsible AI requires thinking critically about the technology, its outputs, and the companies behind it. AI literacy builds a foundation for that reflection. We cannot allow Black and Brown communities to be the last to benefit from another technological transformation.

That is why I was proud to partner with Reverend Al Sharpton and the National Action Network (NAN) in September to bring the AI Fluency Initiative to Houston. The program seeks to provide people with practical exposure to AI and show how these tools can be used in jobs, education, small business, and more. Open to the public, programs like this give residents the knowledge to participate in a changing economy and shape the systems developing around them.

Technology companies also have a role to play in making information accessible. OpenAI partnered with NAN on AI literacy in Houston and has supported practical training across the country through OpenAI Academy. Local businesses, older adults, and educators are among the groups the company has targeted through these efforts. This kind of engagement matters. The organizations building AI tools must equip communities with the skills and confidence to use them effectively. When people understand its capabilities and limitations, AI can help them address problems they are already facing.

Entrepreneurs like Kaija Pack are already putting that potential into practice here in Texas. As she built Break Life Houston, she leveraged ChatGPT to develop business strategies and expand her customer base, ultimately growing her business enough to open a second location.

Small business owners like Kaija should understand how AI can help them compete. Workers should understand how it may change their industries. Students should learn how to use these tools responsibly. Communities should understand AI so they can have a meaningful voice when decisions about the technology affect them.

This principle has guided much of my public service. Earlier this year, Commissioner Lesley Briones and I championed Harris County's first worker Consultation Policy because workers deserve a say in the choices that will impact their livelihoods. Those voices are amplified when we understand their means of empowerment.

AI literacy is a path to that understanding. A seat at the table is most powerful when people have the knowledge they need to advocate for themselves.

Understanding includes risks as well as opportunities. We need to learn how to use these tools safely, and developers have the responsibility to build safety into their systems. OpenAI, for example, has invested in external testing, safeguards, and publicly documented standards for model behavior. Developers should pair innovation with accountability.

Closing the AI divide will be a collaborative effort. Harris County already has networks like our Digital Navigators that connect residents with technology and digital skills. We should build on initiatives like these and make practical AI education accessible at a greater scale.



Rodney Ellis, Commissioner of Harris County Precinct One. Courtesy photo.

Too often, people of color have been asked to adapt to new systems after they were built and the rules were already written. With AI, we have an opportunity to be involved from the outset.

The future should not simply happen to us. We should have a hand in shaping it.

The "Great Cleansing Election of 2026" Was a Rebuke of Trump, Not a Blank Check for Democrats

By David Deluz
Special to California Black Media Partners

Donald Trump told voters "to act like" he was on the ballot Tuesday. They did.

What I call the "Great Cleansing Election of 2026" was more than a Democratic wave. It was a reckoning. Voters who had returned Republicans to power two years earlier decided they had seen enough.

Democrats captured both houses of Congress, flipping seven Republican-held Senate seats and more than 40 House seats. The upheaval reached Kansas, Iowa, Ohio, Texas and South Carolina, states Republicans had counted on holding.

But the cleansing went beyond the electoral map. Voters rejected a government that seemed more devoted to one man's political interests than to the people it was elected to serve.

The war with Iran, tariffs, stubbornly high prices and threats to health coverage had taken their toll. Medicaid cuts and the vulnerability of rural hospitals made Washington's political combat seem increasingly detached from everyday concerns. Trump may blame Republican candidates, but voters were judging his administration and its consequences.

The election exposed a familiar truth: Americans will tolerate controversy, ideological differences and even considerable personal misconduct. What they will not tolerate indefinitely is a government that makes their lives harder while insisting everything is going wonderfully.

Republicans lost sight of that distinction. Democrats should take heed.

Four developments stand out.

First, Republican redistricting failed to deliver the protection its architects expected. Maps designed to preserve political power could not overcome the national shift. Politicians may try to choose their voters, but voters still get the final word.

Second, Black voters, particularly Black women, again demonstrated their political importance. Georgia elected Keisha Lance Bottoms as the nation's first Black woman governor. Nationally, Black voters overwhelmingly backed Democrats. That commitment deserves more than ceremonial recognition after Election Day.



David DeLuz

Third, Latino voters delivered one of the election's most consequential shifts. After moving toward Trump in 2024, they swung back toward Democrats. Reuters found that across 64 majority-Latino counties with Senate contests, the Republican vote share fell 14 percentage points from Trump's 2024 performance. In Texas's Hidalgo County, the decline approached 25 points.

Latino voters are not political property. Their allegiance is neither automatic nor permanent, and both parties would do well to remember it.

Finally, this was no Democratic Socialists of America sweep. Progressives won important victories, but so did moderates and center-left Democrats in competitive districts. The electorate rejected Republican governance. It did not endorse every Democratic proposal.

Democrats can certainly celebrate the victory. But now comes the harder work.

The greatest danger is mistaking a repudiation of Trump for a mandate to enact everything Democrats believe. Moderates, independents and disaffected Republicans helped deliver this victory. They wanted a change in direction, not a fresh set of ideological demands.

The party's strength was its breadth. Its vulnerability may be an inability to accommodate that diversity once governing begins. Demands for retribution, ideological conformity and competing priorities will come, each dressed up as a test of party loyalty.

Democrats should resist that temptation. Investigate abuses of power, defend constitutional institutions and pursue accountability. But distinguish justice from revenge. Focus on affordability, health care, economic security and ending an unpopular war. With Trump still in the White House and holding the veto, progress will require negotiation and a preference for results over theater.

Trump's mistake may have been treating his 2024 victory as permission to ignore Americans who opposed him. Democrats must not repeat it.

Voters did not hand Democrats Congress because they fell in love with the party. They want the government to put their interests ahead of political ambition and personal loyalty.

The Great Cleansing Election may have cleared the political map. But voters demanded more than a change in who governs. They demanded a change in whom government serves.

Whether this election becomes a turning point depends on Democrats understanding the assignment.

About the Author

David B. DeLuz is a political commentator, Democratic strategist, and civil rights leader with more than 20 years in politics, government, and community advocacy. A longtime advocate for social and economic justice, he has also taught politics and public policy as an adjunct professor.

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Political

Political Playback:

California Capitol News You Might Have Missed



California State Capitol in Sacramento. CBM file photo.

By Bo Tefu
California Black Media

Becerra Expands Transition Team, Names Maxey, Holoman and Other Key Advisers

\Bay Area Urban League President Kenneth E. Maxey II will co-lead external affairs, while Teri Holoman will oversee appointments as the governor-elect assembles his incoming administration.

California Gov.-elect Xavier Becerra has named two Black leaders, Kenneth E. Maxey II and Teri Holoman, to key positions on his gubernatorial transition team as he prepares to take office Jan. 4, 2027.

Maxey, president and CEO of the Urban League of Greater San Francisco Bay Area, will serve as co-director of external affairs alongside Democratic political and labor strategist Courtni Pugh. Holoman was named appointments director, a position responsible for helping coordinate the selection of individuals to serve in the incoming administration.

The appointments place both leaders in roles that will help shape the administration's early outreach, relationships and leadership appointments.

The Urban League congratulated Maxey in an Instagram post, highlighting his decades of work advancing economic empowerment, equal opportunity and social justice for Black families and underserved communities throughout the Bay Area.

The organization also noted that Maxey and Becerra have known each other for approximately 30 years, describing the governor-elect as having called Maxey "a friend and a brother."

Becerra announced his initial transition leadership team on Nov. 10, naming longtime aide Liz Saldivar to lead the effort. Saldivar previously worked for Becerra during his service in Congress and as California attorney general.

Other members of the transition team announced as of press time include senior advisers Kyle Layman, a campaign strategist, and Lindsey Cobia, a longtime adviser to outgoing Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Arsenio Mataka was named policy director, while Nicole Elliott will oversee agency reviews, a process intended to assess state departments and prepare the incoming administration for governing.

Becerra also added experienced state budget officials to the team. Erika Li, chief deputy director for budget at the California Department of Finance, was named budget director. Michael Cohen, a former state finance director who has served in a senior investment role at the California Public Employees' Retirement System, will serve as senior adviser for budget.

Additional appointments announced as of press time include Laiza Negrete and Robbie Abelon as legislative affairs leads and Jeff Nesbit as communications lead.

The governor-elect has outlined affordability as a central priority under the theme "California Dreams, California Delivers."

"My parents came to California for its promise: that the reward for hard work would be a good life — one you can afford, with enough left over to provide for your family," Becerra said in announcing the transition team.

"Too many families are working just as hard today and falling further behind," he added. "This transition has one job: to ensure my administration is ready to deliver on day one."

Becerra is scheduled to be sworn in as California's next governor on Jan. 4, 2027.



Graphic by Chris Allen CTGraphics (CBM)

Baseball Great Barry Bonds, Park Ranger Betty Reid Soskin and Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi Among California 2026 Hall of Fame Inductees

Former San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds; former California park ranger Betty Reid Soskin, who died at 104; singer-songwriter Joni Mitchell; and former U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi are among the 20 inductees selected for the 2026 California Hall of Fame, Gov. Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom announced Nov. 12.

The class also includes the late comedian and actor Robin Williams and the rock band Metallica. It is the 20th class inducted into the California Hall of Fame and the final one under the Newsom administration.

The inductees will be formally recognized during a ceremony in December at the California Museum.

"For 20 years, the California Hall of Fame has celebrated the extraordinary people who make this state what it is," said Newsom. "This historic class reflects the very best of California and what's possible when people have the courage to think big and make a difference. Their legacy will inspire the next generation to keep pushing boundaries and showing the world what Californians can do."

Bonds is being recognized for his career with the San Francisco Giants and his place in baseball history as Major League Baseball's all-time career home run leader. Mitchell, a singer and songwriter, joins the class for her contributions to music.

Pelosi, a Democrat from San Francisco, is being inducted as a former speaker of the House. Williams, who died in 2014, is being honored for his work as a comedian and actor. His film credits include "Good Will Hunting," "Dead Poets Society," "Mrs. Doubtfire" and "Aladdin."

Soskin was a civil rights activist and National Park Service ranger at Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, where she shared the often-overlooked experiences of Black women during the war. Soskin retired at 100 as the oldest full-time ranger in the service's history and is being inducted posthumously into the California Hall of Fame. She died last year at 104.

The other inductees include Emmy-winning actor Edward Asner, vineyard owner Andy Beckstoffer, chef Dominique Crenn, filmmaker Guillermo del Toro and artist Shepard Fairey.

The class also includes author Maxine Hong Kingston, actor Diane Ladd, musician Huey Lewis, civil rights activist Felicitas Mendez, singer Bonnie Raitt, and Rob and Michele Reiner, a director, actor and film producer who were founding board members of the American Foundation for Equal Rights.

Rounding out the class are Susie Tompkins Buell, co-founder of Bay Area brands Esprit and The North Face, and Metallica, the legendary metal band.

Newsom Announces $81 Million for Climate-Smart Agriculture Projects

Last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced $81 million in proposed funding for climate-smart agriculture projects across 55 California counties, supporting farmers' efforts to conserve water, improve soil health and reduce pollution.

The funding, announced at the COP31 climate summit in Turkey on Nov. 13, will be administered through the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Healthy Soils Program and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP). Local partners will help farmers apply for grants and adopt practices to strengthen farms against drought and climate change.

The awards are tentative pending approval through the state's bond accountability process. Funding comes from Proposition 4, the $10 billion climate bond approved by California voters in 2024. The bond set aside $300 million for climate-smart agriculture, including $65 million for soil health and carbon storage and $40 million for water and energy efficiency.

"California agriculture feeds the country, and our farmers are already dealing with a hotter, drier climate," Newsom said. "We're backing them with proven tools to save water, build healthier soils, cut pollution, and keep farms productive for the long haul."

Since 2014, SWEEP has supported more than 1,300 on-farm projects, conserving 1.5 million acre-feet of water and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, according to the state.

Since 2017, the Healthy Soils Program has funded more than 2,300 projects, reducing emissions by 1.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. Together, the programs have received more than $320 million in grants, affected nearly 390,000 acres and cut emissions equivalent to removing 610,000 cars from the road for a year, the state said.

CDFA Secretary Karen Ross said the funding will provide farmers and ranchers with tools, technical assistance and regional support to improve water efficiency and soil health.

California voters approved Proposition 4 in 2024. The state says information about the programs and grant opportunities will be posted at cdfa.ca.gov/oars as agreements begin. A list of proposed awardees and service areas is available here.

Kevin Murray, California Lawmaker Who Championed Civil Rights, Clean Energy and Urban Renewal, Dies at 66

By Tanu Henry
California Black Media

Kevin Murray helped California confront crimes it had barely named, brought solar power into the mainstream and insisted that working-class Los Angeles neighborhoods deserved parks.

The former Democratic Assemblymember and State Senator, whose policy interests ranged from identity theft and racial profiling to recording artists' rights and homelessness, died Nov. 10 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He was 66.

"Today we mourn the loss of a former CLBC chair, the venerable Kevin Murray," the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) said in a statement. "Kevin certainly left his mark."

A cause of death has not been publicly disclosed.

The Weingart Center, where he worked from 2010 to 2025 and was president and CEO, acknowledged his death, praising the depth of his commitment to addressing homelessness.

"Kevin devoted his career to public service and to improving the lives of all Angelenos. His commitment to addressing homelessness and tireless work leading our organization can never be adequately measured," the center wrote in a statement.

Born March 12, 1960, Murray grew up in View Park, a predominantly Black community in southwest Los Angeles County, where his father, Willard H. Murray Jr., an aerospace engineer turned legislator, immersed him in local politics. Elected to the Assembly in 1994, Murray made history as the first California assemblymember to serve alongside his father. He represented the 47th Assembly District until 1998 and the 26th Senate District from 1998 to 2006.

The elder Murray served in the Assembly from 1988 to 1996, representing the 52nd District in Los Angeles County.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass called Murray "a son of the city" and "brilliant legislator."

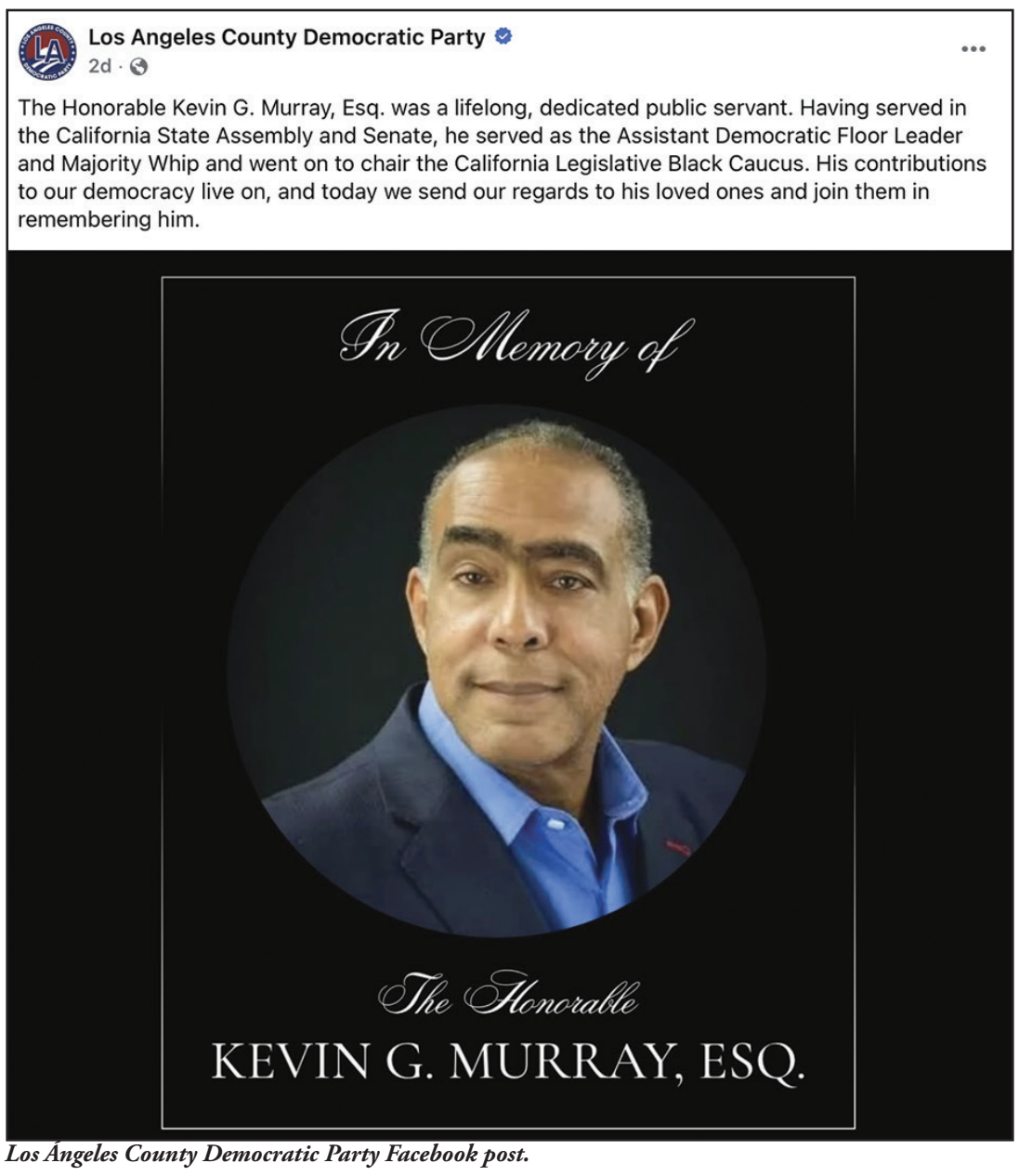
"Senator Murray and I served together in Sacramento," said Bass. "When I arrived in the Legislature, he was already a respected leader in the Senate. Senator Murray saw himself as a legislator first, and he was a very good one."

Murray challenged conventional thinking about whom the government should protect and how to take on discriminatory practices long accepted as the norm, while anticipating emerging threats to consumers. He championed a pioneering 1997 identity theft law when digital fraud was still in its infancy, advanced legislation restricting unsolicited commercial emails and pushed for stronger internet privacy protections.

His Senate Bill (SB) 1102 confronted racial profiling by law enforcement, challenging the widespread practice of targeting Black motorists, commonly known as "driving while Black."

Sen. Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego) CLBC chair, said Murray "dedicated himself to public service and advocating for the communities he represented."

Murray also pushed protections for domestic violence survivors and houses of worship, supported arts education and sought greater access to technology in schools. An entertainment lawyer before entering office, Murray challenged recording contracts and royalty practices he believed disadvantaged musicians, even when his proposals encountered formidable industry resistance.



Los Angeles County Democratic Party Facebook post.

Murray also made his mark on environmental policy, helping to create the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, protecting land that became the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and securing funding for parks in underserved urban communities. His solar legislation helped advance California's Million Solar Roofs initiative, which expanded clean-energy opportunities beyond affluent neighborhoods.

"Senator Murray leaves behind a lasting impact on our community from clean energy and consumer protection to civil rights," said Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles).

In a 2021 oral history recorded by UC Berkeley's Oral History Center for the California State Archives, Murray described his priorities plainly: "I still consider urban parks, along with solar energy, to be one of my biggest accomplishments."

Murray said he built his record through negotiation, sometimes across party lines and sometimes against conventional allies.

He chaired the Assembly Transportation Committee and later the Senate Appropriations and Transportation committees, the Senate Democratic Caucus and the CLBC.

A graduate of California State University, Northridge, Murray earned an MBA from Loyola Marymount University and a law degree from Loyola Law School. Before politics, he worked at the William Morris Agency, a reputed talent agency in Hollywood; after leaving the Legislature, he returned to entertainment and consulting.

At the Weingart Center, he helped expand supportive housing, including the 19-story Weingart Tower on Skid Row in Los Angeles. He argued that housing solutions should also address mental illness, addiction, job readiness and the services residents need to rebuild their lives.

He also defended opportunities for smaller housing developers. In a 2020 California Black Media report (CBM), Murray challenged proposed Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) eligibility rules that critics feared would disadvantage Black developers seeking access to billions in affordable-housing funds.

"This change will further limit the eligible pool of housing providers," he wrote to HCD, urging the state to preserve broader participation.

His Weingart tenure ended amid scrutiny of a costly property transaction. Federal prosecutors charged a real estate intermediary in connection with the deal; Murray was not charged. The controversy complicated, but did not erase, his record of housing development and public service.

Leaders and organizations from across California remembered a legislator who could move from technical policy detail to the larger question of opportunity.

Assemblymember Corey Jackson (D-Moreno Valley), the CLBC secretary and incoming chair, echoed that tribute, remembering Murray as an "Assemblymember, Senator, brother, boss, and friend."

The Los Angeles NAACP recalled his service "with rigor, heart, and a deep respect for the people his work touched," adding, "He later gave his energy to those in need."

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn remembered a friend who worked to help people experiencing homelessness. She also paid tribute to his father, "Public service was in his blood," she said. "I am grateful to both of them for their service to California."

Murray is survived by his wife, Janice, and their children, Jordan and Matthew. His sister, Melinda, also survives him.

No public statement from his immediate family was available at publication. His family's private grief accompanies a public reckoning with the reach of his work, from online safeguards to hillside trails and housing for people with nowhere to sleep.

The most revealing measure of Murray's legacy may be the advice he gave aspiring public servants in that oral history: "Just go do it."

And the CLBC offered a farewell that captured the affection behind the policy accomplishments: "We will miss him dearly and grieve with all who knew him. Rest in peace, Senator."

Local

Delano Teen Koumba Diallo Goes Live on NBC's 'The Voice'

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

For as long as she can remember, Koumba Cariño Diallo dreamed of singing on NBC's "The Voice."

The 15-year-old submitted an audition tape with four songs in October 2025. A couple of days later, on her 15th birthday, on Oct. 25, she was invited for a trial and interview. A few weeks later, at Thanksgiving, she was asked to send more information and song choices. Then came the long wait. Her mother had encouraged her to try again.

Then came the call in spring 2026!

Diallo was invited for a blind audition at the Burbank studio in front of the show's judges, including Kelly Clarkson. She advanced, and today, she is continuing the competition with a live performance.

"I've never done anything like this before," Diallo said prior to the live taping.

The live performance culminates a whirlwind year for the teen.

During the blind audition, in September 2026, Diallo sang Demi Lovato's "Stone Cold."

All four judges, including Clarkson and Adam Levine, signaled their support by turning their chairs to face Diallo as she sang.

"Waiting for Adam to turn was a bit excruciating because everyone had already turned," she said. "Everyone was looking at him. They were like, 'Adam, turn!' Finally I hit my big note and he turned, and I was like, 'Oh my God.'"

Backstage, her mother and vocal coach cheered her on.

"She was going crazy," Diallo said of her mother, Richelle Cariño-Diallo.

All four coaches, who also included Queen Latifah and Riley Green, wanted her on their teams. Clarkson said she hadn't expected Diallo to pick her.

"This show was created for voices like yours," Clarkson told Diallo. " Congratulations. I want to be your coach."

Choosing Clarkson was easy. Diallo said she grew up hearing Clarkson's music, especially her Christmas songs, which her mother played.

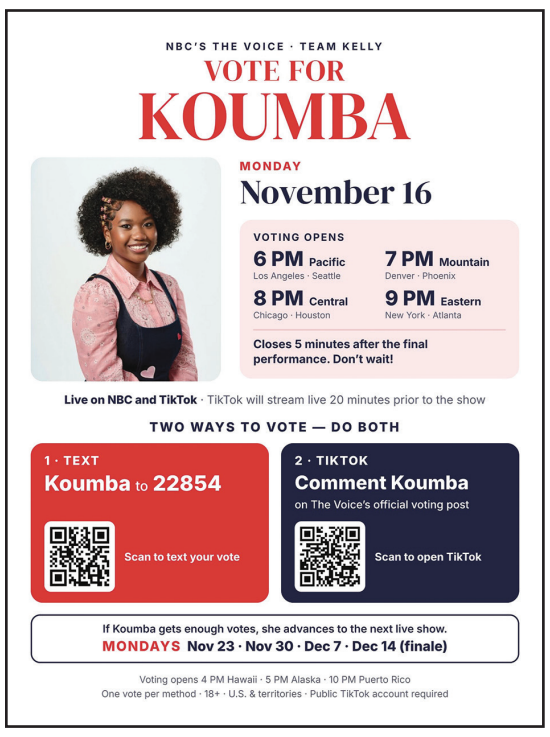
"She's so accomplished, and I look up to her," Diallo said. "She's been on the same journey as me. She was on another show auditioning, and she won."

Besides Diallo's powerful voice, Clarkson's main note after the blind audition was telling her that the key to advancing would be knowing when to showcase different parts of her vocal range, rather than relying on big notes throughout a performance.

Diallo said she worked on that through the summer of 2026, and it paid off in her battle round, a duet of Billie Eilish's "Birds of a Feather."

"I think that's one of my favorite performances ever because I really got to showcase a more soft and intimate side of my voice," she said. "My entire life I've been like, 'Well, OK, I know that I can hit a lot of notes,' but I've never really shown that side of my voice."

Clarkson then sent her straight through Cut



Voting



Koumba Diallo perform at the blind auditions. Photo by: Griffin Nagel/NBC.



The top 13 contestants of The Voice Season 30. Photo by Trae Patton, NBC



Koumba Diallo with teammate Lance Tenazas. Photo by Cory Osborne, NBC

Week, the round where coaches make selections for the live show. Hers was the first name Clarkson called among the 13 artists going to the live shows.

"I was like, 'What? Me?'" Diallo said.

The competition has also brought difficult moments, like not knowing whether she will advance to the next round and watching fellow contestants leave.

Away from the big stage, Diallo remains a student balancing honors and college-level classes, choir and the demands of a national singing competition.

She is currently completing schoolwork through independent study, which lets her move between assignments and rehearsals.

"I think the biggest things for me to learn here are being mature, being responsible and being able to time manage and prioritize," she said.

Diallo takes another step in the competition today when Team Kelly and Team Riley contestants perform live. For Diallo, the immediate goal is to advance, but she also wants viewers to see more than a teenager who can hit impressive notes.

She asked supporters to vote for her by texting KOUMBA to 22854 or commenting her name on the pinned vote post on NBC's official The Voice TikTok account.

Though Monday's show will only air live on the East Coast, she said Californians can watch each performance on social media right after it airs.

"I sing because it brings me joy, and I hope that it brings other people joy," she said. "And that it shows them who I am as an artist and who I'm becoming."



