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Bakersfield News Observer

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How Doulas Are Supporting Black Mothers in Bakersfield, Where the System Falls Short

Advocates say doulas are an answer to a nationwide maternal health crisis

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

It was around 6 p.m. on April 1, 2023, when Treana Adams, a Black Bakersfield mother, arrived on the delivery floor four centimeters dilated. Ready to give birth to her second child, she immediately phoned her doula Dani Wallace.

"I was very relieved when I actually saw her walk through the door," said Adams, a corrections officer. "Having somebody there that was standing up for me, understood the terms, and broke everything down so that I could adequately understand and make a decision for myself — that was very beneficial."

What followed was 12 hours of labor. Wallace held Adams' hand through contractions, coached her breathing, massaged her back, and watched closely to ensure Adams' birth plan was being followed. When her baby boy arrived, Wallace remained beside them to check the placenta and stitches. Wallace had been there for every minute of Adams' labor and birth.

"Every pregnant friend of mine, I'm just like, 'You should get a doula,'" said Adams.

Nationally, Black women die from pregnancy-related causes at more than three times the rate of white women. According to the CDC's Maternal Mortality Review Committees in 2022, 85% of these deaths are preventable. In California, the racial gap is even wider than the national rate: Black women die at nearly four times the rate of white women, according to the California Department of Public Health.

Pregnancy-related mortality describes the death of the mother during pregnancy or within a year of childbirth. When you head into Kern County, statistics around pregnancy-related mortality spell a crisis for all mothers.

"Our maternal health statistics, when we take a look at that data — unfortunately our rates are poorer than we see at the state average," said Kimberly Hernandez, Kern County Public Health's division director of health services.

Kern sits 53rd out of California's 58 counties in overall health outcomes. The Southern Central Valley region, which includes Kern County, has the highest pregnancy-related mortality rate in the state at 27 per 100,000 live births — more than double the California average and nearly 50% higher than the national rate, according to the state health department.

For Black mothers in Kern County, the No. 1 agricultural-producing region in the country, the numbers are bleaker still. For this group, life-threatening birth complications are seen at nearly three times the rate of white women in the same county.

"We know we have room to grow in efforts around increased prenatal care in the first trimester, decreasing infant mortality, and decreasing low birth weight," said Hernandez at the county health department. "And when we look more granularly, we continue to have higher rates in Black and African American mothers and babies born to Black and African American mothers."

The presence of doulas here is increasingly seen as an essential part of efforts to reduce maternal mortality.

DOULAS STEP IN WHERE THE SYSTEM FALLS SHORT

Lexus Block, 32, a behavior analyst and Black first-time mother in Bakersfield, called Wallace the moment she found out she was pregnant in 2023 — even before she found a prenatal doctor.

Later, when Block did visit her doctor, she told them that she had a doula. The doctor seemed surprised, Block said. When asked why she had a doula, Block told the doctor she was worried. "I don't trust you guys, to be frank," she said, noting the much higher risks faced by Black mothers in childbirth.

The American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists describes a doula as a professional who is specifically trained in labor and childbirth support.

"Doulas don't replace the ob-gyn, nurses, and other trained health care professionals who care for you in the hospital," wrote OB/GYN Denise De Los Santos on her own choice to use a doula. Instead, "they act with your values, wishes, and best interests in mind. A doula can provide physical, emotional, and informational support in many ways."

A 2018 statewide survey by the National Partnership for Women & Families found that 15% of Black mothers sought support from a labor doula, a reflection of the need for and the growing recognition of their role among women facing the highest risks in childbirth. Latinas followed closely at 10%, white mothers at 8%, and Asian mothers at 3%. Maternal health advocates have linked doula support to better health experiences.

"What we are trying to do as doulas is really bridge the gap between patients and physicians," said Raven Thomas, co-founder of the Three Moons Doula Collective, an association of doulas and advocates in Kern County.

"Patients don't get a whole lot of knowledge from providers about how they should be feeling or what changes are going on in their bodies. We're trying to help people advocate for themselves, so they're able to say, 'This is what I like, this is what my body does, this is how I'd like to give birth.'"

Since January 1, 2023, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has covered doula services under Medi-Cal maternal care plans. Medi-Cal recognizes doulas who have been certified through 100 statewide organizations. As of the beginning of April 2026, more than 1,411 doulas have enrolled statewide.

Nu'Ponica Barker (Photo credit: Cecil Egbele)

In California, doulas are not licensed by the state, but to be covered under Medi-Cal, they must complete a minimum of 16 hours of training, CPR certification, and have supported at least three births. Training covers everything from the physical and emotional support of labor to postpartum care, breastfeeding, and understanding racial disparities in maternal health and reproductive care.

DHCS lists 26 doulas in Kern County. This past March, Wallace trained 29 certified doulas, while Raven Thomas' Three Moons Doula Collective is set to train another batch in June.

"One of the big focus areas has been really improving access to doulas, as well as increasing collaboration between the traditional medical community and including doulas as part of that care team," said Hernandez of Kern County Public Health. Hernandez believes Kern County has made meaningful strides in terms of getting doulas covered through health insurance plans and opening up the perinatal care community.

"They are more than just a support person. They are part of this patient's medical team."

MAKING SURE MOTHERS AND BABIES HAVE A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME

Some doctors see doulas as partners in care. Dr. Chibuike Anucha, who has delivered babies in Kern County for more than two decades, has worked alongside doulas and said some patients find it easier to speak more freely to a doula than to a doctor. "Some patients have a lot of belief in the doula, and they consider them another family member that looks after their well-being."

"The doula, like the nurse and myself, are like a team. Our goal is to make sure that the mom and the baby have a successful outcome."

Dr. Anucha is careful to draw a line, however: he said a doula should never tell her patient not to listen to her medical team. But there's a role for a doula who advocates for a patient's birth plan, who catches something the clinical team missed, who helps a woman feel safe enough to speak, he said.

"If for some reason I'm doing something that a doula doesn't think is the right thing, she can call my attention. I would be glad to explain. I wouldn't in good conscience do anything detrimental to my patient."

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SYSTEM DOESN'T LISTEN

Denisha "Dani" Wallace is a doula, a community health worker, a student midwife, and a strategic advisor for the California Coalition for Black Birth Justice. She accompanies mothers to appointments, prepares them with questions, coaches them to speak up, and steps in when the system won't listen.

On a typical weekday in Bakersfield, Wallace is on the floor of someone's living room or in her childbirth education room, sprawled on the floor to demonstrate stretches for the lower back and hips — all the places that hurt most in the third trimester. When her client looks uncertain, she repeats the exercise slowly.

Adams, 32, the corrections officer, clearly remembers performing these exercises when Wallace came to visit. "We did yoga right here in the living room. We went outside and walked the neighborhood. She even incorporated my partner, showed him how to massage if something was hurting, how to help me stretch."

Lexus Block (Photo credit: Cecil Egbele)

Adams' first pregnancy at 19 culminated in a C-section, which she believes she never needed. For her second pregnancy she wanted a doula. She had Wallace.

As a Black mother of five, Wallace became a doula because she believes she is a living example of what can happen when the system does not listen. During her third pregnancy in 2008, Wallace felt she didn't get the care or attention she needed while she was vomiting day and night. She experienced severe weight loss, and was unable to sleep, eat, or care for her other two children, she said.

Her son Jeremiah was born on April 10, 2009, and died seven months later. While there are no definitive answers, Wallace still wonders many years later if her son would have survived if her health complications during pregnancy had been addressed.

Nu'Ponica Barker, a caregiver with In-Home Supportive Services, describes a disturbing moment before the birth of her second child in 2023.

As Barker remembers the incident, a resident doctor entered the delivery room, put on a long glove, and, without asking, performed a membrane sweep, an internal procedure where a doctor inserts a finger and makes a sweeping motion around the cervix to try to trigger the start of labor. Barker had explicitly written in her birth plan that she did not want one. (The Observer was not able to independently verify her account.)

"She didn't ask me. She just did it," Barker said, recalling what felt like a "violation." Barker, who had her husband by her side in the delivery room, wishes that Wallace had also been in the room to advocate for her.

"I'm sure she would have caught that and been able to say, 'Hey, no. That's not what she wants. What are you doing this for?'"

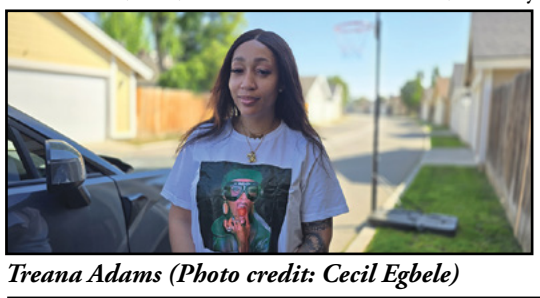
Barker remembers the moment she heard Wallace's voice outside the delivery room. She knew her doula was close. When Wallace came through the door, something settled.

"It was like night and day. She was there for me in a way that no one was able to do prior to that," Barker recalled. "She mirrored what I wanted, what I needed. She brought a sense of calm and peace and assertiveness," said Barker. "She was my backbone. Whatever I said, she was there to assert."

In any given week, Dani Wallace is on the living room floor practicing yoga with a pregnant mother, on the phone with a hospital director making sure she gets into a delivery room, or mapping out her next advocacy plan so that another Black pregnant woman will be heard.

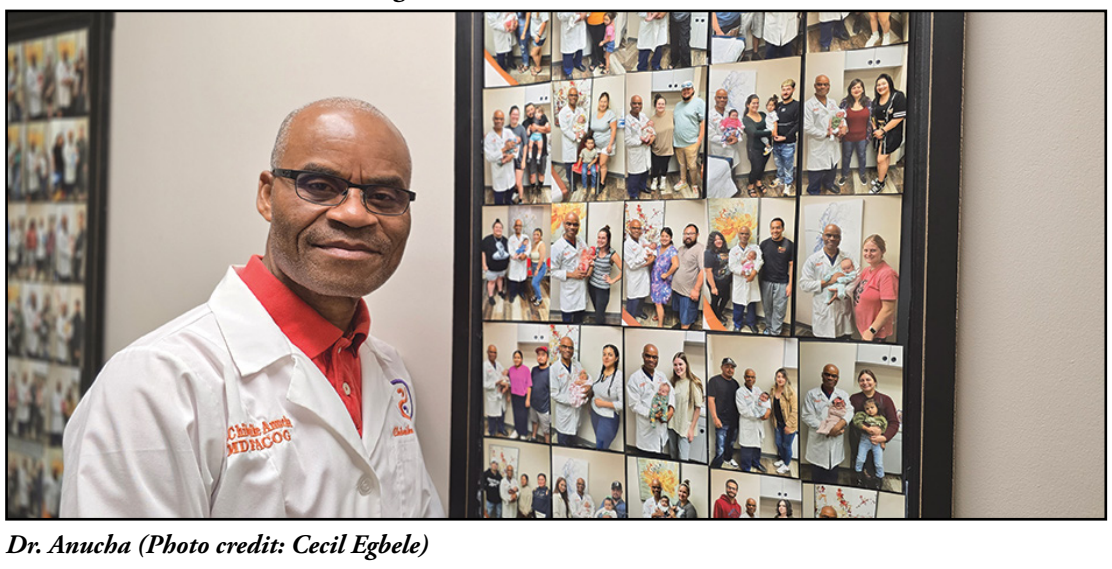
For Treana Adams, Lexus Block, Nu'Ponica Barker, and a growing number of Black mothers in Bakersfield, a doula was the difference between being heard and being ignored, between a birth plan honored or overridden. Between a greater likelihood of a mother who comes home, and one who doesn't..

"I do tell people, if you're going to have a child, get a doula," Block said.



Treana Adams (Photo credit: Cecil Egbele)

Dani Wallace (Photo credit: Cecil Egbele)



Dr. Anucha (Photo credit: Cecil Egbele)

Rapper Akon Defends His Views About Polygamy Says Men and Women Are Not Equal

Akon sparked debate again after defending polygamy and saying men and women are not equal, linking his views to nature and how he believes relationships are structured. His remarks sparked renewed debate on gender roles and modern relationships.

In an interview with Justin Laboy, Akon confirmed that he practices polygamy and is involved with multiple women. He described it as a personal lifestyle choice and said he does not treat it as something secret or controversial.

According to Rolling Out, the conversation shifted when he was asked whether women should have the same freedom in relationships. Akon rejected the idea, saying, "Absolutely not. It doesn't work that way. Only in America do they get it twisted where women feel like they're equal to men."

He supported his position by pointing to biology and reproduction. Akon said, "A woman can have one baby a year. A man can have a thousand. That's our purpose and role in life. That's nature." He said this difference shapes how he sees roles in relationships.

His remarks spread quickly across social media and triggered strong reactions. Critics argued that his view reduces relationships to reproduction alone and overlooks emotional connection, social structure, and modern ideas of equality between partners.

Akon also suggested that men often try harder to understand women than the other way around. He claimed, "If women understood men the same way, they would rule the world."

Woman Mistakenly Paid $1,650 an Hour Arrested After Refusing to Return Money to Employer

Rene Nichole Coleman, a 50-year-old woman from Arkansas, was arrested after authorities said she kept more than $19,000 that was accidentally overpaid to her due to a payroll error. The payment mistake set her hourly wage at $1,650 instead of $16.50, and she allegedly refused to return the excess funds.

On May 10, 2025, a payroll system glitch at a business in Jonesboro, Arkansas, miscalculated Coleman's pay for a scheduled 12-hour shift. Because of the error, her wage was processed at the incorrect rate of $1,650 per hour. That shift alone resulted in a total payment of $19,388 being deposited into her account.

A police affidavit stated that Coleman did not report the overpayment to her employer. The company later discovered the issue during a routine review of payroll records.

Once the discrepancy was identified, the business owner reported the matter to the police on August 12, 2025. Authorities said supporting documents and internal communications confirmed the money was not legitimately owed.

According to KAIT8, investigators said Coleman was contacted and initially agreed to meet with a detective, but she failed to attend the scheduled interview. This led to the issuance of an arrest warrant.

She was later arrested on April 6 in connection with the outstanding warrant. Coleman now faces a theft charge involving more than $5,000 but less than $25,000, classified as a Class C felony in Arkansas.

A judge set her bond at $15,000 cash or surety, and she is scheduled for arraignment on May 18. Officials have not released additional details about her specific job role or further information about the company involved.

Black Congressman in South Carolina Says MAGA Politicians Told Him Slavery Was Good

Congressman James Clyburn of South Carolina says that some MAGA Republicans told him directly that slavery was a good thing. He also warned that some would try to bring back Jim Crow-style systems in the United States if given the chance.

Clyburn made the comments during an interview on PBS's Firing Line with Margaret Hoover. In the same discussion, he spoke about his book The First Eight, which looks at South Carolina's first eight Black members of Congress after the Civil War and how they shaped political progress.

He said the book was written after the January 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. He said the event reflected long-standing ideas tied to the Antebellum South and modern political reactions.

According to Atlanta Black Star, a clip from the interview later circulated online, showing Clyburn talking about conversations he has had with some MAGA supporters in his district. He said a small number openly expressed support for returning to segregation-era systems.

When asked if he viewed MAGA Republicans as racist, Clyburn said he does not apply the label broadly, but said some individuals openly identify as white supremacists and defend slavery.

"I'm very circumspect about using the term. There are racists," Clyburn said. "There are white supremacists. There are people who are supporters of this president who admit to me that they are white supremacists. I've had people who support this president tell me that they thought slavery was a good thing."

He also referenced earlier polling of Trump supporters that showed differing views on emancipation and Civil War history.

Clyburn added that some supporters want policies that closely resemble slavery-era conditions without violating the Constitution. He warned that changes in the Supreme Court could make it easier for such efforts to advance, saying that systems from the past could reappear.

World & Nation

DC Voters Fill the Seats at 'Ask a D.C. Candidate Mayoral Forum'

By D. Kevin McNeir
Special to The AFRO

Six candidates for the 2026 Washington, D.C. mayoral race answered questions on topics ranging from affordable housing, high utility bills and childcare costs, to the budget and working with the federal government, during a recent two-hour forum – and voters showed up in force.

More than 300 people attended the event held in the auditorium of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in downtown Washington on April 20.

Candidates who participated in the forum included three current or former D.C. Council members, Janesse Lewis George, Kenyan McDuffie and Vincent Orange, as well as three others, Gary Goodweather, Rini Sampath and Hope Solomon. Ernest Johnson, who has declared his candidacy for D.C. mayor, did not attend.

On the question of creating greater revenue for the District in a political season in which the federal government has slashed budgets, Goodweather, a seasoned business executive and military veteran, encouraged voters to review his campaign agenda.

"If D.C. is going to survive and remain a leading U.S. city in the future, we must consider new ways to reduce costs and increase revenue," he said. "One of those ways is to look at the clean energy industry, especially given the huge bills people are now facing from companies like Pepco.

"We often hear residents express the need for more affordable housing. Again, when we can generate more community capital, we can afford to build more housing for those who face financial challenges," he continued. "In some cases, it costs more to build and maintain affordable housing than it does for market-priced housing. So, D.C. needs a mayor who can think creatively and knows the business terrain."

McDuffie said he's concerned about the cost of childcare, and he has good reason to be.

Six candidates vying for Washington, D.C., mayor answer questions about their plans for the city during a mayoral forum co-sponsored by The 51st, The Washington Informer, SpotlightDC and the DC Public Library. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)

According to a 2025 report published by the Economic Policy Institute, the average cost of infant care in the District is $28,356 – that's $2,363 per month. A minimum wage worker in D.C. would need to work full time for 41 weeks, or from January to October, just to pay for childcare for one infant. In other words, a median child care worker in Washington, D.C. would have to spend 73.7% of their earnings to put their own child in infant care. (epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/DC)

"A lot of folk want to raise taxes to pay for the services we know are necessary for D.C. residents," he said. "And childcare costs can be overwhelming with some families paying more for child care than their mortgage. D.C. already has universal pre-K, which was one of the benefits my wife and I took advantage of with our own children.

An eye-catching logo provides information about a mayoral forum featuring seven candidates on April 20 at the MLK Memorial Library in Washington, D.C. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)

"But I want to create a childcare center which I believe – by placing services under one roof – would allow us to reduce the barriers to entry for those who want to provide child care services. And with the amount of unused property which is sitting vacant in downtown D.C., there are buildings in which new childcare agencies could be placed."

Lewis George said the funds which D.C. receives for its budget must be managed with greater efficiency.

"As mayor, I would close the tax loopholes and stop federal budget waste," she said. "D.C. has not done its best at leveraging all of our federal dollars. When I look at our neighbors like the state of Maryland, I see where they've taken full advantage of federal dollars and that has benefited all of their citizens. We can't just wait for federal dollars. D.C. has to grow its economy."

More than 300 people attend a mostly civil mayoral candidate forum at the MLK Memorial Library in Washington, D.C. on April 20. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)

Meanwhile Orange, who repeatedly emphasized his stellar business acumen and ability to work within the limits of any budget, was highly critical of the Bowser administration.

"Residents want to feel safe in their homes and when they move about the city – and they should feel safe," he said. "This stuff that's going on at

Six candidates vying for Washington, D.C., mayor answer questions about their plans for the city during a mayoral forum co-sponsored by The 51st, The Washington Informer, SpotlightDC and the DC Public Library. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)

National Harbor among youth, and in other parts of the city, could be resolved with a full police force. We're taking far too long to make decisions. When a person is bleeding you need to stop the blood flow first. Then you can look to longtime solutions.

"The Council bought into the trend of defunding the police movement and now we're down 1,400 officers, so we're paying exorbitant amounts of money for overtime. In turn, that limits our ability to provide resources that are needed elsewhere. D.C. has the revenue but it's not being used efficiently because we have a management problem."

Some readers may recall a fiery exchange that took place between candidates Lewis George and McDuffie earlier this year during a Free D.C. candidates forum as reported in the AFRO. But on the evening of April 20, all the forum participants remained civil. However, when the question on how candidates would work with the president and the federal government was posed, candidates had a wide range of answers. Some of the candidates even became more animated as they gave their replies. More than 300 people attend a mostly civil mayoral candidate forum at the MLK Memorial Library in Washington, D.C. on April 20. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)Lewis George said she would seek to build better relationships with Congress and the president."I was speaking to someone in Congress who said from what they could recall, I was the first person from the D.C. government who they'd ever seen in the halls," she said."Compromise is possible and sometimes the only way to resolve issues. That's why D.C. must do better in establishing and maintaining more positive relationships with the president and members of Congress, no matter who's in office."Near the conclusion of the forum, McDuffie seemed to segue into political rally form with words that he's shared along the campaign trail."I believe in hands-on accountability and listening to residents so that I'm better informed," he said. "Believe me, I know what we need in Washington, D.C., and I know how to get it done because I deliver."Whether residents vote in this year's primary election by mail, through early voting (June 8 – 14), or in person on Election Day, June 16, they will need to be prepared to follow a new voting procedure: ranked-choice voting.And because of the large number of seats in city government that are open for reelection, voters should request a sample ballot so they know the layout, as well as the views and plans of the candidates so they can make better-informed choices.

More than 300 people attend a mostly civil mayoral candidate forum at the MLK Memorial Library in Washington, D.C. on April 20. (AFRO Photo / D. Kevin McNeir)

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Publisher/ Editor: James Luckey Jr.
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1219 20th St. Bakersfield, Ca 93301 Mailing Address P.O. Box 2341 Bakersfield, CA 93303 Phone (661) 324-9466 Fax (661) 324-9472
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W.E.B. Du Bois Exhibit Lands at a DAMA, Bringing a 125-Year-Old Vision Back to Atlanta

By Noah Washington
The Atlanta Voice

More than a century after W.E.B. Du Bois presented photographs and data charts documenting Black American life at the 1900 Paris Exposition, his vision has found a new home in Atlanta's West End, at the African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta, known as ADAMA.

"W.E.B. Du Bois Revisited: Reimagining Du Bois' Exhibit of American Negroes" pairs historical photographs taken by Atlanta photographer Thomas E. Askew with contemporary portraits and updated data visualizations. The exhibit, which first debuted at Clark Atlanta University in February, is now on view at ADAMA for approximately two weeks.

The project began as part of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's annual Black History Month series. According to Miller, it was Suggs, a veteran reporter at the AJC, who reached out to her to handle the photography after Donastorg pitched the concept.

"We're never going to have a story that says Martin Luther King Jr. won the Nobel Peace Prize or Rosa Parks sat on the back of the bus," Suggs said. "We're going to have stories about the talented tenth, about double consciousness, about small things that you probably never heard of or heard glimpses of and didn't know."

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The idea came from Mirtha Donastorg, a business reporter at the AJC. Donastorg said she had been reading Du Bois' work and was struck by how little attention had been paid to its Atlanta-specific content.

"About half of those charts and photographs focused on Atlanta and Georgia, and there had never been an exploration or revisiting of the Atlanta data and charts," Donastorg said. "I wanted to see what these look like with contemporary data, what it looks like with a contemporary look at Atlanta."

The work on the project began in December of 2025. All of the historical photographs from Du Bois' original 1900 Paris exhibit were taken by Askew, a local Black photographer from Atlanta. Most subjects in those images remain unidentified.

"If you look at the cut line, it will say a man, or a boy, a Black boy," Suggs said. "No names are attached. We don't know if they're doctors, we don't know if they're lawyers, we don't know if they're pharmacists. But we do know they represented a certain aspect of Black beauty, and that's what we wanted to recreate."

Miller said choosing contemporary subjects was a blend of intention and instinct. Some pairings, including Clark Atlanta University President George T. French alongside a portrait of Du Bois himself, were planned from the start. Others took shape only after she had shot her subjects and then searched the Library of Congress archives for historical counterparts.

"For a lot of the reference photos, a lot of them didn't have names, so we just kind of paired up based on how we felt like they connected within contemporary subjects," Miller said.

She said the goal was to represent the full range of contemporary Atlanta.

"I just kind of wanted to find people that represent contemporary Atlanta, and that's from doctors to scholars, entrepreneurs, artists," Miller said. "Kind of finding different people that reflect the people Du Bois wanted to share in the past and what contemporary Atlanta looks like right now."

The land on which ADAMA sits formally belonged to Clark College, one of two historic institutions, alongside Atlanta University, that merged in 1988 to form Clark Atlanta University.

A split image showing a historical half-length portrait of an African American woman alongside Rosalynne Duff posing for a portrait in Atlanta in 2026.

It was at Atlanta University where W.E.B. Du Bois spent more than two decades as a faculty member in the history and economics departments, conducting research on Black American life and popularizing the concept of the 'talented tenth.'

For Pecou, that layered history makes the Pittsburgh neighborhood more than just a convenient address. It is, he says, a kind of sacred ground, a place where Black intellectual life, Black commerce, and Black community have long intersected, and where ADAMA's presence feels less like a new arrival than a continuation.

"To be able to bring this exhibition here, to be able to tell this story, to expose this community to this history, many folks in this neighborhood may not even realize that history and that connection," Pecou said. "I felt like it was an important and really powerful message."

Pecou is also among the contemporary subjects featured in the exhibit, photographed alongside an unnamed historical portrait from Askew's collection. He said his only regret is that the run is short.

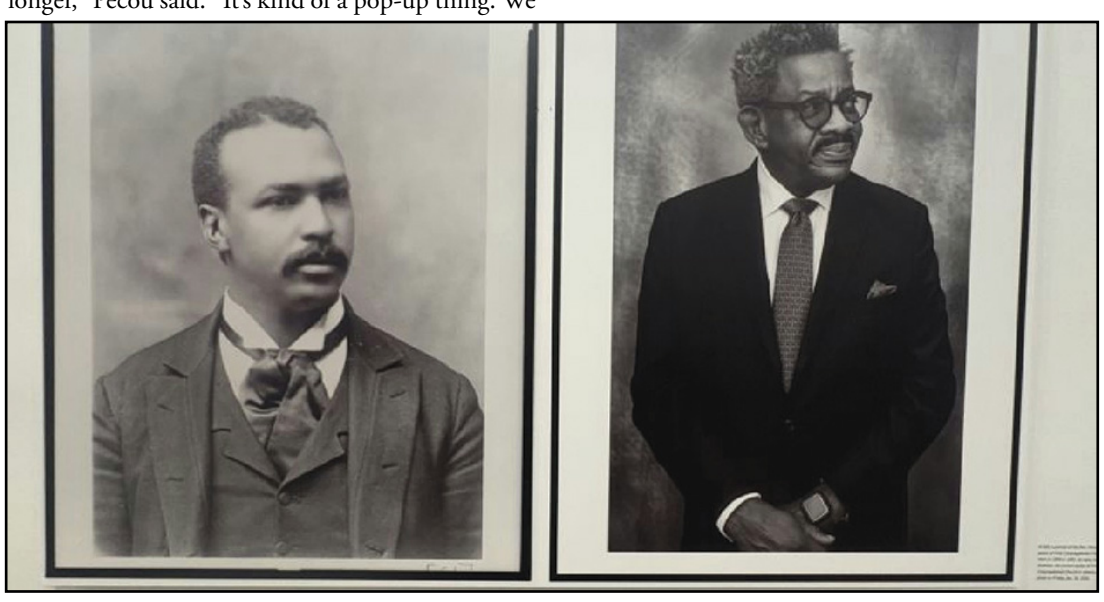
"My only regret is that the exhibition won't be longer," Pecou said. "It's kind of a pop-up thing. We had a space, and we were able to accommodate."

Miller said she hopes visitors leave with a sense of both distance traveled and connection across time.

"I want them to think about the past and the present," she said. "We've done so much in just these 126 years, despite so much. I want them to kind of look back and reflect on what the people before us did to set us up for now, and to think about themselves in the present."

Suggs said that the connection between eras revealed itself most powerfully when the team saw the old and new photographs side by side for the first time.

"We never set out to match any of these photographs with people," he said. "But when Natrice took all the photographs, and we sat down and looked at them, we were like, oh my God. It just kind of shows you how Black people are almost timeless. We all still kind of have these similarities. And I think that this shows the connection that we're all always going to be connected."



Entertainment

A performer from the Dance Theatre of Harlem is captured mid-dance, showcasing the elegance and athleticism of ballet. Photo courtesy New York Carib News.

Dance Theatre of Harlem Gala to Support Vision for the Future

By New York Carib News

The Dance Theatre of Harlem drew a powerful mix of artists, cultural leaders, and industry tastemakers for its annual Vision Gala, an evening that seamlessly blended performance, tribute, and forward-looking purpose.Held in tandem with the company's New York season opening at New York City Center, the gala unfolded as both a celebration of the institution's cultural legacy and a strategic investment in its future. The night culminated in an elegant dinner program at the Ziegfeld Ballroom, led by Executive Director Anna Glass and cultural curator Kenny Burns.Beyond the glamour, the evening delivered tangible impact. A live fundraising appeal generated an additional $160,000, bringing the total raised to $1,386,047 in support of the company's mission to expand access to ballet and nurture diverse talent. The event was supported by GEICO.At the emotional core of the night was a tribute to acclaimed choreographer Fatima Robinson, recipient of the Arthur Mitchell Vision Award. Actress Rosie Perez delivered heartfelt remarks, framing Robinson's journey as one that redefined the intersections of hip-hop, film, and visual storytelling.That legacy was brought vividly to life through an original ballet by Artistic Director Robert Garland. Performed by the company, the piece fused classical ballet with contemporary sounds from artists such as Aaliyah and Michael Jackson, a fitting tribute to Robinson's influence across genres.The award was presented by director Kenny Leon, with Robinson delivering a deeply resonant acceptance speech centered on the importance of "trusting your own knowing," drawing a standing ovation from the audience.The evening also recognized media executive Scott Mills with the Virtuoso Award, honoring his contributions to advancing Black storytelling. The award was presented by Stephen Hill and singer Chanté Moore.Among the notable attendees was ballet icon Misty Copeland, fresh from her appearance at the Academy Awards, alongside a distinguished guest list that included Jordan Cooper, Adrienne Warren, Abby Phillip, Bevy Smith, and S. Epatha Merkerson.The Host Committee, featuring figures such as Antwaun Sargent, Da'Vine Joy Randolph, and Mickalene Thomas, reflected the expansive cultural reach and influence of the organization.The night concluded on an energetic note as DJ D-Nice transformed the ballroom into a lively dance floor, closing out the evening with celebration and community.More than a glamorous affair, the Vision Gala underscored Dance Theatre of Harlem's enduring mission: to challenge the boundaries of classical ballet while championing the diverse voices shaping its future.

LaToya Jackson Finally Reveals Why Her Sister, Janet Jackson, is Not in the 'Michael' Biopic

LaToya Jackson shared why Janet Jackson does not appear in the Michael biopic, saying her sister simply chose not to take part. The film still features several Jackson family members, but Janet's absence has drawn attention from fans.

Speaking at the Los Angeles premiere, LaToya Jackson said Janet was invited to join the project but declined the offer. "She was asked, and she kindly declined," LaToya, 69, told Variety. "So you have to respect her wishes."

LaToya attended the April 20 premiere of Michael with her brothers Jackie, Marlon, Randy, and Jermaine. She expressed happiness seeing much of her family represented on screen, but also admitted she wished everyone had been included. "I wish everybody was in the movie!"

Janet Jackson has not publicly addressed her absence from the biopic and did not attend the premiere. Director Antoine Fuqua also spoke about it, saying, "I have so much respect and love for Janet, but you know it's okay. She's supportive of Jaafar and that's what matters."

The film Michael stars Jaafar Jackson, son of Jermaine Jackson, in the role of Michael Jackson. The cast also includes Nia Long as Katherine Jackson and Colman Domingo as Joe Jackson, along with Miles Teller and Laura Harrier in supporting roles.

The biopic traces Michael Jackson's journey from his early years with Motown and the Jackson 5 to his rise as the global "King of Pop." It also covers his peak years as one of the most influential figures in music history.

LaToya also praised Jaafar Jackson's performance, saying he delivered a convincing portrayal of Michael. She added that his performance felt so authentic that it brought back memories of her late brother for the family.

LaToya Jackson and Janet Jackson

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Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER 26CUB01104

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Civil - Metropolitan Division Justice Building
PETITION OF: **DANA LEE MORUZZI**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **DANA LEE MORUZZI**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
DANA LEE MORUZZI
Proposed name
DANA LEE DUBOS
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: May 28, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
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: **March 25, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Alejandro Ruvalcaba Ozuna,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Dana Lee Moruzzi
910 33rd St. Apt F,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 759-4391
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1719
Doing business as:
SIMENTAL & COMPANY at 2730 GIBSON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
DANIEL PATRICK EVANS at 2730 GIBSON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **DANIEL PATRICK EVANS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/24/1996
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: March 20, 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 March 20, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1327
Doing business as:
RESPAWNFORGE3D at 5709 WILLOWCREST ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
DANIEL ERIC GELLATLY at 5709 WILLOWCREST ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **DANIEL ERIC GELLATLY**
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: March 5, 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 March 5, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1677
Doing business as:
CAMPO BAR AND BOTTLE at 1824 G STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
BAKERSFIELD BAR & BOTTLE LLC at 1824 G STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Peter W. Rivera, Managing Partner**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/2021
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: March 19, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M HERNANDEZ,
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 March 19, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1088
Doing business as:
MAGIC GENIE PARTY RENTALS LLC at 11213 VISTA DEL VALLE DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
MAGIC GENIE PARTY RENTALS LLC at 11213 VISTA DEL VALLE DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Matthew Batshoun, 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: February 25, 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 February 25, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1925
Doing business as:
TACOS TIO CHECHO LLC at 850 ALMOND TREE WAY, DELANO, CA 93215
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
TACOS TIO CHECHO LLC at 850 ALMOND TREE WAY, DELANO, CA 93215
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Susana Landeros, 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: March 31, 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 March 31, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1928
Doing business as:
DSCOFFEE at 1406 CORONADO AVE, ARVIN, CA 93203
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
DIANA PIMENTEL at 1406 CORONADO AVE, ARVIN, CA 93203
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **DIANA PIMENTEL**
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: March 31, 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 March 31, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1901
Doing business as:
KELLI'S TREASURES at 1901 19TH STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: 11325 PARK SQUARE DRIVE APT C105, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
KELLI ANNE LIMI at 11325 PARK SQUARE DRIVE APT C105, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **KELLI ANNE LIMI, Owner**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/22/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: March 30, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEDENO,
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 March 30, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1942
Doing business as:
TABBY TCG at 3424 STINE RD UNIT #301, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
ANTONY HEI JAE YANG at 3424 STINE RD UNIT #301, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **ANTONY HEI JAE YANG**
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: March 31, 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 March 31, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1965
Doing business as:
DIPPED IN FAITH at 3023 NELSON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
MARIA ZAVALA MEDA at 3023 NELSON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MARIA ZAVALA MEDA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 1, 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 April 1, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2024-B1302
Business Name you wish to abandon: **TACOS TIO CHECHO LLC**
Street address of business: 1313 ALBANY ST, DELANO, CA 93215
County: KERN
Mailing address of business: same
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
TACOS TIO CHECHO LLC at 1313 ALBANY ST, DELANO, CA 93215
Business was conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Susana Landeros, MANAGER**

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAMONT PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
WATER IMPROVEMENT PIPELINE PROJECT
PANAMA RD AND HWY 184 TIE IN
NOTICE INVITING SEALED PROPOSALS (BIDS)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lamont Public Utility District (DISTRICT) invites and will receive sealed proposals (bids) up to the hour of **3:00 pm,** on **Wednesday, May 20th, 2026,** for the furnishing to said DISTRICT of all transportation, labor, materials, tools, equipment, services, permits, utilities, and other items necessary to construct said work. *At said time, said proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud by the District at the office of the DISTRICT – 8624 Segrue Road, Lamont, Ca, 93241, for the Water Improvement Pipeline Project*.

Bids shall conform to and be responsive to the Contract Documents for the work. Copies of the Contract Documents are on file and may be acquired at the office of the DISTRICT.

Description of Work:

The work includes all labor, materials, equipment and the performance of all operations necessary to construct the water line extension project along the northwest corner of Panama Road and Hwy 184 including all utility locating, trenching, backfill, pavement repair, pipelines, valves, fittings, and appurtenances in accordance with the Drawings and Specifications.

Each bid shall be submitted on a form furnished as part of the Contract Documents and must be accompanied by cash, a cashier's check, a certified check, or a BIDDER'S bond executed by an admitted California surety, or substitute pursuant to Section 995.710 of the Code of Civil Procedure, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the bid, made payable to the order of or for the benefit of the DISTRICT. The security of unsuccessful BIDDER'S will be returned by the DISTRICT no later than sixty (60) days following the date of award. Each bid shall be sealed and delivered to the DISTRICT at the location designated in this notice for the opening of proposals at or before the time provided in this notice. The check or bond or substitute shall be given as security that the BIDDER will enter into a contract with the DISTRICT and furnish the required payment and performance bonds, or substitutes in lieu thereof, and certificates of insurance and endorsements if awarded the work, and will be declared forfeited if the BIDDER refuses to timely enter into said Contract or furnish the required bonds or substitutes, or certificates of insurance and endorsements if his bid is accepted.

The DISTRICT has obtained from the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations a determination of the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for legal holiday and overtime work in the locality in which said work is to be performed for each craft, classification, or type of worker needed. Not less than the determined rates shall be paid to all workers employed in the performance of the Contract. Such rates of wages can be found on the Department of Industrial Relations website located at http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlsr.

Prevailing Wage Laws: Pursuant to Part 7 of Division 2 of the California Labor Code (Section 1720 et seq.) the Contractor shall pay not less than the prevailing rate of wages to workers on this project as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations.

This project may be subject to monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), including the obligation to submit certified payroll records directly to the DIR Compliance Monitoring Unit (CMU) at least monthly in a format prescribed by the Labor Commissioner. The contractor must post job site notices as prescribed by DIR regulation.

Required Registration with the State of California Department of Industrial Relations:
Pursuant to California Labor Code 1725.5, all contractors and subcontractors must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) in order to be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any public work contract. Detailed information about contractor's responsibilities and online registration may be obtained on the State of California Department of Industrial Relations, Public Works website, http://www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/PublicWorks.html

For projects with Federal Funding, each Contractor must be licensed at the time the Contract is awarded.

Federal Prevailing Wage Requirements:
This Community Development Project is subject to the Davis-Bacon Act, the Copeland "Anti-Kick Back" Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity Requirements and the Contract Works Hours and Safety Standards Act. Minimum wage rates as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor are set forth in the Special Provisions. If there is a difference between the minimum wage rates predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations for similar classifications of labor, the Contractor and his subcontractors shall pay not less than the higher wage rate.
Small Business Requirements:
The District hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small businesses will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. The bidder to whom the contract is awarded and will be required to comply with the Small Business Action Plan requirements as set forth in the special provisions.
Section 3 Requirements:
The work to be done on this project is subject to the provisions of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 USC 1701u) which requires employment and other economic opportunities generated by certain HUD financial assistance shall, to the greatest extent feasible, and consistent with existing Federal, State and local laws and regulations, be directed to low-and very low-income persons, particularly those who are recipients of government assistance for housing, and to business concerns which provide economic opportunities to low and very low-income persons. These requirements are explained in detail in 24 CFR 75. The pre-bid conference will include a workshop on Section 3 compliance.
Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22300, equivalent securities may be substituted for monies withheld to ensure performance of the Contract. The DISTRICT reserves the right to solely determine the adequacy of the securities being proposed by the BIDDER and the value of those securities. The DISTRICT shall also be entitled to charge an administrative fee, as determined by DISTRICT in its sole discretion, for substituting equivalent securities for retention amounts. The DISTRICT'S decisions with respect to the administration of the provisions of Section 22300 shall be final and shall include, but not be limited to, determinations of what securities are equivalent, the value of the securities, the negotiability of the securities, the costs of administration and the determination of whether or not the administration should be accomplished by an independent agency or by the DISTRICT. The DISTRICT shall be entitled, at any time, to request the deposit of additional securities of a value designated by DISTRICT, in DISTRICT'S sole discretion, to satisfy this requirement. If the DISTRICT does not receive satisfactory securities within twelve (12) consecutive days of the date of the written request, DISTRICT shall be entitled to withhold amounts due BIDDER until securities of satisfactory value to DISTRICT have been received.

The CONTRACTOR'S license classification(s) required for this project is as follows:

California General Engineering Contractor's License – Class "A";

These classifications are provided for information purposes only. The DISTRICT does not warrant that all classifications required for the project are listed.

It is the DISTRICT'S intent that "Plans", as used in Public Contract Code Section 3300, is defined as the construction contract documents, which include both the Drawings and the Specifications.

The DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive any and all irregularities in any bid.

Sealed proposals shall include: Bid Form (Pages B-10 through B-13); Non-Collusion Affidavit (Page B-14); Bid Bond (Pages B-15 through B-16); Listing of Similar Projects in the Last Ten Years (Pages B-17 through B-19); all required CDBG Forms as noted in the 00 7301 – Supplement Conditions and further clarified under the Bid Instruction Supplemental Form; and copies of any addenda issued.

***Each Bidder must attend a mandatory prebidder's job walk. The Bidders may choose one of two job walks to attend. The first job walk is scheduled for 9:00 am on Thursday, April 9th, 2026, and the second job walk is scheduled for 10:00 am on Tuesday, April 14th, 2026. The designated meeting area is at the NW corner of Panama Road and Hwy 184 in Lamont, California. If necessary, contact Curtis Skaggs with Dee Jaspar & Associates, Inc. at (661) 393-4796 for directions.**

Lamont Public Utility District

NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTORS, MATERIAL SUPPLIERS AND WORKERS

CONTRACT NO. 29.22.1

The Lamont Public Utility District is actively soliciting bids from prospective subcontractors or materials suppliers whose businesses qualify as a small business under the criteria in 13 CFR part 75 and/or qualify as Section 3 Business Concerns, as well as individuals who qualify as Section 3 Workers in connection with the Community Development CD Project # 29.22.1 – Lamont Public Utility District project to be located in the County of Kern and funded by the HUD.

A Section 3 Business Concern is a business:
(1) The business is at least 51% owned and controlled by low- or very low-income persons;
(2) The business is at least 51% owned and controlled by residents who currently live in public housing or Section 8-assisted housing; or
(3) Over 75% of the labor hours performed for the business over the prior three-month period were performed by Section 3 workers.

A Section 3 Worker is:
(1) Is a low- or very low-Income worker that fell below HUD income limits for the previous or annualized calendar year. Low- and very-low-household income limits may be obtained from: http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il.html; or
(2) The worker employed by a Section 3 business concern. (see Section 3 Business Concern)
(3) The worker is a YouthBuild participant. (YouthBuild is a community-based pre-apprenticeship program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24 who have previously dropped out of high school.)

A Targeted Section 3 Worker is:
(1) A worker employed by a Section 3 business concern (defined below), or
(2) Currently fits or when hired fit at least one of the following categories, as documented within the past five years:
a. Living within the service area or the neighborhood of the project (defined below).
b. A YouthBuild participant. (YouthBuild is a community-based pre-apprenticeship program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that provides job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24 who have previously dropped out of high school.)

Qualified individuals and firms may obtain a list of plan-holding general contractors at the Lamont Public Utility District 8624 Segrue Road, Lamont, California 93241 until 3:00 p.m. May 20th, 2026. General Contractors should be contacted directly for possible use in their bid proposals on this project.
The prospective General Contractors are seeking such subcontractors in compliance with the procurement standards found at 24 CFR 85.36(e) and Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, which provide that Small Businesses (SBs) and Section 3 Business Concerns/Residents be given the maximum practical opportunity to participate in HUD funded contracts.

Hiring is anticipated for the following trades:
Operating Engineers, Laborers, Teamster

Subcontracts may be let for the following categories of work on this project:
Painter, Plumber

Published Bakersfield News Observer April 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2026

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

This statement of abandonment filed on: March 31, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB00796

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Avenue,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Branch: Civil - Metropolitan Division Justice Building
PETITION OF: **MICHAEL ANTHONY ANSENO**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **MICHAEL ANTHONY ANSENO**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
MICHAEL ANTHONY ANSENO
Proposed name
MICHAEL ANTHONY HOUSTON
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: June 2, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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: **March 27, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Alejandro Ruvalcaba Ozuna,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Michael Anthony Anseno
10923 Vista Del Rancho D,
Bakersfield, CA 93311
Telephone: (661) 440-5666
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB01107

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
PETITION OF: **VALENE MERCADO**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **VALENE MERCADO**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
AIDA ELIZABETH BUCK
Proposed name
AIDA ELIZABETH MANCHA
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: May 28, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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
Non petitioning parent to be served as required by CCP 1277
Date: **March 25, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Alejandro Ruvalcaba Ozuna,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Valene Mercado
123 Washington Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Telephone: (661) 474-8900
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2163

Doing business as:
NOE'S CUSTOM PAINTING at 12101 SUNDANCE CANYON DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
NOE ROMERO ZAVALA at 12101 SUNDANCE CANYON DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **NOE ROMERO ZAVALA**
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: April 8, 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 April 8, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2059

Doing business as:
TAMALES & SNACKS LA GUERA at 2130 VIRGINIA AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 7236 RICHFIELD ST, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
EDITH MARISOL URIARTE at 7236 RICHFIELD ST, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **EDITH MARISOL URIARTE**
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: April 6, 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 April 6, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2081

Doing business as:
TURNING BIRD at 2400 WIBLE RD SUITE 7, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 8602 LITTLETON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
SIMANEK TABLE LLC at 8602 LITTLETON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **ASHLEY S SIMANEK, 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: April 6, 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 April 6, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2082

Doing business as:
HELPING HANDS CLEANING SERVICE at 605 SUNSET MEADOW LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 605 SUNSET MEADOW LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
NALINE CURRIE MICHEL at 605 SUNSET MEADOW LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **NALINE CURRIE MICHEL**
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: April 8, 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 April 8, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1679

Doing business as:
RC IMPROVEMENTS at 1920 KING ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
ROBERT CHRISTOPHER CLEGG at 1920 KING ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **ROBERT CHRISTOPHER CLEGG**
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: March 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 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 March 19, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2074

Doing business as:
RELENTLESS CONNECTION at 6424 SPRINGTIME COURT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 40862, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93384
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
LOVETTA ANN SEBBERN at P.O. BOX 40862, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93384
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **LOVETTA ANN SEBBERN**
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: April 6, 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 April 6, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2062
FILE NO: 2026-B2063

Doing business as:
READY, SET GROW PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES PC / R.S.G PSYCH at 4900 CALIFORNIA AVE SUITE 210-B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 21934, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93390
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
READY, SET, GROW PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES PC at 4900 CALIFORNIA AVE SUITE 210-B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **NATASHIA GRIDIRON, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/2024
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 6, 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 April 6, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2111

Doing business as:
REYES LILIANA FAMILY CHILD CARE INC at 122 GRANITE LN, DELANO, CA 93215
Mailing Address: 122 GRANITE LN, DELANO, CA 93215
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
REYES LILIANA FAMILY CHILD CARE INC at 122 GRANITE LN, DELANO, CA 93215
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **LILIANA REYES, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/12/2019
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 7, 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 April 7, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1912

Doing business as:
5 STARZ TRUCK SUPPLIES at 6013 AQUAMARINE PEAK DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: PO BOX 78024, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93383
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
MARGARITA GUTIERREZ at PO BOX 78024, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93383
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MARGARITA GUTIERREZ**
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: March 30, 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 March 30, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2156

Doing business as:
CYNOSURE at 4700 OHMAN CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 4700 OHMAN CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
BLAYNE MICHAEL POON at 4700 OHMAN CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **BLAYNE MICHAEL POON**
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: April 8, 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 April 8, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2241

Doing business as:
NUEVOS AMEZCUAS PRODUCE at 4112 ROLLING ROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: 4112 ROLLING ROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
BENJAMIN AMEZCUA at 4112 ROLLING ROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **BENJAMIN AMEZCUA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/13/2016
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 9, 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 April 9, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2207

Doing business as:
DISCOVERY STEAM ZONE at 6405 MANCHESTER LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: 6405 MANCHESTER LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
RMZ YOUTH FOUNDATION at 6405 MANCHESTER LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **BENJAMIN AMEZCUA**
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: April 9, 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 April 9, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2264

Doing business as:
MUCH MORE DISTRIBUTING, INC. at 13504 Brogan Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93314
Mailing Address: 13504 Brogan Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93314
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
MUCH MORE DISTRIBUTING, INC. at 13504 Brogan Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **MARY ANNE DEL RIO, Vice President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: January 1, 2014
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 10, 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 April 10, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B1828

Business Name you wish to abandon: **5 STARZ TRUCK SUPPLIES**
Street address of business: 14541 WIBLE RD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: KERN
Mailing address of business: PO BOX 78024, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93383
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
MARGARITA GUTIERREZ at PO BOX 78024, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93383
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.)
Business was conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MARGARITA GUTIERREZ, OWNER**
This statement of abandonment filed on: March 30, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2024-B0058

Business Name you wish to abandon: **READY, SET, GROW PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES, PC**
Street address of business: 13061 ROSEDALE HWY STE G-543, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: KERN
Mailing address of business: P.O. BOX 21934, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93390
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
READY, SET, GROW PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES PC at 13061 ROSEDALE HWY STE G-543, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
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.)
Business was conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **NATASHIA GRIDIRON, PRESIDENT**
This statement of abandonment filed on: April 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2024-B3567

Business Name you wish to abandon: **ROSELAY BEAUTY SALON**
Street address of business: 3400 Panama Ln., Ste B, Bakersfield, CA 93313
County: KERN
Mailing address of business: same
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
GURJEET KAUR at 5504 Warren Ridge Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93313
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.)
Business was conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **GURJEET KAUR, Owner**
This statement of abandonment filed on: April 9, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEJA
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB01285

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
PETITION OF: **KAREN RENEE DAVIS**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **KAREN RENEE DAVIS**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
KAREN RENEE DAVIS
Proposed name
KAREN RENEE SHAH
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: June 9, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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: **April 8, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Vanneesa Guerra,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
KAREN RENEE DAVIS
P.O. Box 41011,
Bakersfield, CA 93384
Telephone: (661) 302-1858
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB01196

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
PETITION OF: **ANDRES CARRILLO HERNANDEZ**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **ANDRES CARRILLO HERNANDEZ**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
ANDRES CARRILLO HERNANDEZ
Proposed name
ANDRES MONDRAGON
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: June 8, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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: **April 3, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Vannessa Guerra,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
ANDRES CARRILLO HERNANDEZ
920 Chico St,
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Telephone: (661) 546-3206
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER
26CUB01352

Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
PETITION OF: **ANTHONY DEE ALLEN**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **ANTHONY DEE ALLEN**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
ANTHONY DEE ALLEN
Proposed name
DEE ANTHONY ALLEN
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: June 15, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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: **April 14, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Vannessa Guerra,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
BRIAR R. KEELER, ESQ.
LEBEAU THELEN LLP
9801 Camino Media, Suite 103,
Bakersfield, CA 93311
Telephone: (661) 325-8962
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2301

Doing business as:
J BARAJAS TRUCKING at 252 MARY KAY LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
JORGE ALVARO BARAJAS RODRIGUEZ at 252 MARY KAY LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JORGE ALVARO BARAJAS RODRIGUEZ**
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: April 13, 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 April 13, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2302

Doing business as:
TACOS EL GUERITO PALMA at 8415 BUENAVISTA BLV SP 45, LAMONT, CA 93241
Mailing Address: 9011 CAMINO LA JOLLA APT C, LAMONT, CA 93241
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
CARMEN BELEN GARCIA at 9011 CAMINO LA JOLLA APT C, LAMONT, CA 93241
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **CARMEN BELEN GARCIA**
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: April 13, 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 April 13, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2316

Doing business as:
THE SKELETON KREW MIXOLOGIST EXPERTS at 524 SEQUOIA DR APT A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
JOSEPH J CORCHADO at 524 SEQUOIA DR APT A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
EDISON E FUENTES GRANADOS at 2801 WIBLE ROAD APT 43, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: a General Partnership
SIGNED: **JOSEPH J CORCHADO**
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: April 14, 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 April 14, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2121

Doing business as:
FISH OUT OF WATER at 8015 AMBER CREEK RD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
MYLIA TERESE BENFORD at 8015 AMBER CREEK RD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MYLIA TERESE BENFORD**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/01/2021
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 7, 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 April 7, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2388

Doing business as:
LB CONSULTING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES at 1304 EAGLE CREEK STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
BETSAIRA DEL S LOPEZ LOPEZ at 1304 EAGLE CREEK STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **BETSAIRA DEL S LOPEZ LOPEZ**
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: April 16, 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 April 16, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B1981

Doing business as:
DENNY'S #5142 at 2851 WHITE LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

OHANA WHITE LANE INC at 2851 WHITE LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Tanya Tabrizizadeh, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/02/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 2, 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 April 2, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1982
Doing business as:
DENNY'S #5143 at 21984 HIGHWAY 46, LOST HILLS, CA 93249
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
OHANA LOST HILLS INC at 21984 HIGHWAY 46, LOST HILLS, CA 93249
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Tanya Tabrizizadeh, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/02/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 2, 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 April 2, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1983
Doing business as:
DENNY'S #5144 at 2627 BUCK OWENS BLVD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
OHANA BUCK OWENS INC at 2627 BUCK OWENS BLVD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Tanya Tabrizizadeh, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/02/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 2, 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 April 2, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1984
Doing business as:
DENNY'S #5145 at 2309 PANAMA LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
OHANA PANAMA LANE INC at 2309 PANAMA LANE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Tanya Tabrizizadeh, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/02/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 2, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 April 2, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2128
Doing business as:
AIHTNYC-CODE LLC at 2213 SOSA DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
AIHTNYC-CODE LLC at 2213 SOSA DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Joseph Baninge-Daanaah, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/05/2024
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: April 7, 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 April 7, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2363
Doing business as:
GARCIA BROTHERS TRUCKING at 5009 CALLADO LANE UNIT A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: PO BOX 40762, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93384
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
YANETH E HERNANDEZ VELASQUEZ at PO BOX 40762, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93384
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **YANETH E HERNANDEZ VELASQUEZ**
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: April 15, 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 April 15, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1476 2026-B1477
Doing business as:
ADELINA CONSTRUCTION / ADELINA HOMES at 1914 ALTA VISTA DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
Mailing Address: same
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
ADELINA INTERIORS INC at 1914 ALTA VISTA DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **George Rodriguez, CFO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/10/2023
This statement filed with the County Clerk of KERN County on: March 11, 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 March 11, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2030
Doing business as:
NITA'S CREATIVE SPACE at 3117 HARROGATE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: 3117 HARROGATE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
JUANITA MARIA LLAMAS at 3117 HARROGATE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JUANITA MARIA LLAMAS**
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: April 3, 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 April 3, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2435
Doing business as:
PROVIDENCE PEAK PROPERTIES at 9530 HAGEMAN RD STE. B123, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 9530 HAGEMAN RD STE. B123, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: KERN
Full name of registrant(s):
PROVIDENCE PEAK PROPERTIES CORP. at 9530 HAGEMAN RD STE. B123, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **NICOLE MARIE GOMEZ, CEO/President**
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: April 17, 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 April 17, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 22, 29, May 6, 13, 2026

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF CLAY URIAH MCLEAN CASE NUMBER: 26PRJ00465
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of **CLAY URIAH MCLEAN**
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **SEAN McLEAN and JENNIFER McLEAN**
in the Superior Court of California, County of **KERN**
2100 College Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Probate - Juvenile Justice
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **SEAN McLEAN and JENNIFER McLEAN** 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 withoutobtaining 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: June 4, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m. Dept: J-1
Room:
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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Roger N. Lampkin,
SB #113786
1234 L St.,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 633-1234
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER 26CUL00017
Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
12022 Main St,
Lamont, CA 93241
PETITION OF: **DENISE MACHUCA MIRANDA**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **DENISE MACHUCA MIRANDA**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
MILANI DHALIWAL MIRANDA
Proposed name
MILANI MIRANDA
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: June 22, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: B
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: **April 17, 2026**
C. Espinosa,
Judge of the Superior Court
Jennifer Pinales,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
DENISE MACHUCA MIRANDA
230 B St.,
Arvin, CA 93203
Telephone: (661) 846-0092
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER 26CUB00982
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: **CANDICE BARRY**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **CANDICE BARRY**
Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
OLIVIA MARIE JEFFERS
Proposed name
OLIVIA MARIE TRIPLETT
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: June 22, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept: L
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
Non petitioning parent to be served as required by CCP 1277
Date: **April 23, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Vannessa Guerra,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
CANDICE BARRY
3535 Stone Rd., SPC #118
Bakersfield, CA 93309
Telephone: (661) 472-3665
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2359
Doing business as:
AMARA INDIAN CUISINE & BAR at 3300 BUENA VISTA RD STE D4, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: 4601 CHALET ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SSMG3300 INC at 4601 CHALET ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **SUKHMAN GREWAL, President**
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: April 15, 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 April 15, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2196
Doing business as:
BIG BLEU'S SEAFOOD at 1100 1ST STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
WESSIE TABIA LEWIS III at 1100 1ST STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
GENERTRA RICHARDSON at 1100 1ST STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: a Married Couple
SIGNED: **WESSIE TABIA LEWIS III**
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: April 9, 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 April 9, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2437
Doing business as:
KERN TRUCKING SCHOOL at 2623 F STREET SUITE C, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: 6201 TALLULAH FALLS CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
TRIBAL TRANSPORTS LLC at 6201 TALLULAH FALLS CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **MATTHEW PRESLEY, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/17/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 17, 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 April 17, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2486
Doing business as:
MIGUEL RIVERA GARDENING SERVICES at 12221 CLEMENTA AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: PO BOX 9552, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93389
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MIGUEL ANGEL HUATUCO RIVERA at 12221 CLEMENTA AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MIGUEL ANGEL HUATUCO RIVERA**

PUBLIC NOTICE

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: April 20, 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 April 20, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1903
Doing business as:
MASTER BANG'S MARTIAL ARTS at 9620 HAGEMAN RD #A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MASTER BANG INC at 9620 HAGEMAN RD #A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **JOHN HYO BANG, C.E.O**
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: March 30, 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 March 30, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2519
Doing business as:
GPA'S RANCH AND DAUGHTERS BAKERY at 3131 ENOS LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ALISA GLORIA ARNOLD-MARTIN at 3131 ENOS LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **ALISA GLORIA ARNOLD-MARTIN**
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: April 21, 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 April 21, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2385
Doing business as:
VINE INSURANCE AGENCY at 3920 STOCKDALE HWY UNIT A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
VINE INSURANCE SERVICES LLC at 3920 STOCKDALE HWY UNIT A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **DOUGLAS GRANILLO, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/01/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 16, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEDENO,
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 April 16, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2539
Doing business as:
DRIP HOUSE COFFEE CO. at 2808 F ST. SUITE D, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LISBETH MARESA PERELLO OCHOA at 2808 F ST. #D, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **LISBETH MARESA PERELLO OCHOA**
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: April 22, 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 April 22, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2009 2026-B2010
Doing business as:
KAGE / KAGE ASIAN BISTRO at 4215 ROSEDALE HWY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 2841 UNICORN ROAD SUITE 102, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ALE1 GROUP LLC at 2841 UNICORN ROAD SUITE 102, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **CHRISTIAN ALVAREZ, LLC Member**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 12/23/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 2, 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 April 2, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2367
Doing business as:
CASA DE CLARIDAD COUNSELING at 1220 Oak Street Suite J, Bakersfield, CA 93304
Mailing Address: PO Box 847, Indio, CA 92202
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
GUADALUPE ANAYACANO at 1220 Oak Street Suite J, Bakersfield, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **GUADALUPE ANAYACANO**
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: April 15, 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 April 15, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2468
Doing business as:
IT HURTS TO HEAL, LLC at 1025 DOLORES ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
Mailing Address: same

PUBLIC NOTICE

County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
IT HURTS TO HEAL, LLC at 1025 DOLORES ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **NIESHA DAVIS-MASSEY, Manager**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: February 18, 2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 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 April 20, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B1802
Doing business as:
SECURE'EN LEGACY at 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DEBBIE J ROBINSON at 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **DEBBIE J ROBINSON**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: January 1, 2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: March 25, 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 March 25, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2575
Doing business as:
EGR LIVESTOCK at 6303 Veronese Ct, Bakersfield, CA 93306
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JAMIE LYNN RHOADES at 6303 Veronese Ct, Bakersfield, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JAMIE LYNN RHOADES**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: January 1, 2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 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 April 23, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO: 2026-B2617
Doing business as:
BERNARD THRIFT STORE at 20 Bernard St, Bakersfield, CA 93305
Mailing Address: 3738 E Shields Ave, Fresno, CA 93726
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
UNIQUE SECOND INC. at 20 Bernard St, Bakersfield, CA 93305
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **LUIS VELASCO, President**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: April 1, 2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 24, 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

Legal Notices/Features

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 April 24, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2164
Doing business as:
D' LADY ALTERATIONS at 1525 BRUNDAGE LN., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 1126 1ST ST APT C, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MA. ISABEL ARCINIEGA GARCIA at 1126 1ST ST APT C, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MA. ISABEL ARCINIEGA GARCIA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: April 1, 2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: April 8, 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 April 8, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B2260
Doing business as:
SUNRISE BOWL CO. at 9404 COLFAX CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern

PUBLIC NOTICE

Full name of registrant(s):
TRISHA RENNAE POFFENBERGER at 9404 COLFAX CT., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **TRISHA RENNAE POFFENBERGER**
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: April 10, 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 April 10, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B1957
Business Name you wish to abandon: VINE INSURANCE AGENCY
Street address of business: 12641 ROSEDALE HIGHWAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Mailing address of business: same
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
VINE INSURANCE SERVICES LLC at 12641 ROSEDALE HIGHWAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
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.)
Business was conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **DOUGLAS GRANILLO, CEO**
This statement of abandonment filed on: April 15, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEJA
Deputy

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B1958
Business Name you wish to abandon: VINE MULTI SERVICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Street address of business: 12641 ROSEDALE HIGHWAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Mailing address of business: same
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
VINE INSURANCE SERVICES LLC at 12641 ROSEDALE HIGHWAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
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.)
Business was conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **DOUGLAS GRANILLO, CEO**
This statement of abandonment filed on: April 15, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M CEJA
Deputy

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2022-B0898
Business Name you wish to abandon: KC COOL CAP MAN
Street address of business: 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: Kern
Mailing address of business: 8391 BEVERLY BLVD #337, LOS ANGELES, CA 90048
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
DEBBIE ROBINSON at 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
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.)
Business was conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **DEBBIE ROBINSON**
This statement of abandonment filed on: March 25, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA
Deputy

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2022-B0899
Business Name you wish to abandon: RC RELEASE VALVE
Street address of business: 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: Kern
Mailing address of business: 8391 BEVERLY BLVD #337, LOS ANGELES, CA 90048
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
DEBBIE ROBINSON at 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
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.)
Business was conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **DEBBIE ROBINSON**
This statement of abandonment filed on: March 25, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA
Deputy

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B6920
Business Name you wish to abandon: SECURE'EN LEGACY
Street address of business: 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
County: Kern
Mailing address of business: same
Registrant(s) who wish to abandon the business name:
DEBBIE J ROBINSON at 3800 STOCKDALE HWY #23, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
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.)
Business was conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **DEBBIE J ROBINSON, Owner**
This statement of abandonment filed on: March 25, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: S CEJA
Deputy

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20, 2026

Andrea and Jamal McCaskey met at a special Fifth Sunday service at Sixth Avenue Baptist Church. The couple married in 1992. (Provided)

'I Was Confident in Myself and Her Answer. I Knew She Would Say Yes … We Had Spent a Lot of Time Together'

By Mia Watkins
The Birmingham Times

Andrea & Jamal McCaskey
Live: Irondale
Married: September 25, 1992

Met: Meeting each other almost didn't happen for the McCaskeys. The two met entirely by chance at a special Fifth Sunday service at Sixth Avenue Baptist Church.

"It was a Sunday that I almost didn't go," said Jamal. "I'd been out partying all night. I decided to get up and go to church, and she just happened to come in and sit next to me. I noticed she was a visitor, and we struck up a conversation. After church, I saw her in the parking lot, and we talked some more and exchanged numbers."

Andrea remembers it a little differently.

"He gave you the short version," she laughed. "It was Fifth Sunday in August 1991. On Fifth Sunday, the male chorus sings, and so every female in Birmingham and all the surrounding counties came to church that day. By the time I got there, I had to park in the neighborhood somewhere. I walked into the church and ended up sitting in the back. He came and sat by me; I did not sit by him. He did notice that I had a visitor card. After church, he said, 'Hey, I notice you have a visitor card. I usually go to some restaurant to eat. Would you like to eat?' I was like, 'Yeah, I would love to, but I have family at home. I'm not able to go this Sunday. Thank you for asking.' He leaves.'"

Andrea said she was actually visiting the church to meet someone else.

"The reason I even came to church that Sunday was because a student that I'd been working with said, 'Hey, I have someone I want you to meet.' I go to church and wait for my student to show up so that he can introduce me to whoever this is that he wants me to meet. Well, I waited for about 10 minutes, and he never showed up. So, I got out into the parking lot and ran into Jamal again, and Mayor Arrington was there campaigning, so we struck up a conversation 'Hey, are you going to vote for Mayor Arrington.' 'No, I don't live in the city limits, what about you?' 'I don't live in the city limits either.' Well, we learned that we lived about a half mile from each other on 280. We exchanged numbers, and he called me the next Tuesday. He always says he wanted to make me wait a couple of days."

First date: The two don't remember the details of their first date besides eating at Ruby Tuesday's, but they remember what led up to the date and how they felt about each other.

"The Tuesday that he called, he asked me what I was doing, and I had just moved to Birmingham the month before," she recalled. "When they hooked up my washer, they installed the hot water to the cold water and the cold water to the hot water. I was trying to use some tool that wasn't the correct tool to make the change. He said, 'Oh, I have the tool that you need. I've got a meeting to go to, but I can drop the tool off.' He came and dropped the wrench or whatever it was, and that was the first time we saw each other after church.

Andrea remembers finding Jamal intriguing.

"The things I remember about him are that he was someone who was interesting to talk to," she said. "He could talk about current events, he could talk about himself and things that he liked. He had a job. He had a car and he had his own place to live. All of those things were important."

Jamal remembers finding Andrea intriguing too.

"She seemed very professional," he said. "She kind of struck me as a person who I would want to get to know more about."

The turn: Jamal remembers telling his brother that Andrea was the one.

"We used to joke about 'this is the one, this is the one," he said. "One day, I said to him that she might be the one."

Andrea said it didn't take her long to realize Jamal was her person.

"I probably knew pretty quickly," she said. "Both of us were a little older. We were both 29 at the time. I had dated my fair share of knuckleheads, and I could tell he was not a knucklehead. I was probably all in from the beginning. One thing that I'll always remember is that most of my friends who came from Nashville to visit me or called from Nashville would spend more time talking to him than they would talk to me. He was always able to just be a good friend to all my friends."

Jamal said he could tell a lot about Andrea from her friend group.

"I've always heard that you look at people's friends, you could tell a lot about them," he said. "I could tell that her friends liked her a lot and were the kind of people I want to be around, too. That was a plus in my book."

Jamal said his favorite thing about Andrea is her conviction.

"She speaks her mind, she says what she believes and she doesn't tell you one thing and mean something else," he said.

The proposal: The two got engaged in January of 1992 on MLK Day.

"He had been out chopping wood, I don't even know why he was out cutting down wood," she remembered. The apartment I was in had a wood-burning fireplace, so he brought some wood to me for the fireplace. After he came in, he said, 'Hey, what would you say if I asked you to marry me?' I said, 'Don't play with me because I ain't to be played with with that question.' I told him, 'If you're serious, then, yes, I will marry you.'"

Jamal said he doesn't remember chopping wood, but he does remember not being nervous to propose.

"I don't remember bringing wood, and I certainly don't remember chopping," he said. "That was the day I decided that this was the one, and it was time to make a move. I was confident in myself and her answer. I knew she would say yes. I don't mean sound conceited, but we had spent a lot of time together during that time period."

The wedding: The wedding took place at Andreas's home church in Nashville. It was presided over by Dr. Clement Fugh and her childhood pastor, Reverend Reed, who travelled from Indianapolis to marry the McCaskeys.

Their colors were peach, cream and a medium shade of blue. The church was filled with loved ones from both their life in Birmingham and from her hometown of Nashville.

"The church was full, and it was just a beautiful ceremony," she said. "It was just a beautiful time.

Andrea said the memory from that day that she still carries is what Jamal said when she reached him at the altar.

"When I got down the aisle and got to where he was, he said, 'You look so beautiful,'" she said. "I have remembered that all these years.

Jamal just remembers it being a happy day.

"I remember winking at her mom," he said. "I remember smiling when Andrea came down the aisle. I remember a spring in my step the whole day. It was just a great day."

The honeymoon: The two went on a cruise to the Bahamas for their honeymoon, a trip they are about to recreate.

"We did a ballroom dancing class, that's the one thing I remember about it," Andrea said.

Jamal said they met other married couples who shared pearls of wisdom.

They brought back a memento, a Lladro figurine of a Black bride and groom, to remember the occasion.

Words of wisdom: Andrea said that newer couples should keep in mind that love is an action.

"Love is more than a feeling," she said. "Yes, there are days when we disagree and days when we just like, 'Who are you and what have you done with the person I married?' And you continue to work. Do the work, put in the work and remember what it is that's important."

Jamal agreed.

"Keep the main thing the main thing," he said. "You've got to find somebody who's a friend, not just feeling butterflies in your stomach. You need somebody you can match you."

Happily ever after: The McCaskeys have two adult children: a 29-year-old son who lives in Grayson Valley with his wife of two years, and a 27-year-old daughter who lives in Brooklyn, New York. Andrea is a retired HR professional who worked for the Inroads and Momentum programs. Jamal is a retired Deputy Chief of the Birmingham Police Department. He now works in real estate.

"You Had Me at Hello" highlights married couples and the love that binds them. If you would like to be considered for a future "Hello" column, or know someone, please send nominations to editor@birminghamtimes.com. Include the couple's name, contact number(s) and what makes their love story unique.

You Had Me At Hello
LOVE IN THE MAGIC CITY

Features

Mayor's Office Seeks Ethics Review of IG's Social Media Post Amid Ongoing Legal Dispute

By Megan Sayles
AFRO Staff Writer msayles@afro.com

A senior aide to Mayor Brandon M. Scott sent a letter to the Baltimore City Ethics Board and the Office of Inspector General's (OIG) Advisory Board on April 21, calling for a review of Inspector General Isabel Cumming's online conduct. In the letter, Chief of Staff John David Merrill denounced an April 20 Facebook post from the inspector general's account that shared a YouTube video with an AI-generated thumbnail of Scott.

Mayor Brandon M. Scott's administration is calling for a review of Inspector General Isabel Cumming's online conduct after she shared a YouTube video that depicted the mayor smoking a cigar and holding what appears to be luxury shopping bags and an alcoholic drink. The request comes as Cumming sues the mayor and Baltimore City Council over blocked access to certain city records. Credit: Facebook screenshot

The image portrayed the mayor smoking a cigar, holding a seemingly alcoholic drink and clutching luxury shopping bags. It also depicted a notice of the city's bank account being overdrawn.

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The clash comes as Cumming and Scott engage in a legal dispute over the IG's access to city records, particularly those related to the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE). On April 17, a Baltimore City Circuit judge denied the city's motion to disqualify Cumming's private attorneys in her lawsuit against the mayor and Baltimore City Council.

"We are cognizant of the ongoing context in which both the Scott Administration and the OIG are currently operating, including active litigation.

Mayor Brandon M. Scott's administration is calling for a review of Inspector General Isabel Cumming's online conduct after she shared a YouTube video that depicted the mayor smoking a cigar and holding what appears to be luxury shopping bags and an alcoholic drink. The request comes as Cumming sues the mayor and Baltimore City Council over blocked access to certain city records. Credit: Facebook screenshot

While we may have differences around what constitutes lawful access to City documents and the City's responsibility to follow state law, there is an appropriate way to resolve those differences through our traditional governmental processes," Merrill wrote in the letter. "However, while those processes unfold, there is simply no place in our civic life for public officials to elevate the kind of vile, racist and caricatural content like what IG Cumming shared on her social media."

The video posted by Cumming was entitled, "Baltimore Mayor is in Big Trouble After Losing in Court Exposes His $4.5 Million Office Power Grab." In it, YouTuber Hannibal Darby—known as Hannibal Is Hungry—criticized the mayor's addition of 16 positions to his office within his preliminary budget for fiscal year 2027.

Darby, known for his watchdog-style content about government officials, compared Baltimore's proposed staffing level of 134 positions in the mayor's office to those of larger cities, including 96 positions in Philadelphia and 94 in Los Angeles—arguing that Baltimore's mayoral staff would be unusually large by comparison. The creator also raised concerns about the inclusion of privately funded positions within the mayor's office, questioning whether they could be subject to outside influence.

Scott addressed the proposed staffing expansion during a budget meeting on April 22, saying that eight of the 16 positions are not funded by city taxpayers but instead supported through grants.

According to the preliminary budget, those positions include one supported by the city's Opioid Restitution Fund and seven funded through a grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies to support the city's Innovation Team (i-Team). The Baltimore i-Team operates as part of a nationwide initiative supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies and focuses on initiatives related to vacancy prevention and public safety recruitment and retention.

The budget also notes that some of the roles reflect internal staffing changes, including the transition of part-time positions into full-time roles within the Mayor's Office of African American Male Engagement.

During the budget meeting, Scott said his administration continues to pursue a mix of funding sources to support city operations and initiatives.

"We take managing the city's taxpayer dollars very seriously. We make sure that we bring things in house when we need to, but the strategy that we have always and will continue to have is to make sure that we can get investment in any way that we can to make the city of Baltimore a better place," said Scott. "That includes going on to seek grants and other funding for what is happening in the city of Baltimore."

When Cumming shared Darby's video on Facebook she included a caption that read: "A friend sent me this very interesting video from YouTube—ties many things together." The inspector general has since removed the post from her profile.

In a statement sent to the AFRO on April 22, Cumming issued an apology, saying she did not realize the image of Mayor Scott was created by AI.

"I shared a link to third-party video commentary on current events on my personal Facebook account. That video included a satirical, AI-generated digital image that I did not notice and do not endorse or support. I removed the video from my personal Facebook post upon receiving feedback," said Cumming. "I apologize to Mayor Scott, my dedicated OIG team and the residents of Baltimore City. This post detracted from the important mission of the OIG to investigate waste, financial abuse and fraud. It will not happen again."

Scott's administration has called for a review of whether Cumming's online conduct violated ethical standards related to professionalism and impartiality and whether any corrective action is needed to ensure fairness and objectivity within the OIG.

Senate Advances Weber Pierson's Bill to Reform Gang Databases

By Antonio Ray Harvey
California Black Media

A bill authored by Sen. Akilah Weber Pierson (D-San Diego) aimed at reforming California's gang databases — **primarily the CalGang system** — has advanced out of the Senate Public Safety Committee with a 5-1 vote.

Senate Bill (SB) 1210, introduced by the chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC), seeks to address systemic inaccuracies, racial bias, and a lack of transparency that, according to the author, jeopardize the civil liberties of thousands of Californians — particularly Black and Latino individuals.

The measure now heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.

"SB 1210 amends the Penal Code to make all gang databases, regardless of whether they are shared or not, subject to the Legislature's previous and active reforms, including the Department of Justice's oversight and regulations," Weber Pierson said.

A key provision of the bill removes the restrictive term "shared gang database," ensuring that state regulations apply to all gang databases, including those not accessed by external agencies. The legislation would require full compliance with Department of Justice regulations by Jan. 1, 2027.

The bill builds on findings from a 2016 state audit, requested by then-Assemblymember and current Secretary of State Shirley Weber, which identified widespread inaccuracies and weak oversight in shared gang databases.

Audits of the CalGang system revealed that law enforcement agencies relied on unreliable data, failed to purge records after five years, and included individuals without sufficient evidence. The database even listed toddlers "as young as three years old," Weber Pierson said.

Following reforms that mandated audits for shared databases, some agencies shifted to internal systems not subject to the same level of oversight. Weber Pierson said SB 1210 is designed to close those loopholes by requiring all databases to meet the standards established under **AB 90, the Fair and Accurate Gang Database Act of 2017**.

"Being wrongfully placed in a gang database can have serious life-altering consequences, which is why the audit became an issue in the first place," Weber Pierson said. "Including police scrutiny, higher bail, harsher sentencing through gang enhancement, barriers to employment, and now the risk of deportation."

According to the California Department of Justice's 9th Annual Report, the CalGang database contained 9,948 records as of Sept. 30, 2025. That figure represents a significant decline from earlier years, when the database held more than 100,000 records. Between 2017 and 2022, CalGang identified disparities in 103,840 entries.

The database is 94% male and disproportionately composed of Latinos (66%) and Black individuals (23%).

"Unfortunately, we are now seeing many law enforcement agencies that have chosen to disregard the legislature's reforms by ending their relationships with the use of CalGang," Weber Pierson said. "The number of law enforcement agencies entering records into CalGang has dropped from 214 to just 19. There is no evidence that these agencies stopped gang intelligence altogether."

Opponents of the bill, including the California Police Chiefs Association (CPCA), argue that the measure could hinder law enforcement efforts.

Jonathan Feldman, a legislative advocate for CPCA, told the Senate Public Safety Committee that gang databases provide officers with immediate access to critical information, including photographs, tattoos, vehicle descriptions, and known associates. He said the tools are essential for tracing suspects, identifying victims, and supporting criminal investigations.

"I understand the shift to the local databases, not as an attempt to circumvent the oversight, but in terms of doing active investigations and needing to record that information on a daily basis," Feldman said. "There is a need to develop those leads, collect that information without going into a formal database system."

Feldman added, "I do think it's difficult to take those AB 90 CalGang standards and apply them to all gang databases. A lot of these are informal, in process, and developing investigations."

Supporters of the bill argue that disparities in the database reflect broader systemic issues. According to the Department of Justice, Black individuals are disproportionately represented due to factors such as concentrated policing in minority communities, subjective inclusion criteria, and data inaccuracies.

Weber Pierson also shared a personal account during the hearing, noting that her brother, who is 6 feet and 5 inches tall, was nearly added to the gang database in San Diego based solely on his race and physical appearance.

"He has never been affiliated with a gang in his life," Weber Pierson said.

Sean Garcia-Leys, executive director of the Peace and Justice Law Center in Santa Ana, testified in support of the bill, noting that compliance with oversight requirements is feasible.

"Many others have opted out to avoid oversight," Garcia-Leys said. "SB 1210 addresses this gap. It does not expand the law or rebalance public safety and civil rights. It simply ensures that all gang databases share their local (data), according to the standards the Legislature sets."

Midweek Magic: How Sloss Furnaces Brings History to Life for Students

If you think Sloss Furnaces is only a place to visit on special occasions, here's a little insider knowledge: Every Wednesday, the historic site comes alive with the energy of students discovering Birmingham's roots in a hands-on, unforgettable way.Learning Where It Actually Happened

There's something powerful about standing in the very place where history unfolded. For students visiting Sloss Furnaces on field trips, this isn't just another lesson from a textbook, it's a full-on experience.

They walk beneath towering iron structures, see the massive furnaces up close, and learn how raw materials were transformed into the iron that helped build a city. It's immersive, a little gritty, and way more memorable than reading about it in class.

Why Wednesdays Matter

Wednesdays at Sloss are dedicated to education. School groups from across the region come through the gates to explore everything from industrial science to local history. Guided tours break down complex processes like how blast furnaces worked into engaging, easy-to-understand stories.

And it's not just about machinery. Students also learn about the people behind the industry, the workers, the challenges they faced, and the role Sloss played in shaping Birmingham's identity.

More Than a Field Trip

What makes these visits special is how they connect the past to the present. Kids don't just hear about Birmingham becoming the "Magic City"—they see why it happened.

Students watch as talented metal artists pour their artwork in molten iron and prepare it for students to take home the same day. For many students, it's their first time realizing that history isn't distant or abstract. It's local. It's tangible. It's right here.

While weekends and events often get the spotlight, these midweek field trips are a reminder that Sloss Furnaces is an active learning space year-round. It's not just preserved history. It is a place where new generations come to understand and appreciate it.

Students observe and learn about the historical significance of Sloss Furnaces during their visit.

So next time you're nearby on a Wednesday, don't be surprised to see groups of students exploring, asking questions, and maybe even imagining what it was like when the furnaces first roared to life.

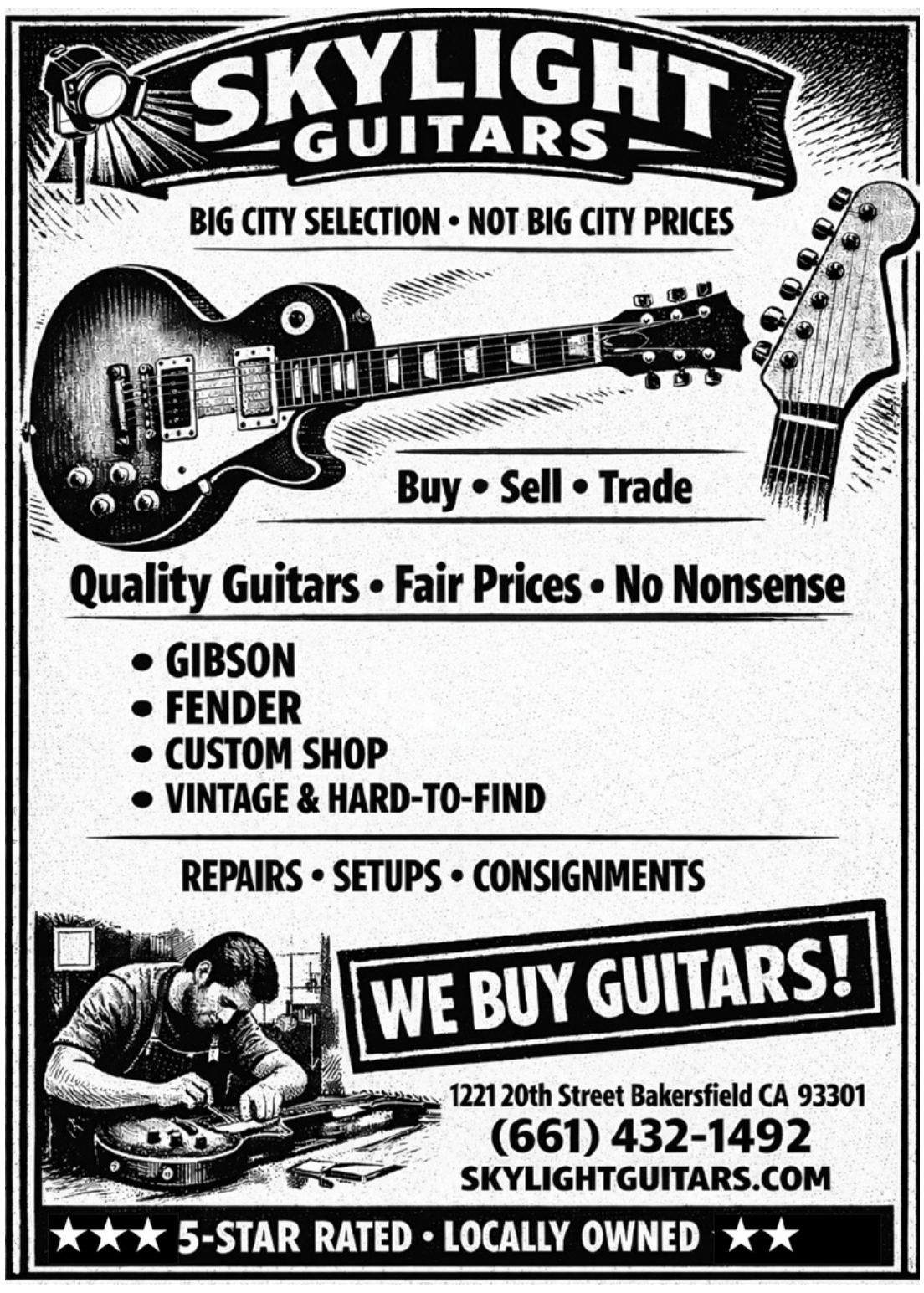
A Hidden Gem in Action

While weekends and events often get the spotlight, these midweek field trips are a reminder that Sloss Furnaces is an active learning space year-round. It's not just preserved history. It is a place where new generations come to understand and appreciate it.

So next time you're nearby on a Wednesday, don't be surprised to see groups of students exploring, asking questions, and maybe even imagining what it was like when the furnaces first roared to life.

Home schools, Private schools, and Public schools groups are welcome. Tours and Pours are free for Birmingham City Schools. Educators, email Sloss Furnaces Historian, Ty Malugani to schedule your school tour.

Wednesdays at Sloss Furnace are dedicated to education. (Sloss Furnace)



Political

Political Playback:

California Capitol News You Might Have Missed

By Bo Tefu
California Black Media

Suspect in White House Correspondents' Dinner Shooting Is From SoCal

A Southern California man is in custody after a shooting incident late Saturday at the White House Correspondents' Dinner.

The incident disrupted one of the nation's most high-profile gatherings of journalists and political leaders celebrating the First Amendment, freedom of the press and raising money for journalism scholarships.

Authorities identified the suspect as Cole Tomas Allen, 31, of Torrance. Federal officials said Allen allegedly traveled from the Los Angeles area to Chicago by train and then continued on to Washington, D.C., in the days leading up to the incident. Investigators are now examining his background, travel history, and any potential ties or motivations connected to California.

According to officials, Allen was armed with a shotgun, a handgun and multiple knives when he charged through a security checkpoint at the Washington Hilton, where hundreds of attendees had gathered. Allen fired five to eight shots during the incident. One Secret Service officer was shot but was protected by a bulletproof vest and is expected to recover.

Authorities said the suspect appeared to be targeting members of the administration of Donald Trump, and possibly Trump himself, though officials cautioned that the information remains preliminary. Allen is currently not cooperating with investigators.

U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jeanine Pirro said Allen will face multiple federal charges, including two counts of using a firearm during a crime of violence and one count of assault on a federal officer using a dangerous weapon.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom responded to the incident, emphasizing the importance of press freedom and public safety.

"Relieved everyone at the White House Correspondents' Dinner is safe tonight based on initial reports," Newsom posted on the social media platform X. "A free press is foundational to our country. Violence is never acceptable."

The annual dinner, attended by political leaders, media figures and celebrities, was interrupted as security quickly moved attendees to safety. Federal agencies continue to investigate the suspect's motives, including any ideological influences or connections stemming from his time in Southern California.

Allen, a 2017 graduate of Caltech, worked at C2 Education, a private tutoring and test-prep firm in Torrance. As of press time, California Black Media could not confirm whether he is still employed with the organization.

Your Vote in 2026: California Dem Party Releases New Poll Results on Gov's Race; 20% Still Undecided

The California Democratic Party (CADEM) has released a new tracking poll showing a tight and uncertain race for California governor, with Republicans leading in early polling and Democrats divided across a crowded field.

The California VOTER Index survey, conducted by EVITARUS, a firm led by Black and Latina women, surveyed 1,200 likely voters from April 15–17. The poll found Republican candidates Steve Hilton and Chad Bianco holding the top two spots.

Sacramento political insiders acknowledge that the GOP lead highlights a key risk for Democrats under the state's primary system, where the top two finishers advance regardless of party.

The poll's findings point to a central issue shaping the race: too many Democratic candidates splitting support, according to state Party leadership. Party Chair Rusty Hicks urged candidates to reconsider their campaigns as voting approaches.

"I continue to believe there are too many Democrats in the field," said Hicks, calling on lower-polling candidates to assess whether they have a viable path forward.

Among Democrats, the survey showed movement. Xavier Becerra rose from 4% to 13%, tying with Tom Steyer for third place. Meanwhile, support for Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA-14) dropped sharply, falling from 12% to less than 1% after he exited the race.

The share of undecided voters also declined, from 24% to 20%, suggesting more voters are beginning to focus on the contest. Hicks said that trend is encouraging but warned it is not enough to secure a Democratic win in November without consolidation.

The survey follows earlier polls released in March and early April that showed similar patterns, with Republicans leading and Democrats trailing behind in a fragmented field. The research included outreach to Latino, Black and Asian American voters to improve accuracy across key groups.

Hicks also praised former State Controller Betty Yee, who recently suspended her campaign, and suggested others consider doing the same to strengthen the party's chances.

With about 60 candidates on the ballot and mail voting set to begin in early May, the race remains fluid. Party officials say additional tracking polls will be released in the coming weeks as campaigns intensify, and voters prepare to make their final decisions.

From Storyboards to Statehouse: Black Women Leaders Spotlight Role of Culture and Media in Maternal Health Policy

A cross-section of policymakers, storytellers, and advocates gathered April 18 for a discussion on how media narratives shape public policy affecting Black maternal health.

Hosted by In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda, the panel — From Storyboards to Statutes: How Narrative Power Shapes Black Maternal Health — featured Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-CA-)37, writer and producer Mara Brock Akil, L.A. County Supervisor Holly Mitchell, writer Nicole Jefferson Asher, and Dr. Regina Davis Moss, the organization's president and CEO.

Held just after Black Maternal Health Week (April 11–17), the conversation focused on how portrayals of Black women, pregnancy, and motherhood influence public perception — and ultimately, policy decisions.

"Black maternal health doesn't exist in a vacuum—it's shaped by the stories people see, hear, and come to believe about Black women's lives," said Davis Moss. "That's why our Narrative Power for Justice Initiative is so critical… When we tell fuller, more truthful stories, we don't just transform culture—we lay the groundwork for policies that truly reflect and protect our communities."

The event highlighted the organization's Narrative Power for Justice Initiative (NPJI), a multi-year effort aimed at reshaping how Black maternal health and reproductive justice are understood through research, storytelling, and advocacy.

Panelists emphasized the link between cultural representation and legislative outcomes, particularly amid ongoing challenges to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in Hollywood.

"In my line of work, Black women are too often thought of last—if we're considered at all," said Kamlager-Dove. "Storytelling isn't extra - it is essential… so we can drive real, informed solutions."

Akil added, "Reproductive health begins when we can make women, young girls, and boys feel safe… When people feel seen and supported, they can tell the truth, grow, and make choices without shame."

Through research and its Creators for Change Council, NPJI is working to align authentic storytelling with policy change, advancing more accurate narratives about Black life in mainstream media.

Atty. Gen. Bonta Warns School Districts: Act on Sexual Misconduct or Face Consequences

California Attorney General Rob Bonta is urging K-12 school districts across the state to take stronger action to prevent and respond to sexual harassment, assault, and abuse, reminding them of their legal obligations under state law.

In a legal alert issued April 22, Bonta emphasized that schools must actively stop misconduct, address harm, and prevent future incidents under laws including the California Education Code and the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act. The alert also coincides with the launch of a multilingual "Know Your Rights" resource to help families understand reporting processes and available support.

"Sexual harassment, assault, and abuse in schools are far too common and completely unacceptable. Every student has a right to a safe learning environment, and it is the duty of our school districts — along with a moral obligation — to step off the sidelines and be a part of the solution," said Bonta.

The announcement comes amid troubling data. Nationwide, schools reported thousands of incidents in a single year, including 2,700 sexual assaults and 17,000 allegations of sex-based harassment. In California, districts paid an estimated $2 billion to $3 billion to student victims between 2019 and 2023.

Under state law, school districts must immediately investigate reports, notify parents or guardians, and report suspected abuse to law enforcement or child welfare agencies. They are also prohibited from retaliating against students who come forward and must act even if complaints are submitted informally.

"It's time to turn up the volume and reject the quiet acceptance of these incidents," Bonta said. "We owe it to our community and especially to our children to ensure that all sexual misconduct is adequately addressed."

The alert also highlights a new requirement under Senate Bill 848 mandating school safety plans by July 1, 2026, reinforcing the state's push to protect students and strengthen accountability in schools.

Lawmakers, Advocates Address California's Growing Medical Debt Problem

California lawmakers are advancing a new proposal aimed at easing the financial burden of medical debt, as officials warn that millions of residents continue to struggle with health care costs.

Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) last week introduced Assembly Bill 2123, known as the Medical Debt Relief Act of 2026. The measure would create a state-backed program to buy and eliminate qualifying medical debt for low- and middle-income Californians.

The proposal comes as nearly 40% of Californians are saddled with medical debt, according to the California Health Care Foundation. The debt is often driven by high out-of-pocket costs, deductibles and unexpected bills. Lawmakers and advocates say the issue can lead to long-term financial instability, including damaged credit and housing challenges.

"Too many Californians are doing everything right and still getting buried in medical debt they realistically can't pay," said Aguiar-Curry during a news briefing at the State Capitol on April 20.

"AB 2123 takes a common-sense approach—buying up that debt for pennies on the dollar and wiping it out," she said.

The bill would establish a Medical Debt Relief Program within the state, allowing California to purchase debt from providers or collection agencies at reduced cost and cancel it. The program would be funded with a $2.5 million investment and target households earning up to 400% of the federal poverty level or those with high debt relative to income.

State Treasurer Fiona Ma, who is sponsoring the bill, said the initiative could deliver large-scale relief. "Through this initiative, California can leverage its financial tools to relieve billions in burdensome debt for residents who did everything right but still fell behind due to health care costs," Ma said.

Health advocates say even insured patients face steep expenses. Spencer Dayton, a cancer patient, described the toll of ongoing treatment costs.

"These are not optional expenses; they are the cost of me staying alive," said Dayton. "Being sick is hard enough. Going broke to stay alive should never be part of our treatment plans."

Supporters say the proposal builds on earlier efforts, including a Los Angeles County program that erased hundreds of millions in medical debt and a 2024 state law that removed medical debt from credit reports.

"People shouldn't have to choose between seeing a doctor and keeping the lights on," Aguiar-Curry said.

If approved, AB 2123 would mark a major step in California's efforts to address medical debt and reduce financial strain for vulnerable residents.

Report: Dems and Republicans Deeply Divided Over California Income Inequality— Blacks and Latinos Most Impacted

A new analysis of income trends in California highlights persistent economic inequality in the state while showing major partisan disagreement over how much government should do to address it.

The report, based on 2024 data from the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), finds that California families at the top of the income distribution earn about 11 times more than those at the bottom. While the state has higher median incomes than the rest of the U.S., inequality remains near historic highs.

The data shows significant racial and ethnic disparities. Median income is highest among Asian and White families, while Black and Latino families earn significantly less on average. The report also finds that households headed by college graduates earn far more than those without degrees, and that income varies widely by region, with the Bay Area reporting the highest median incomes.

Overall, families in the top 10% earn substantially more than those in the bottom 10%, reflecting long-term growth at the top while lower incomes have grown more slowly over time.

The report also highlights strong political divisions over how to respond to income inequality. Statewide survey findings show that most Democrats support stronger government action to reduce the income gap, while fewer independents and Republicans agree.

Economists cited in the report note that income differences are driven in part by differences in education, occupation, and access to investment income, with higher-income households more likely to earn from assets such as businesses, stocks, and real estate.

Lower-income households, by contrast, spend a larger share of their earnings on basic needs such as housing, food, transportation and health care, making them more vulnerable to inflation and economic shocks.

Eaton and Palisade Fires: State Senators Announce Bills to Hold Insurance Companies Accountable

California lawmakers are advancing a package of insurance reform bills aimed at increasing transparency and holding insurers accountable in the wake of the Eaton and Palisades fires, as survivors continue to report delays and disputes in the claims process.

State Sen. Sasha Renée Pérez (D-Alhambra) announced the legislation during a news briefing on April 22 in Sacramento, saying the measures are intended to address widespread problems in how insurers handle wildfire claims.

At that briefing, one fire survivor described how her insurer initially indicated her home would need to be rebuilt from the ground up, before later reducing the estimated payout.

"The fire damage to my house did not change," said Claire Thompson. "But the loss estimate did, and it was reduced to an amount that made recovery impossible."

The legislative package includes Senate Bill (SB) 877, SB 878, and SB 1076. The bills would require insurers to disclose all versions of loss estimates and explain changes, impose penalties for missed payment deadlines, and require insurers to offer coverage to homeowners who meet wildfire safety standards.

Pérez said the proposals respond directly to experiences shared by fire survivors across Los Angeles County. She has argued that inconsistent estimates and delayed payments have slowed rebuilding efforts.

Advocates say the reforms are needed as many residents continue to struggle with recovery long after the fires.

Joy Chen, executive director of the Eaton Fire Survivors Network, said insurance access is central to rebuilding communities.

"Survivors are rebuilding stronger and safer," said Chen. "But if our community cannot access insurance even after making our homes fire-safe, our housing market will crater."

Chen also emphasized the stakes for recovery timelines, saying, "Recovery accelerates when the money shows up."

Enrollment in the California FAIR Plan has also increased sharply in recent years as homeowners in high-risk areas lose access to private insurance.

Lawmakers say the bills will test whether California can impose stronger accountability on insurers while still stabilizing a strained insurance market in wildfire-prone regions.

Local

On the Frontlines of Hate: NAACP Links Victims to Critical Support

By Joe Kocurek
California Black Media

The California/Hawaii State Conference of the NAACP (CA/HI NAACP) has expanded its efforts to respond to rising hate incidents and civil rights complaints across California, supported in part by funding from California's Stop the Hate Program.

Through that grant, NAACP CA/HI has strengthened its ability to connect individuals experiencing hate or discrimination with critical resources. This includes referring those who file complaints to the CA vs Hate hotline, a statewide, non-emergency hate crime and incident reporting hotline and online portal created to help counter a more than 50% increase in reported hate crimes in California between 2020 and 2024. The system helps ensure incidents are documented and victims are guided toward appropriate support.

LaJuana Bivens, who has served in a number of roles within the NAACP, said California has seen an increase in civil rights violations and hate-related incidents.

"We have 52 branches and they are constantly receiving complaints," she said. "So, without the Stop the Hate we would not be able to refer those cases up to attorneys at the state level. A lot of the people would not have had an opportunity to be heard."

Carmen-Nicole Cox, an attorney who works with NAACP CA/HI—as a a part of California's Stop the Hate Program—provides legal consultation to victims of hate incidents and discrimination through her legal practice, The Cox Firm for Law and Policy.

She said the complaints she receives span a wide range of issues.

"People are having home builders and landlords refusing to provide repairs, a student was denied promotion in an academic program, and targeted scrutiny at work," she said. "It's typically employment; it's housing; it's education.

"We'll meet and they'll share their experiences," she said. "And then I make assessments about possible legal claims."

LaJuana Bivens says the work of NAACP is as urgent as ever. **(Photo Credit:** ***Regina Wilson/California Black Media)***

Carmen-Nicole Cox helps survivors of hate with their legal options. **(Photo Credit:** ***Courtesy of Carmen-Nicole Cox)***

According to the California Civil Rights Department (CRD), nearly 1,200 reports of hate against minority groups were submitted in 2024 through the CA vs Hate hotline and online portal for non-emergency incidents.

While the California/Hawaii State Conference of the NAACP, which has tens of thousands of members, does not directly investigate hate incidents or crimes, it plays a key role in connecting victims to the state's reporting systems and support services.

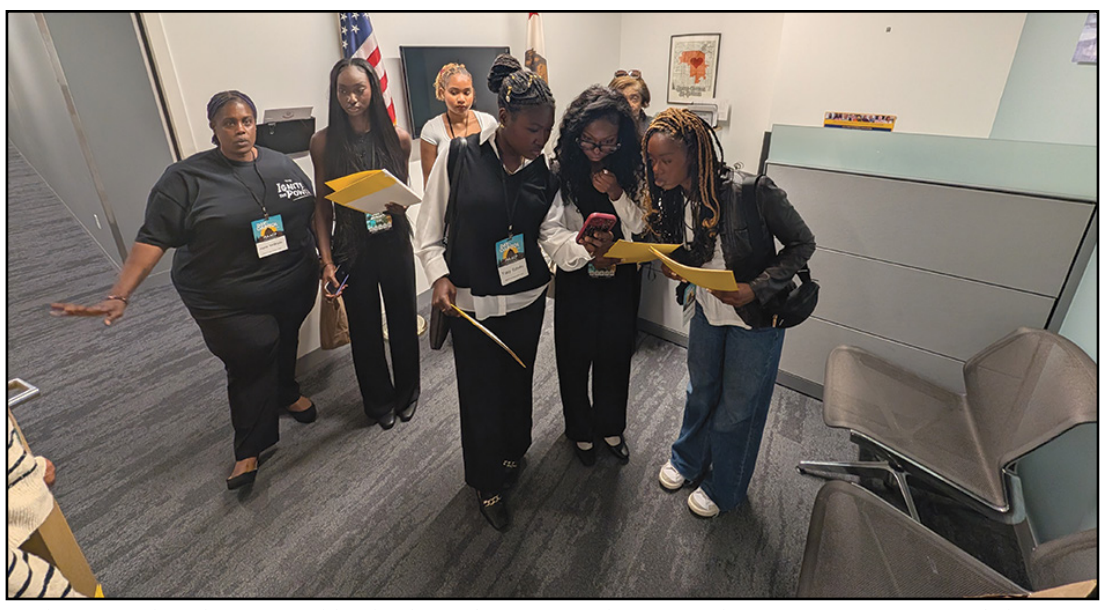
The NAACP CA/HI has a long and well-established record of supporting victims of discrimination and hate crimes — providing critical referrals and, when necessary, direct assistance through legal advocacy and other forms of support.

Beyond responding to incidents, the organization continues to advocate on broader civil rights issues, including voting rights and legal protections. It has also worked to counter efforts at the state and federal levels that could weaken the voting power of communities of color.

Bivens recently traveled to Sacramento to speak with state lawmakers about voting rights during an advocacy day event hosted by the organization.

"It's just so hard for communities of color to be up to date because of all of the confusing information coming from the federal level," she said. "I love our great state of California because here it is possible to vote by mail and to vote early.

"And I'm seeing that trying to be eroded. So, I'm here to urge continued support for vote by mail and early voting."



Cultivating the advocacy and leaderships of young people is central to NAACP's mission to fight racism and dismantle inequality. **(Photo Credit:** ***California Black Media)***

When Texas moved to redraw congressional districts in ways critics said would dilute minority voting strength, NAACP CA/HI supported the passage of Proposition 50 in California. The organization also intervened in United States v. Shirley Weber, where federal officials sought access to unredacted California voter records, including Social Security numbers, raising concerns about misuse and voter intimidation.

A federal district court dismissed that case in January 2026.

The organization's current work builds on a long history of civil rights advocacy. Founded in New York City on Feb. 12, 1909 — the 100th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth — the NAACP was established to secure the rights promised under the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments following the Civil War.

NAACP members at a recent advocacy day in Sacramento urging lawmakers to protect voting rights. **(Photo Credit:** ***California Black Media)***

While those protections were written into law, they required sustained advocacy to enforce, particularly during the post-Reconstruction era when Jim Crow laws, racial violence, and systemic discrimination undermined progress.

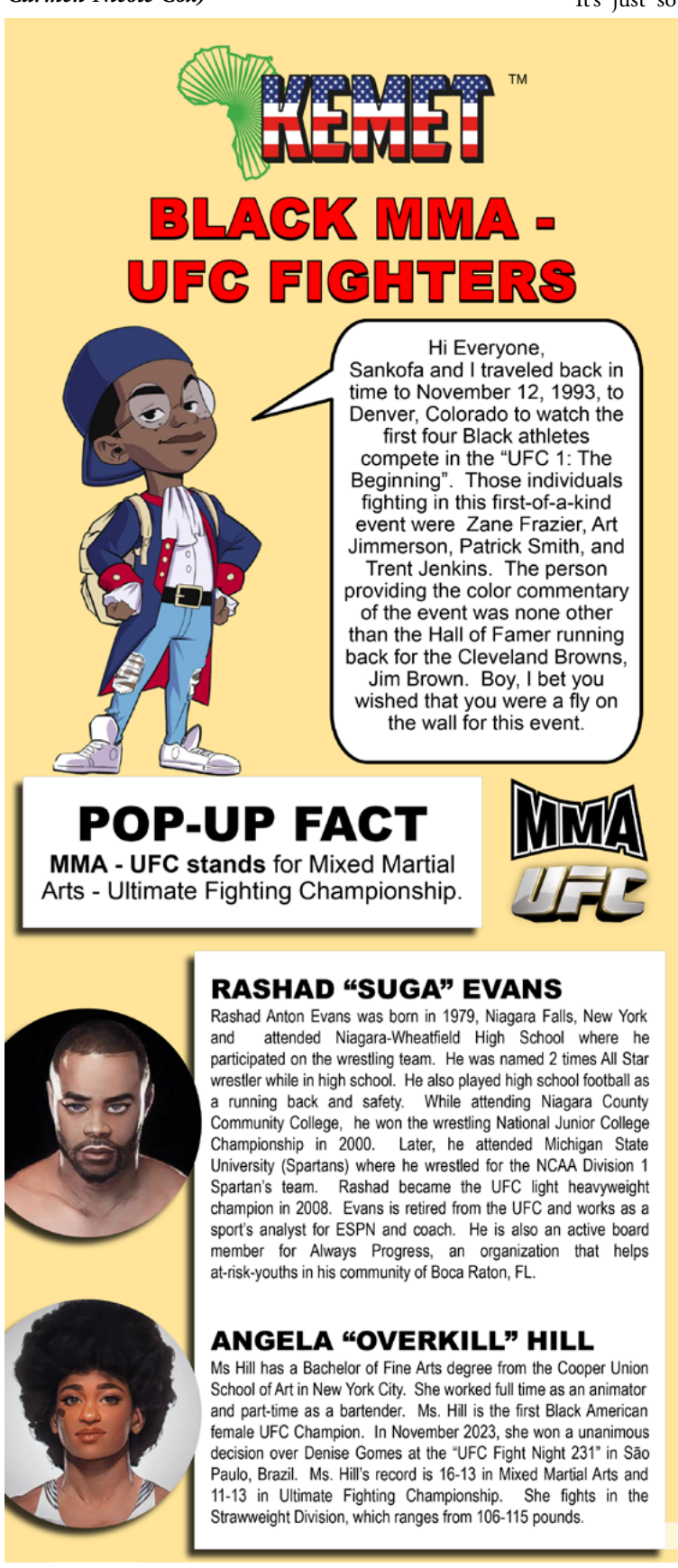
Over the decades, the NAACP expanded nationwide, including in California, where local branches helped dismantle segregation and discriminatory barriers in housing, education, and employment. The organization also contributed to legal challenges that weakened the "separate but equal" doctrine established in Plessy v. Ferguson.

Today, Bivens says, the organization's mission remains as urgent as ever.

"We are the oldest, boldest, most feared Civil Rights organization," Bivens said. "What we do every day is fight for better housing, education, economic development and political inclusion. We take it on because there are just so many people who need that support.

"You would be amazed that our phones ring every single day."

Get Support After Hate:

California vs Hate is a non-emergency, multilingual hotline and online portal offering confidential support for hate crimes and incidents. Victims and witnesses can get help anonymously by calling 833-8-NO-HATE (833-866-4283), Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.–6 p.m. PT, or online at any time. Anonymous. Confidential. No Police. No ICE.

This story was produced in partnership with CA vs Hate. Join them for the first-ever CA Civil Rights Summit on May 11, 2026. More information at www.cavshate.org/summit.