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Volume 52, Number 52 | Observer Group Newspapers of Southern California | Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber Urges Californians to Vote Early as Voter ID Battle Intensifies

By Antonio Ray Harvey
California Black Media

California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber is asking voters to help protect the integrity of the November 2026 election by taking one important step: Vote early.

Weber said her office is working to combat misinformation, expand voter outreach and maintain ballot security as California prepares for the Nov. 3 general election.

"We want folks to vote early because there are so many attacks on voting," Weber said. "We want to make sure everyone gets their ballot in. Don't wait until the last minute. It will help us immensely in terms of not just reducing time but making sure that your ballot gets counted."

Weber spoke Aug. 18 at the UC Student and Policy Center in Sacramento as part of its California Leaders Speaker Series. She encouraged eligible Californians to participate in the election and avoid waiting until the last minute to return their ballots.

The California Leaders Speaker Series is an ongoing program that provides a platform for public officials, policy experts and state leaders to engage with students and the broader University of California community. According to organizers, the bipartisan series is designed to foster dialogue about significant political and social issues and strengthen connections between the university and the Capitol community.

California Secretary of State Shirley Weber's appearance at the UC Student and Policy Center drew a diverse audience. Weber, California's chief elections officer, discussed election administration, voting by mail and national debates over election integrity. CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

California Secretary of State Shirley Weber, right, discussed her transition from academia to politics, the importance of voter participation and the need to protect election integrity during the UC Student and Policy Center's California Leaders Speaker Series on Aug. 18. Former Assemblymember Catharine Baker, a Republican, moderated the discussion. Baker serves as director of the University of California Student and Policy Center in Sacramento. CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

California Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), right, U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla, center, and Assemblymember Isaac Bryan (D-Ladera Heights), left, were among the speakers at a Proposition 39 campaign event held at California Democratic Party headquarters. CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

Former Assemblymember Catharine Baker (R-Dublin), director of the UC Student and Policy Center and a former California Fair Political Practices Commission member, moderated the conversation.

Their discussion focused on election integrity, leadership and the future of democracy. Weber described California's voting process as a "special system" that empowers people while requiring election officials to manage complex logistical, security and communications responsibilities.

"We have to be careful with this system, our voting systems," Weber said. "It empowers the people to have their voice heard, and if you treat it right those voices will be heard and adhered to (in terms) of policy and programs."

Since the June primary, state election officials have worked to provide voters with information intended to help them participate safely, easily and confidently in the general election.

Hours after Weber spoke, U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) held a news conference about a mile away at California Democratic Party headquarters to launch a campaign opposing Proposition (Prop) 39, the voter identification measure on the November ballot.

The measure would establish additional identification and citizenship-verification requirements for California voters. Its official ballot label states that it would prohibit citizens from voting unless they present government-issued identification.

Padilla, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister), Senate President Pro Tem Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), Assemblymember Isaac

Continued on page A2

Aretha Franklin's Sons Still Fighting Over Her Estate 8 Years After Her Death

DETROIT, MI. — Eight years after Aretha Franklin's death, her estate remains tied up in probate court as her sons continue to dispute assets, music rights, and personal belongings. The case has generated more than 1,400 court filings and remains unresolved. The legal battle began after Franklin died on Aug. 16, 2018, without a traditional formal will that clearly settled her estate. Her niece, Sabrina Owens, initially served as executor and discovered three handwritten documents that appeared to outline different versions of Franklin's final wishes. The conflicting papers changed what had initially looked like a straightforward inheritance process.

The biggest question centered on a handwritten 2014 document found between couch cushions at Franklin's Detroit-area home. In 2023, a Michigan jury ruled that the document was a valid will. Oakland County Probate Judge Jennifer Callaghan later interpreted it and determined how Franklin's assets should be divided among her four sons, Edward, Clarence, Kecalf, and Ted White II, who performs as Teddy Richards. Despite those rulings, the estate remains open.

According to the Detroit Free Press, Kecalf and White continue to disagree over several parts of their mother's estate. Their disputes include funding for Clarence, who has special needs and remains under guardianship, as well as copyright shares from songs such as "Dr. Feelgood" and "Think." They are also dealing with hundreds of personal belongings kept in 11 storage units around metro Detroit, including a vintage Ford Thunderbird and a Mercedes-Benz. White has also challenged Kecalf's alleged installation of security cameras at the storage facilities.

The estate's music and video archives have become another major issue. Dozens of reel-to-reel tapes and video recordings remain in storage, with some boxes carrying little or no labeling. The material could include unreleased recordings, studio mixes, and footage from Franklin's career, including her 1998 "VH1 Divas" performance and a 2003 concert at Freedom Hill Amphitheatre. White has questioned the storage conditions and wants the recordings moved. The judge is also considering whether to appoint Nashville audio restoration specialist Catherine Vericolli to examine the tapes.

The estate once moved more smoothly under Owens, with projects such as the Jennifer Hudson film "Respect," the "Genius" miniseries starring Cynthia Erivo and the "Amazing Grace" documentary moving forward. Owens resigned in 2020 as family tensions grew over the handwritten wills. The probate case has now lasted longer than Prince's estate fight, which took about six years, although it remains shorter than the 15-year battle involving James Brown's family. A hearing over disputed legal fees was scheduled for Aug. 20, while Franklin's estate remains open until the remaining disputes are settled and her assets, music rights, and royalties are fully distributed.

Gov. Newsom Nominates 3 Black Women Judges to Serve on State Courts of Appeal

By Fisher Jack
EURweb | Oakland Post

Gov. Gavin Newsom nominated three Black women — Justice Rashida Adams and Judges Denise Hippach and Juliet Macaulay — to serve on the California Courts of Appeal.

Adams, Hippach, and Macaulay are among eight appellate court nominees recently announced by Newsom. The governor also appointed nine Superior Court judges across five counties.

Adams, of Los Angeles County, was nominated as presiding justice of the Second District Court of Appeal, Division Three. She has served as an associate justice on the court since 2023 and previously served as a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge from 2017 to 2023.

Adams, who earned her law degree from Yale Law School, would succeed retired Justice Lee Edmon. Her term would begin Jan. 4, 2027, subject to voter confirmation in the Nov. 3 general election.

Hippach, of San Luis Obispo County, was nominated as an associate justice of the Second District Court of Appeal, Division Six. She has served on the Santa Barbara County Superior Court since 2022 and previously worked in county counsel, attorney general, district attorney and appellate counsel offices. She earned her law degree from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law.

From left to right: Justice Rashida Adams, Judges Denise Hippach, and Juliet Macaulay. Image courtesy of California Black Media.

Macaulay, of Orange County, was nominated as an associate justice of the Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division Three. She has served on the Orange County Superior Court since 2022.

Previously, she was chief administrative law judge at the California Department of Social Services and held several positions with the California Board of Parole Hearings. She earned her law degree from the University of Ibadan.

Newsom's other appellate nominees are David Sapp and Judge Lauri Damrell for the Third District; Judges Marsha Amin and Lisa Rodriguez for the Fourth District, Division One; and Judge Frederick Chung for the Sixth District.

The governor also appointed Justin Ford, Erin Murphy, Wilson Park and Maricela Segura to the Los Angeles County Superior Court; Timothy Mulhere in Riverside County; and Crystal Salumbides and Brigid Campo in San Diego County.

David Kim received an interim appointment in Sonoma County, and Phoebe Maffei received an interim appointment in San Francisco County.

The appellate nominations require confirmation by the Commission on Judicial Appointments. Each appellate position pays $280,052 annually, while the Superior Court positions pay $244,727.

Big City Mayors Ask for "Yes" Vote on Housing Bond Measure; Conservatives Say "No"

By Antonio Ray Harvey
California Black Media

On Aug. 19, a bipartisan coalition of mayors from California's largest cities gathered at the State Capitol to urge voters to approve Proposition (Prop) 1, an $11.25 billion housing and veterans bond measure on the November ballot.

Also known as the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, Prop 1 would provide state funding for local affordable housing projects.

Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty said cities need the measure's support to address California's housing crisis.

"Without help from the state and this ballot measure, we can't do our jobs in cities across California. We need this measure to do our jobs," said McCarty, a former member of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC).

"We need Prop 1 for the future of California, addressing the issues of this generation, and housing affordability for all levels of income throughout California," McCarty added.

The mayors said their jurisdictions lack the substantial subsidies needed to move shovel-ready affordable housing projects forward and help address the state's homelessness crisis.

The coalition included Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson, Oakland Mayor Barbara Lee, San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, Fresno Mayor Jerry Dyer and San Francisco Mayor Daniel Lurie.

The city leaders were joined by Sens. Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera) and Christopher Cabaldon (D-West Sacramento), as well as Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland). Supporters say the measure would help finance the construction of 40,000 affordable housing units statewide.

"In Fresno, more than 1 of 5 residents live in poverty. That's nearly twice the state average," Dyer said. "We need more affordable housing at every income level to include single-and multi-family dwelling units."

Prop 1 would authorize $11.25 billion in general obligation bonds. Of that amount, $10 billion would support affordable housing and homeownership programs and be repaid from the state's General Fund.

The measure would allocate $7.2 billion to build, acquire or rehabilitate rental housing through low-interest loans. Another $1.1 billion would support homeownership loan programs for low-and moderate-income households.

Prop 1 would also provide $500 million for

Local and state officials gathered at the State Capitol on Aug. 18 to discuss Proposition 1, a statewide bond measure that would fund housing and homelessness programs. Oakland Mayor Barbara Lee urged voters to approve the measure on the November ballot. Pictured to Lee's right are Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland), Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty and Sen. Christopher Cabaldon (D-West Sacramento). CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

Proposition 1 on California's November ballot would provide state funding for affordable housing and homelessness programs. If approved, the measure would support housing initiatives benefiting low-income residents, veterans and other communities across the state. CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

housing infrastructure projects; $450 million for farmworker housing grants and loans; $350 million for student housing at University of California and California State University campuses; $200 million in housing grants for Native American tribes; and $200 million for local government pilot programs aimed at lowering housing costs.

An additional $1.25 billion would go to the CalVet Home Loan Program to help military veterans purchase homes. Those bonds would be repaid over time through veterans' monthly mortgage payments, with the General Fund serving as a backstop.

Lee said the measure would provide critical statewide funding to complete much-needed affordable housing and permanent housing for

Continued on page A2

$1 Billion Lawsuit Dismissed Over Death of Black Teen Killed in School Gym

VALDOSTA, GA — The family of Kendrick Johnson, who died in a high school gym in Valdosta, Georgia, back in 2013, has had their $1 billion lawsuit against law enforcement and local agencies dismissed. The case raised long-standing questions about how Kendrick died and whether authorities mishandled the investigation.

Kendrick was 17 when he was found dead inside a rolled-up gym mat at Lowndes High School. Officials ruled his death an accident, saying he suffocated while reaching for shoes inside the mat. The family, however, has long claimed foul play, accusing local authorities, including the GBI and the school district, of covering up the truth.

According to 11Alive, the lawsuit centered on key evidence, including school surveillance footage. An independent analyst said the video appeared altered, with missing clips. The judge noted the family filed their lawsuit nearly ten years after the footage became public, exceeding the two-year statute of limitations.

Other concerns focused on the initial investigation. The local coroner said law enforcement offered poor cooperation, and Kendrick's body had been moved and opened before he could examine it. A sheriff's report later suggested the mat opening was smaller than Kendrick's shoulders, supporting the accidental death ruling. Outside autopsies pointed to blunt force trauma, and recently discovered photos hinted at a possible skull fracture.

The judge dismissed the suit against four defendants, including the GBI, Lowndes County, and two media outlets. The GBI is protected by sovereign immunity, the county wasn't properly served, and the news companies succeeded on procedural grounds. The family has already filed an appeal and plans further legal action.

In a statement, Kendrick's father, Kenneth Johnson, warned others involved in the case, saying, "Anyone, regardless of who you are, what position of power and influence you may hold, if you choose to join the murder cover-up scandal of my son Kendrick, you do so at your own peril." The judge concluded that despite lingering concerns, the claims could not move forward.

World & Nation

Gov. Newsom Signs Law Shielding Immigration Aid Workers From Doxing Threats

By Antonio Ray Harvey
California Black Media

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation on Aug. 22 designed to protect immigration service providers and humanitarian volunteers from targeted harassment, doxing and violence.

Authored by Assemblymember Mia Bonta (D-Oakland), Assembly Bill (AB) 2624, the Privacy for Immigration Support Services Providers Act, establishes an address confidentiality program modeled after California's Safe at Home program.

"AB 2624 is fundamentally about freedom - the freedom from fear that lets our immigrant service providers do their jobs, and the freedom of the press to do their jobs without ever being conflated with the doxxing this bill actually targets," Bonta stated. "Those two freedoms were never in tension. Right now, our immigrant service providers are living in fear because of extremists looking to demonize the work that they do and the populations they serve."

Bonta and other proponents of the law say an increase in death threats, online abuse and anti-immigrant vigilante activity has made address confidentiality essential to protecting aid workers.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2027, eligible immigration service providers, employees and volunteers who face documented threats will be able to apply through Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber's office to use a substitute address.

The law also provides legal remedies against individuals or groups that publish protected workers' personal information online with the specific intent to incite imminent serious bodily harm or place them in reasonable fear for their safety.

Doxing has also affected state lawmakers. In August 2024, Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson (D-Suisun City), a member of the California Legislative Black Caucus, had private information published online without her permission.

"I'm proud that with the signing of this bill, California is rejecting that, even when people try to make us feel that the political cost of supporting immigrant communities is too high," Bonta stated.

Sen. Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach) opposed the legislation, calling it the "Stop Nick Shirley Act." Strickland said he is concerned the law violates the First Amendment and could chill free speech, investigative reporting and public accountability.

Shirley is a conservative YouTube content creator, social media influencer and self-described independent journalist. He gained national political attention in late 2025 and 2026 after publishing viral videos alleging widespread fraud in government-funded programs.

After Newsom signed the measure, Strickland argued that it threatens citizens and independent journalists seeking to expose government waste and fraud.

"I spoke out against it earlier this week. I'm concerned it could have a chilling effect on investigative journalism and protected speech. The law allows at least $4,000 in damages for certain violations," Strickland posted on X the day Newsom signed the bill.

Strickland continued, "We need to protect people from genuine threats, but we must also protect journalists and citizens who investigate government programs, expose waste and fraud involving taxpayers' dollars, and hold government accountable."

Established in 1998, California's Safe at Home program protects survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, child abduction and elder or dependent adult abuse. It has since been expanded to cover reproductive health care and gender-affirming care providers.

Bonta said AB 2624 extends a similar framework to another group of Californians facing comparable threats.

Earlier versions of the bill directly referenced Evidence Code Section 1070, California's journalist shield law. That citation was removed in Senate amendments adopted in July 2026. Bonta's office said the change eliminated legal redundancy and clarified that the bill does not apply to legitimate journalism intended to hold the government accountable.

"AB 2624 does not restrict filming in public, does not prohibit investigative journalism, does not modify public records law for organizations, and does not apply to anyone who hasn't voluntarily enrolled in and been certified by the Safe at Home program," Bonta's office said in an Aug. 18 statement. "It extends a 28-year-old, court-tested confidentiality program to people who are being followed home and threatened for helping their neighbors."

Under the law, knowingly publishing, displaying, disclosing or distributing the personal information or image of an immigration service provider, employee or volunteer with the specific intent to incite imminent great bodily harm or cause reasonable fear can result in civil liability. Courts may award injunctions, legal costs, reasonable attorney's fees and monetary damages of up to three times the actual damages, but no less than $4,000.

The law also makes it a crime to post such information with the specific intent that another person use it imminently to commit violence or threaten violence.

According to Bonta's office, the legislation was introduced in response to a documented escalation of threats against immigration service workers across California.

Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, testified before the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee about her experience being doxed.

"It happened to me and happened to a family member. They were looking for me and ended up in my mother's home," Salas said. "There are so many of my colleagues where individuals have shown up to their homes, who have been threatened, and this is not just our organization, but many others."

Asm. Mia Bonta (D- Oakland)

Rising Car Insurance Rates Are Putting New Pressure on Household Budgets

By April D. Lee

Rising car insurance rates are forcing households to reconsider how much they drive, what coverage they carry, and which expenses can wait. Drivers can ease the pressure by comparing policies, reviewing deductibles, and removing unnecessary costs without giving up essential financial protection.

A routine renewal notice can now disrupt an entire household budget. The national combined average premium per insured vehicle reached $1,438 in 2023, representing a 14.42% increase from 2022, according to data cited by MarketWatch.

Higher premiums arrive as families already manage rising food, housing, utility, and transportation costs. Many households have little to no room to absorb another monthly increase. A much higher insurance bill may force drivers to delay repairs, reduce savings, use credit, or cut spending in other very important areas.

Canceling coverage may appear to offer immediate relief. However, driving without adequate insurance can expose a household to severe financial losses after a crash. A very careful policy review offers a safer way to control costs while protecting income, savings, and essential transportation.

Why Did My Car Insurance Go Up When Nothing Changed?

A clean driving record does not guarantee a stable premium. Insurance companies consider personal driving history, but they also examine broader risks affecting an entire area or group of policyholders.

Repair expenses remain one major factor. Modern vehicles often contain:

Cameras, Sensors, Computers, Electronic safety systems.

A minor collision can damage equipment that requires specialized parts and trained technicians. Insurers may also adjust premiums because of:

Higher medical expenses, More expensive replacement parts,Vehicle theft trends, Severe weather losses, Local crash frequency, Uninsured motorists, State insurance regulations

The 2026 insurance forecast from Inszone Insurance Services indicates that personal auto premiums may continue rising, although the pace of growth may slow. Claim expenses, labor costs, replacement parts, and legal settlements remain elevated.

Location can influence premiums as much as individual behavior. Dense traffic, regional weather patterns, repair prices, and local theft rates can cause car insurance increases at renewal.

Expired discounts may also raise the bill. A mileage change, new household driver, replacement vehicle, address change, or credit-based insurance adjustment may affect the insurer's calculations.

Drivers should request a written explanation when a premium changes. An incorrect mileage estimate, missing discount, or outdated vehicle classification could increase the cost unnecessarily.

How Can I Lower My Car Insurance Rates Without Losing Coverage?

Start by requesting a new car insurance price quote from several carriers before the existing policy renews. Insurance companies use different formulas to measure risk. Two companies may offer very different prices for nearly identical protection.

Compare quotes using the same:

Liability limits, Deductibles, Vehicle information, Driver information, Optional benefits and Coverage periods

A lower quote may provide less protection. Review every limit and exclusion before changing carriers.

Drivers may also reduce premiums by increasing a deductible. However, the deductible must remain affordable. A $2,000 deductible offers little help when a household cannot produce $2,000 after a crash.

Usage-based insurance may benefit people who drive carefully or travel fewer miles. Telematics programs may track speed, braking, mileage, and driving times.

Higher Premiums Are Reshaping Household Decisions

Vehicle ownership now consumes a significant share of household income. LendingTree estimates that Americans with active auto loans spend $12,841 each year on vehicle ownership. The amount equals about 15% of the median household income.

Insurance accounts for an average of $2,277 per year within those ownership expenses, according to the same LendingTree study. Average insurance spending has increased 37.5% since 2021.

A premium increase can affect more than transportation. Families may reduce grocery spending, emergency savings, retirement contributions, debt payments, or medical care to keep a vehicle insured.

Repair Costs and Vehicle Choices Keep Rates Elevated

Parts, labor, medical treatment, and legal settlements continue to increase claim expenses. Weather losses and theft add pressure in many markets. Vehicle selection can also affect insurance expenses before a buyer signs a loan.

Certain vehicles cost more to repair or replace. Powerful engines, luxury parts, theft risk, and advanced technology can increase premiums.

Ways to Protect Coverage While Cutting Costs

A focused insurance review can produce meaningful savings without leaving the household exposed. Drivers can take several practical steps:

Rising car insurance rates deserve the same attention as a loan payment, utility bill, or housing expense. Drivers should begin shopping before renewal, compare policies with equal coverage, review available discounts, and choose deductibles they can afford.

Explore our other guides and articles for more practical news, consumer information, and financial guidance.

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Secretary of State Urges Californians to Vote Early as Voter ID Battle Intensifies

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Bryan (D-Ladera Heights) and other opponents raised concerns about the measure's potential costs and effects on voting access.

"It's another voter suppression bill," Padilla said. "Donald Trump and his MAGA allies are trying to bring their fight here to California, and we're not going to let them. They know that they're about to pay a price for their horrible record."

Supporters argue that Prop 39 would strengthen election security and increase public confidence in the voting process. Assemblymember Carl DeMaio (R-San Diego) is a co-author of the measure.

DeMaio and Reform California, the conservative political action committee he founded, launched the campaign for the Voter Identification, Citizenship Verification, and Registered Voter List Administration Initiative in July 2025.

"Politicians and the media will keep denying the fact that California has real problems with election integrity, but the message from the public is loud and clear in support of requiring Voter ID as the best way to restore public trust and confidence in our elections," DeMaio stated.

Weber told Baker and the audience that she does not believe California has a voter identification problem. State law generally does not require voters to present identification when casting a ballot, although voters must provide identifying information when registering.

Weber said, "It's not the fact that voter IDs are bad. The question becomes, don't we already have it?"

Weber said the state's existing multistep verification process, which begins with voter registration and includes signature verification for mail-in ballots, provides sufficient election safeguards.

"We do have to verify every piece of mail. We have to make sure that you are actually the person submitting that ballot," Weber said.

Big City Mayors Ask for "Yes" Vote on Housing Bond Measure; Conservatives Say "No"

Continued from page A1

people experiencing homelessness, building on a housing bond voters approved in 2018.

That measure, also called Prop 1, authorized California to issue $4 billion in general obligation bonds to finance housing programs. Lee said the 2026 measure would replenish funding for programs supported by the earlier bond.

"California's last housing bond approved by voters in 2018 was fully committed years ahead of schedule," Lee said. "Across the state right now, tens of thousands of affordable homes are sitting in the pipeline waiting on the last increment of funding to break ground. Prop 1 will replenish that funding. Without it, the pipeline stalls."

Wicks and other supporters said the Legislature has enacted regulatory and permitting reforms to streamline housing approvals, leaving thousands of projects ready to begin construction once financing is secured.

"More than 40,000 affordable housing units are shovel-ready," Wicks said, meaning they have cleared permitting and other regulatory requirements but cannot proceed without additional financing.

"I started working on this bond measure four years ago. It's been four years of pushing the boulder up the hill to say, 'This is our top priority for our working-class families in this state,'" Wicks said. "When we talk about (funding) resources, we talk about 40,000 shovel-ready projects ready to be built today if the bond passes."

However, several Republican lawmakers opposed SB 417, the legislation that placed Prop 1 on the ballot.

Assemblymembers Philip Chen (R-Yorba Linda), Carl DeMaio (R-San Diego), Stan Ellis (R-Bakersfield), Heather Hadwick (R-Alturas), Alexandra Macedo (R-Tulare), Kate Sanchez (R-Rancho Santa Margarita) and David Tangipa (R-Clovis) voted against the measure.

In the Senate, Sens. Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta) and Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach) voted against SB 417. The Legislature approved the urgency measure on June 25, and Gov. Gavin Newsom signed it the same day.

Supporters argue that Prop 1 would not only expand affordable housing but also help address longstanding racial disparities in homeownership.

"Proposition 1 isn't only about affordable housing. It helps working families to become homeowners, and that matters for equity," Lee said. "Black and Latino homeownership has never recovered from decades of redlining and discriminatory lending. So, if we're serious about closing the gap, homeownership must be part of that answer."

A bipartisan coalition of California's Big City Mayors gathered at the State Capitol in Sacramento on Aug. 18 for a news conference urging voters to approve Proposition 1 on the November ballot. Pictured from left are Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson, Sacramento Mayor Kevin McCarty and San Francisco Mayor Daniel Lurie. CBM photo by Antonio Ray Harvey.

Entertainment

Michael Jackson Would Have Turned 68. In Las Vegas, His Music Is Filling the Room Again

By BlackPressUSA

Las Vegas turns up the music to celebrate Michael Jackson's birthday.

The lights go out, the theater goes dark, and then that unmistakable voice fills the room, even before the song begins.

Suddenly, Michael Jackson feels larger than life once more.

His image appears above the Las Vegas stage while dancers perform moves inspired by him, acrobats spin through the air, and his decades-old music fills a theater designed for it. Now, 64 drones fly overhead, and nine new LED panels light up the room with images.

Jackson died 17 years ago. He would have turned 68 on August 29. At Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, the Estate of Michael Jackson and Cirque du Soleil are planning a birthday celebration at a special time: Michael Jackson is having another big year.

The biographical film Michael, directed by Antoine Fuqua and starring Jackson's nephew Jaafar Jackson, has made over $1 billion worldwide. It is now the highest-grossing biopic and music biopic ever and the biggest film in Lionsgate's history. The movie opened in late April with $97 million in the U.S. and $217 million worldwide, making it the largest global debut for a musical biopic.

Alana Clapp, general manager of Michael Jackson ONE, thinks the movie's success is bringing longtime Jackson fans back with new excitement and introducing him to a new generation who never saw him perform.

"We're seeing such a wonderful movement right now with Michael Jackson and old fans that are coming together to celebrate his legacy and his stature in pop culture," Clapp told The Black Press. "I think a lot of that is obviously driven by the success of the biopic that's come out recently."

That energy is making this year's birthday celebration feel different.

"We're lucky enough in Las Vegas to have a show that can continue to celebrate everything that he has done as a performer and as an entertainer in today's world," Clapp said.

A one-time birthday surprise

The Aug. 29 celebration begins at 12:30 p.m. with the sixth annual fan reception in the lobby of the Michael Jackson ONE Theater for ticketholders to either the 6:30 or 9 p.m. show.

At 2 p.m., the theater opens to everyone. A question-and-answer session with special guests chosen by Jackson's Estate starts at 2:30 p.m., followed by a surprise that Clapp is keeping secret.

"The Q&A portion will culminate with a performance, a unique, one-time-only special performance by the cast of Michael Jackson ONE, where you will only be able to see it this one time," she said.

"The cast and crew have worked incredibly hard on bringing something new and fun and different than anything that you've seen on our stages before."

Organizers plan to live-stream the Q&A for fans worldwide. Michael Bush, Jackson's longtime costume designer, will hold his annual book signing near the Michael Jackson ONE Boutique, followed by pre-show meet-and-greets with Estate representatives, special guests, and members of the ONE creative team.

Cupcakes will be served, too.

After all, it is Michael Jackson's birthday.

Michael without an impersonator

The celebration centers on a show facing a clear challenge: its star can't step onto the stage.

Cirque doesn't try to solve this by hiring an impersonator.

For Clapp, this is key to what makes ONE special.

"This is the only show where you get to see Michael Jackson," she said. "It's not an impersonator or somebody who's playing tribute to Michael. It is Michael Jackson."

Jackson is seen through his original recordings and films, sometimes shown on a huge scale. His choreography, costumes, and images are the base, while Cirque's dancers and acrobats perform live around him.

His voice fills the theater as performers move above the audience. Dancers strike poses that fans instantly recognize. Sometimes, the acrobatics fade, and Jackson's image takes over, making it feel like a concert—until you remember he's been gone since 2009.

Michael Jackson ONE just marked its 13th anniversary and, as Clapp describes, has had a "massive refresh" with new music, costumes, and technology. A striking addition may be flying above the seats: 64 drones will move above the crowd.

"This is one of the first times that's being done in an indoor space," Clapp said, "and we're really proud of that."

Nine new LED panels add even more visuals, and a new Diabolo act set to "Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'" has performers tossing spinning objects high into the air as Jackson's 1983 hit plays.

Clapp thinks Jackson, who always pushed the limits of concert technology and showmanship, would like these updates.

"I would hope that he would be very proud of what the team has done," she said. "Especially with the refresh, bringing some of these new technological elements."

A new generation finds Michael

You can sometimes see the renewed excitement for Jackson even before the show starts.

More fans are showing up in Jackson-inspired outfits. Military jackets, black leather, buckles, glitter, and fedoras fill the lobby, creating a living timeline of his career, where his style is almost as famous as his music.

Some remember when those looks were new.

Others weren't alive to see them.

Michael's billion-dollar movie has opened a new door for younger fans. They can see Jaafar Jackson play his uncle, then look back and discover Motown 25, the moonwalk, Thriller, "Billie Jean," Bad, "Smooth Criminal," and concert clips of Jackson standing still while crowds went wild.

Then, they can visit Las Vegas, where the actor steps aside.

Jackson's real voice and images are still there, with Cirque performers bringing his recordings to life on stage.

That mix of generations will be clear on August 29, when fans who remember the Jackson 5 sit alongside people whose first real experience with Michael Jackson was the 2026 movie.

By the end of the night, the special guests will have taken the stage, Bush will have signed books, the unique performance will be over, and most of the cupcakes will be gone.

Then the doors will close.

The dancers and acrobats will get ready. Nine LED panels will sit in the dark. Sixty-four drones will wait to take off.

No one knows how Michael Jackson would have sounded at 68, or what he might have done with today's technology.

Las Vegas can't answer that question.

But it can dim the lights and let his original voice fill the room.

"That is what makes this show so unique and unlike anything else in the world," Clapp said. "Seeing it live with the human performance element and with Michael himself is an experience that you will never forget."

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4045
Doing business as:
TEPEQUE TRUCKING at 2649 POTOMAC AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 2649 POTOMAC AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ARTURO A GONZALEZ VARGAS at 2649 POTOMAC AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **ARTURO A GONZALEZ VARGAS**
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: June 29, 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: June 29, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4469
Doing business as:
LA MEXICANA PRODUCTOS NATURALES #2 at 3800 NILES ST #9, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
Mailing Address: 3800 NILES ST #9, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
KAREN ELIZABETH SAAVEDRA AYALA at 3800 NILES ST #9, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **KAREN ELIZABETH SAAVEDRA AYALA**
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: July 22, 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: July 22, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4483
Doing business as:
CHAOS CONTROL CONSULTING at 15301 MABEL CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing Address: 15301 MABEL CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
KIRK WILLIAM BLAIR at 15301 MABEL CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **KIRK WILLIAM BLAIR**
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: July 23, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 23, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4493
Doing business as:
A2 ENGINEERING at 12101 CROWN CREST DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: 12101 CROWN CREST DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
A2 ENGINEERING LLC at 12101 CROWN CREST DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **MANPREET SINGH BEHL**, MEMBER
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: July 23, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 23, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4501
Doing business as:
CONLEE OUTDOOR ADVERTISING at 13407 RAPHAEL AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
Mailing Address: 13407 RAPHAEL AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CONLEE OUTDOOR ADVERTISING LLC at 13407 RAPHAEL AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **SHELLI CARLOVSKY**, Manager
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/24/2007
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 23, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name 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: July 23, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4462
Doing business as:
JAQUELINE BEAUTY BARBER at 1006 HAVEN DR, ARVIN, CA 93203
Mailing Address: 6601 EUCALYPTUS DR SPC 117, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
WILSON DAVID MORAN LOPEZ at 1006 HAVEN DR, ARVIN, CA 93203
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **WILSON DAVID MORAN 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: July 22, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 22, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4605
Doing business as:
MA'MI MOVEMENT at 119 L ST. APT G, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 119 L ST. APT G, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BRITANY BREANNA COLEMAN at 119 L ST. APT G, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **BRITANY BREANNA COLEMAN**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/11/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 28, 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: July 28, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4613
Doing business as:
SLICED at 2543 F ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: 2543 F ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BRAR BUSINESS ENTERPRISES at 2543 F ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **DILPREET BRAR**, President
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/28/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 28, 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: July 28, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4502
Doing business as:
GIAN PEST AND WEED SOLUTION at 5424 MARCY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 5424 MARCY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CARLOS M. SOLORZANO at 5424 MARCY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **CARLOS M. SOLORZANO**
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: July 23, 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: July 23, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4468
Doing business as:
LA MEXICANA PRODUCTOS NATURALES at 3933 S. CHESTER AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 3933 S. CHESTER AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MARINA ELIZABETH VELASCO at 3933 S. CHESTER AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MARINA ELIZABETH VELASCO**
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: July 22, 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: July 22, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4661
Doing business as:
ELITE CAR AUDIO at 3740 N SILLECT AVE UNIT 2D, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 3740 N SILLECT AVE UNIT 2D, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
RYAN A BALLESTERO at 3740 N SILLECT AVE UNIT 2D, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **RYAN A BALLESTERO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 03/01/2021
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 30, 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: July 30, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4139
Doing business as:
ASE SCAFFOLD SOLUTIONS at 512 BLUE MEADOW CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ELVIN ADALBERTO BRAVO at 512 BLUE MEADOW CT, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **ELVIN ADALBERTO BRAVO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/08/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 6, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4523
Doing business as:
LADY J'S WILD FLOUR BAKEHOUSE at 522 LEWISHAM ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JASMINE SLOSS at 522 LEWISHAM ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JASMINE SLOSS**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/22/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 24, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 24, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4655
Doing business as:
ASHRAM at 7500 DISTRICT BLVD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ASHRAM INC. at 7500 DISTRICT BLVD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **TIGRAN ARUYUNYAN, CFO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/15/2023
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 29, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 29, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4699
Doing business as:
A TAILORED LOOK at 2816 CALLOWAY DRIVE, STE 102, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 8536 KERN CANYON ROAD, SPC 204, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CYNTHIA DAWN PRINCE at 8536 KERN CANYON ROAD, SPC 204, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **CYNTHIA DAWN PRINCE**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 06/01/2025
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 31, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 31, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4412
Doing business as:
JORDYN TRANSPORT at 11814 MONTAGUE AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: PO BOX 1224, PORT HUENEME, CA 93044
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
EDWIN OSMIN MARTINEZ PINEDA at PO BOX 1224, PORT HUENEME, CA 93044
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **EDWIN OSMIN MARTINEZ PINEDA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/20/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 20, 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: July 20, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B4645
Business Name you wish to abandon:
ASHRAM at 7500 DISTRICT BLVD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
THV ENTERPRISES at 3025 FAIRFAX RD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
HARJEET KAUR, LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER INC. at 10907 QUEENBURY DR., 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.)
The business is conducted by: General Partnership
SIGNED: **THV ENTERPRISES, CEO**
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: July 29, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B3009
Business Name you wish to abandon:
A TAILORED LOOK at 5549 CALLOWAY DRIVE, #8, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 8536 KERN CANYON ROAD, SPC 204, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
CYNTHIA DAWN PRINCE at 8536 KERN CANYON ROAD, SPC 204, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
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.)
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **CYNTHIA DAWN PRINCE, OWNER**
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: July 31, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MAUREEN HELEN FISCHER
CASE NUMBER: 26PRJ00712
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MAUREEN HELEN FISCHER:
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MARCI LEIGH NISSEN
in the Superior Court of California, County of Kern
2100 College Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93305
Juvenile Justice Center
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MARCI LEIGH NISSEN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: November 5, 2026
Time: 8:30 A.M. Dept: J1
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 be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
BRANDON B. HOLLADAY, ESQ.
The Law Offices of Young & Nichols
1901 Truxtun Avenue,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 861-7911
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, 2026

SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW)
CITACION (Derecho familiar)
CASE NUMBER (Número de Caso): BFL-25-003074
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
Deisy Guadalupe Tafolla Alvarez
PETITIONER'S NAME IS (Nombre del demandante):
Alejandro Montejano
N O T I C E !
You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page.
You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you.
If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs.
For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local county bar association.
NOTICE—RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2: These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.
FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente.
Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo.
Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales.
Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org) o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.
AVISO—LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SE ENCUENTRAN EN LA PÁGINA 2: Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despida la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California.
EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.
The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of CA County of Kern
1215 Truxtun Ave
Bakersfield CA 93301
Metropolitan Division Justice Building
The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son):
Alejandro Montejano
1007 S. Owen St.
Bakersfield CA 93307
661-531-5901
DATE (Fecha): July 10, 2025
Tara Leal,
Clerk (Secretario)
By Esther Bonilla, Deputy (Asistente)
(SEAL)
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER 26CUB02863
Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1215 Truxtun Avenue,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Metro Justice
PETITION OF: **LORI LEE FAST**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **LORI LEE FAST** Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
LORI LEE FAST
Proposed name
LORI LEE KELLEY
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: September 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
Date: **July 27, 2026**
Gina M. Cervantes,
Judicial Officer
Vannessa Guerra,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Lori Lee Fast
316 E I St
Tehachapi, CA, 93561
Telephone: (661) 647-7525
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER 26CUD00029
Superior Court of the State of California, for the county of KERN
1122 Jefferson Street,
Delano, CA 93215
North Division - Delano-McFarland Branch
PETITION OF: **CAMERON BROOKE GUTIERREZ**
FOR CHANGE OF NAME
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: **CAMERON BROOKE GUTIERREZ** Filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
CAMERON BROOKE GUTIERREZ
Proposed name
CAMERON BROOKE GUTIERREZ JUAREZ
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: October 7, 2026
Time: 8:31 a.m.
Delano Division B, 1122 Jefferson St, Delano, CA 93215
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: **July 30, 2026**
Tara Leal,
Clerk of the Superior Court
Angel Marie Casillas Ramos,
Deputy Clerk
Petitioner:
Cameron Brooke Gutierrez
2118 Via Tuscania Ave
Delano, CA, 93215
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4718
Doing business as:
AYDAS PLACE at 411 S CHINA LAKE BLVD, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
Mailing Address: 411 S CHINA LAKE BLVD, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MOUSA MAJED RAHAL at 411 S CHINA LAKE BLVD, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MOUSA MAJED RAHAL**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/02/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 3, 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: August 3, 2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4722
Doing business as:
ATM TRUCKING at 400 E ROBERTS LN SPC 109, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 5014, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93388
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
AARON ROBERT MCINTOSH at P.O. BOX 5014, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93388

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **AARON ROBERT MCINTOSH**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 08/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 3, 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: August 3, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4540
Doing business as:
A GOLDEN HEART FAMILY CARE II at 13206 MONARCH PALM DR., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing Address: 13206 MONARCH PALM DR., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
EVERGRACE MANAGE CARE INC at 13206 MONARCH PALM AVE., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **MICHELLE LIGON**, 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: July 24, 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: August 3, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4741
Doing business as:
LATE NIGHT CREATIONS at 2404 MONTEREY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
Mailing Address: 2404 MONTEREY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
YOLANDA FAUSTO URENA at 2404 MONTEREY ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **YOLANDA FAUSTO URENA**
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: August 3, 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: August 3, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4735
Doing business as:
MIMI'S BAKERY at 11421 MERCATELLO AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 11421 MERCATELLO AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
TAMARA LYNN SHANHOLTZER at 11421 MERCATELLO AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **TAMARA LYNN SHANHOLTZER**
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: August 3, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 3, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4346
Doing business as:
SANDO'S CREW at 2105 24TH ST STE 400 #511, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: 2105 24TH ST STE 400 #511, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
NAILS AND NAILS HANDYMAN LLC at 2105 24TH ST STE 400 #511, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **JANET SANDOVAL GARCIA**, DIRECTOR
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: July 15, 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: July 15, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4666
Doing business as:
THE CLASSIC BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOP at 1206 CALIFORNIA AVE STE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 1206 CALIFORNIA AVE STE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MAGDIEL YOTHARAI at 1206 CALIFORNIA AVE STE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MAGDIEL YOTHARAI**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/30/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 30, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 30, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4705
Doing business as:
EXSQUEEZE ME LEMONADES at 2713 SAINT MARYS ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
Mailing Address: 2713 SAINT MARYS ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MIRANDA MACHELLE REVELES at 2713 SAINT MARYS ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93305
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MIRANDA MACHELLE REVELES**
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: July 31, 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

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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: July 31, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4793
FILE NO: 2026-B4794
Doing business as:
THE TWIGSMITH LLC / INTEGRAL HOCKEY at 8200 STOCKDALE HWY STE M-10 #143, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: 8200 STOCKDALE HWY STE M-10 #143, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
THE TWIGSMITH LLC at 8200 STOCKDALE HWY STE M-10 #143, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **ANDREW CHADDOCK**, 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: August 5, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 5, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4801
Doing business as:
SETS BY CB at 1514 18TH ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: 8820 DUNCANSON DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CASEY LYNN BROWN at 1514 18TH ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **CASEY LYNN BROWN**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 5, 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: August 5, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4565
Doing business as:
PREMIER GARDENING at 5710 NORRIS ROAD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 5710 NORRIS ROAD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JAKELINE PAOLA LEIVA HUAMAN at 5710 NORRIS ROAD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JAKELINE PAOLA LEIVA HUAMAN**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 27, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 27, 2031

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BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4686
Doing business as:
BAKERSFIELD SPORTS NETWORK at 12501 STONINGTON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 12501 STONINGTON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DANIEL MARTINEZ at 12501 STONINGTON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
COLEMAN OLIVAS at 5009 SUMMERWIND WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: a General Partnership
SIGNED: **DANIEL MARTINEZ**
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: July 31, 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: July 31, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4760
Doing business as:
LAVERNE & SON ELECTRICAL - AIR CONDITIONING - SOLAR at 5880 DISTRICT BLVD. STE. 25, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: 5880 DISTRICT BLVD. STE. 25, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
REX MONROW LAVERNE at 5880 DISTRICT BLVD. STE. 25, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **REX MONROW LAVERNE**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/05/1998
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 4, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 4, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4821
Doing business as:
LADIESTOYSCOLLECTION.COM at 6201 CHANDLER WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 6201 CHANDLER WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
PATRICIA ANN BRUCE at 6201 CHANDLER WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **PATRICIA ANN BRUCE**
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: August 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 6, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4445
Doing business as:

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIDGEWORK CONSULTING at 4725 PANAMA LN SUITE 164, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing Address: 4725 PANAMA LN SUITE 164, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
HILDA RAQUEL JIMENEZ at 4725 PANAMA LN SUITE 164, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **HILDA RAQUEL JIMENEZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/21/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 21, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: July 21, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4848
Doing business as:
CALIFORNIA PLUMBING SOLUTIONS LLC at 12912 MERLOT DR APT B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing Address: 12912 MERLOT DR APT B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
CALIFORNIA PLUMBING SOLUTIONS LLC at 12912 MERLOT DR APT B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **WESTIN WILLIFORD**, MANAGER
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 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: August 6, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4331
Doing business as:
EAGO AUTOS at 2105 24TH ST STE 400 #510, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ELKHORN ASSETS LLC at 2108 N ST STE N, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **ARTURO BARRON**, PRESIDENT
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 12/16/2024
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 15, 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: July 15, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B2542
Business Name you wish to abandon:
AYDAS PLACE at 411 S CHINA LAKE BLVD, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
Mailing Address: 411 CHINA LAKE BLVD, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
MOUSA MAJED RAHAL at 1433 S YORKTOWN ST, RIDGECREST, CA 93555
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MOUSA MAJED RAHAL**, OWNER
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: April 22, 2026
Original File No: 2026-B2542
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 3, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B5545
Business Name you wish to abandon:
JC'S CARWASH at 3601 WILSON ROAD, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing Address: 2313 ELAINE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
JUAN CARLOS GUARDADO QUINTERO at 2313 ELAINE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JUAN CARLOS GUARDADO QUINTERO**, OWNER
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: September 24, 2025
Original File No: 2025-B5545
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 5, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2023-B3422
Business Name you wish to abandon:
CALIFORNIA PLUMBING SOLUTIONS at 12343 JASMINE AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 12343 JASMINE AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
WESTIN DOC WILLIFORD at 12343 JASMINE AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **WESTIN DOC WILLIFORD**, OWNER
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: May 23, 2023
Original File No: 2023-B3422
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): BCV-25-101694
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
Valeria Lozano, an individual; and Does 1 through 10
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Interinsurance Exchange of the Automobile Club, an insurance exchange
N O T I C E !
You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.
NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.
AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.
The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Kern
1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield,
California 93301
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
TODD F. HAINES, ESQ
Law Offices of Todd F. Haines
30495 Canwood Street, Ste 100,
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
420-3132
818-597-2240
DATE (Fecha): 5/9/2025
TARA LEAL, Clerk (Secretario), by
ALEXANDRA VALLES, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
8/19, 8/26, 9/2, 9/9/26
CNS-4067482#
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 26CUB00501
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
Jaime Alcide Ventura-Fuentes; and Does 1 to 60, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): Fareedah Salahud-din
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. **NOTE:** The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.
Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.
AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.
The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Metropolitan Division
1215 Truxtun Ave,
Bakersfield, CA 93301
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
Sara Ghafari, Esq.,
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari, 6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor, Culver City, CA 90230;
Tel. (818) 222-1923
DATE (Fecha): February 10, 2026
Tara Leal,
Clerk (Secretario)
By Javen Silva, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served.

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF DAMAGES
(Personal Injury or Wrongful Death)
CASE NUMBER:
26CUB00501
To: **JAIME ALCIDE VENTURA-FUENTES**
Plaintiff: **FAREEDAH SALAHUD-DIN**
Seeks damages in the above-entitled action, as follows:
1. General Damages:
a. Pain, suffering, and inconvenience $100,000.00
b. Emotional distress $25,000.00
2. Special Damages:
a. Medical expenses (to date) $8,281.35
b. Future medical expenses (present value) Undetermined
c. Loss of earnings
(to date) Undetermined
d. Loss of future earning capacity (present value) Undetermined
SIGNED: Sara Ghafari, Esq., Attorney for Plaintiff
Date: August 13, 2026
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Sara Ghafari, Esq. (SBN: 114204) / Ali Fesharaki, Esq. (SBN: 316559)
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari, 6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor, Culver City, CA 90230;
Tel. (818) 222-1923

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

COMPLAINT — PERSONAL INJURY / MOTOR VEHICLE / GENERAL NEGLIGENCE
CASE NO.: 26CUB00501
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN, Metropolitan Division
1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Jurisdiction: ACTION IS AN UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE (Exceeds $35,000)
PLAINTIFF: Fareedah Salahud-din alleges causes of action against **defendant** *(name or names)*:
Jaime Alcide Ventura-Fuentes; and DOES 1 to 60, inclusive
Each defendant named above is a natural person **except** defendant/s:
DOES 1 to 10: a business organization, form unknown.
DOES 11-20: a corporation
DOES 21-30: an unincorporated entity
DOES 31-40: other
The true names of defendants sued as Does are unknown to plaintiff.
a. Doe defendants 1 to 60 were the agents or employees of other named defendants and acted within the scope of that agency or employment.
b. Doe defendants 1 to 60 are persons whose capacities are unknown to plaintiff.
8. This court is the proper court because:
c. injury to person or damage to personal property occurred in its jurisdictional area.
10. The following causes of action are attached and the statements above apply to each (each complaint must have one or more causes of action attached):
a. Motor Vehicle
b. General Negligence
11. Plaintiff has suffered:
a. wage loss.
c. hospital and medical expenses.
d. general damage.
f. loss of earning capacity.
13. The relief sought in this complaint is within the jurisdiction of this court.
14. **Plaintiff prays** for judgment for costs of suit; for such relief as is fair, just, and equitable; and for
a. (1) compensatory damages.
b. (1) according to proof.
15. The paragraphs of this

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

complaint alleged on information and belief are as follows (specify paragraph numbers):
MV-1, MV-2, GN-1
Date: 02/10/2026
SIGNED: Sara Ghafari, Esq., Attorney for Plaintiff
Attorney for Plaintiff:
Sara Ghafari, Esq. (SBN: 114204) / Ali Fesharaki, Esq. (SBN: 316559)
Law Offices of Sara Ghafari, 6001 Bristol Parkway, Second Floor, Culver City, CA 90230;
Tel. (818) 222-1923

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4828
Doing business as:
GAMCON at 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MARILYN MARIE FOWLER at 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MARILYN MARIE FOWLER**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 12/29/1979
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 6, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4847
Doing business as:
MATTS WINDOW CLEANING at 250 S HEATH RD APT 2137, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
Mailing Address: 250 S HEATH RD APT 2137, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MATTHEW BRIAN FISH at 250 S HEATH RD APT 2137, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MATTHEW BRIAN FISH**
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: August 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: August 6, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4889
Doing business as:
LUMIFY SOLUTIONS at 110 LINNELL WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: 110 LINNELL WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
GREGORY CARABANTES at 110 LINNELL WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
JARED MATHEW CECCATO at 12008 AURORA VALLEY AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: a General Partnership
SIGNED: **GREGORY CARABANTES**
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: August 10, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 10, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4728
Doing business as:
RELIABLE CHECK EXCHANGE at 314 S OWENS, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 154, ARVIN, CA 93203
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
MIRELLA NAJERA at P.O. BOX 154, ARVIN, CA 93203
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MIRELLA NAJERA**
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: August 3, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 3, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4914
Doing business as:
BLESSEDBAKESBYPAIGE at 4311 ALMOND GROVE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 4311 ALMOND GROVE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
PAIGE ASHELY CORDERO at 4311 ALMOND GROVE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **PAIGE ASHELY CORDERO**
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: August 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: August 11, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4937
Doing business as:
DISHLY at 5000 SHOREBIRD DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
Mailing Address: 5000 SHOREBIRD DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DISHLY, INC. at 5000 SHOREBIRD DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Steven Marden Barreto**, CEO
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 08/10/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 12, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 12, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4941
Doing business as:
Belle Terrace Behavioral Health Services at 1600 E. Belle Terrace, Bakersfield, CA 93307-3871
Mailing Address: PO BOX 21810, Bakersfield, CA 93390-1810
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
Clinica Sierra Vista at 9525 Camino Media, Bakersfield, CA 93311-1314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Olga Meave, MD**, Chief Executive Officer
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/15/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: August 12, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 12, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4940
Doing business as:
ESENEL PHOTOS at 2005 1ST ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
Mailing Address: 2005 1ST ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
SAMANTHA NICHOLE GARCIA-STUBBS at 2005 1ST ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **SAMANTHA NICHOLE GARCIA-STUBBS**
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: August 12, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: August 12, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4952
FILE NO: 2026-B4953
Doing business as:
Maximum Score Builders / Maximum Score Builder at 4646 Wilson Road Suite 101, Bakersfield, CA 93309
Mailing Address: 3112 Willow Basin Lane, Bakersfield, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
Maximum Productions, LLC at 3112 Willow Basin Ln, Bakersfield, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CALIFORNIA
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **Isaac Palacios**, 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: August 12, 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: August 12, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4347
Doing business as:
MAXIMUM MORTGAGE SERVICES BY LUZ T. ORTEGA at 10817 VILLA HERMOSA DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
Mailing Address: 10817 VILLA HERMOSA DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
LUZ T ORTEGA at 10817 VILLA HERMOSA DRIVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **LUZ T ORTEGA**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/13/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: July 15, 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: July 15, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4873
2026-B4874
Doing business as:
RISE ABOVE SOFTWARE / FESTIVAL SURVIVAL STORE at 7612 Hidden Bridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313-4385
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BELOW INDUSTRIES LLC at 7612 Hidden Bridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93313-4385
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **BRIAN A. LOWRY,** Sole Member
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: August 7, 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: August 7, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5000
Doing business as:
VRS at 2725 TANGERINE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
Mailing Address: SAME
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JUAN PABLO LOPEZ LOPEZ at 2725 TANGERINE ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93306
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **JUAN PABLO 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: August 14, 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: August 14, 2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2023-B6637
Business Name you wish to abandon:
GAMCON at 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
MARILYN MARIE FOWLER at 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
GREGORY JAMES FOWLER at 7809 OLCOTT AVENUE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: Married Couple
SIGNED: **MARILYN MARIE FOWLER**, PARTNER
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: October 11, 2023
Original File No: 2023-B6637
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 6, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2024-B6975
Business Name you wish to abandon:
SMOKE N GO at 215 ROBERTS LANE SUITE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
Mailing Address: 215 ROBERTS LANE SUITE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
TRIO GUYS LLC at 215 ROBERTS LANE STE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **IBRAHEEM NAGI**, MANAGING MEMBER
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: November 20, 2024
Original File No: 2024-B6975
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 4, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B4336
Business Name you wish to abandon:
Belle Terrace Behavioral Health Services at 1600 E. Belle Terrace Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93307-3871
Mailing Address: PO Box 21810, Bakersfield, CA 93390-1810
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
Clinica Sierra Vista at 9525 Camino Media, Bakersfield, CA 93311-1314
The business is conducted by: a Corporation
SIGNED: **Olga Meave, MD**, Chief Executive Officer
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: July 15, 2026
Original File No: 2026-B4336
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 12, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2025-B5807
Business Name you wish to abandon:
JON SANTOYO at 2107 Brite Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
JOSE JUAN SANTOYO at 2107 Brite Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JOSE JUAN SANTOYO**, Owner
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: October 9, 2025
Original File No: 2025-B5807
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: July 28, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
FILE NO: 2026-B2844
Business Name you wish to abandon:
HONG YUN MASSAGE at 1800 Oak Street Ste B, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Mailing Address: same
County: Kern
Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name:
LIJUAN GONG at 1800 Oak Street Ste B, Bakersfield, CA 93301
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **LIJUAN GONG**, Owner
The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: May 4, 2026
Original File No: 2026-B2844
This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 13, 2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M VACA RAMOS,
Deputy
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 19, 26, Sep 2, 9, 2026

2010 GMC SIERRA FOR SALE ON 2026-09-08
VIN: **1GTPCTEX7AZ249454**
Lien Sale will take place at 10:00 AM at **VALENCIA TOWING 1670 VIRGINIA AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307 (661)865-6425**

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, 2026

ORDER ON REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE HEARING
CASE NUMBER: BFL-20-002219
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Metropolitan Division Justice Building
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF:
Enrique Jeronimo Gomez
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT:
Francisca Lopez Mendez
The hearing is currently scheduled for (date): **09/30/2026**
Name of party who filed the Request for Order, order to show cause, or other moving paper is (specify): **Enrique Jeronimo Gomez, Petitioner**
Name of party asking to reschedule the hearing is (specify): **Enrique Jeronimo Gomez, Petitioner**
The request **does not include** temporary emergency (ex parte) orders previously issued.
Order granting request to reschedule hearing and notice of new hearing
a. The court hearing is rescheduled to the date, time, and location shown below:
New Hearing Date: **09/30/2026**
Time: **8:30 A.M.**
Dept.: **DIVISION "B"**
Address of court: Same as noted above
Reason for rescheduling
a. The hearing needs to be rescheduled because:
(1) the papers were not served before the current hearing date.
The court in its discretion finds good cause and reschedules the hearing.
Dated: August 19, 2026
By: Areli Paz Ramirez
Deputy Clerk

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

REQUEST FOR ORDER
Court Divide Omitted/Undisclosed Asset-Pension Plan In Judgement Dated 10/20/21 Under FC §2556 And Request to Publish & Joinder
CASE NUMBER: BFL-20-002219
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN
1215 Truxtun Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Metropolitan Division Justice Building
PETITIONER: Enrique Jeronimo Gomez
RESPONDENT: Francisca Lopez Mendez
NOTICE OF HEARING
TO (name): Francisca Lopez Mendez
Respondent
A COURT HEARING WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:
a. Date: 9/30/2026
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Dept.: Division B
b. Address of court: same as noted above
WARNING to the person served with the Request for Order: The court may make the requested orders without you if you do not file a Responsive Declaration to Request for Order (form FL-320), serve a copy on the other parties at least nine court days before the hearing (unless the court has ordered a shorter period of time), and appear at the hearing. (See form FL-320-INFO for more information.)
Dated: August 5, 2026
By: Areli Paz Ramirez,
Deputy Clerk

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4875
Doing business as:
PUCKERED LIPS LEMONADE at 117 BRIGHTON WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308, KERN COUNTY
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
PUCKERED LIPS LEMONADE LLC at 117 BRIGHTON WAY, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **YOONNE MELE, Managing Member**
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: 08/07/2026
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: 08/07/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5043
Doing business as:
PANGEA HOPE COUNSELING at 513 MONTCLAIR ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: 1120 OAK STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
PANGEA HOPE PROFESSIONAL CLINICAL COUNSELOR CORPORATION at 513 MONTCLAIR ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
SIGNED: **Anasa Storay-Demby, 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: 08/17/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 08/17/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5058
Doing business as:
BLACK GOLD TRANSPORT at 465 BEECH AVE, SHAFTER, CA 93263, KERN
Mailing address: 465 BEECH AVE, SHAFTER, CA 93263
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
DENA MORLAND at 465 BEECH AVE, SHAFTER, CA 93263
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **DENA MORLAND**
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: 08/17/2026
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: 08/17/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4621
2026-B4622
Doing business as:
BEHAVIOR EDUCATION ANALYSIS & RESEARCH / BEAR at 4900 CALIFORNIA AVE., 210-B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BEHAVIOR EDUCATION ANALYSIS & RESEARCH LLC at 4900 CALIFORNIA AVE., 210-B, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **MATTHEW T. DOLAN, CEO**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 05/27/2020
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 07/28/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 08/17/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4416
Doing business as:
BLACK MOON THERAPY & WELLNESS at 5001 E. COMMERCENTER DR. STE 285, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309, KERN COUNTY
Mailing address: P.O. BOX 9445, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93389
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BARBY NATALY RODRIGUEZ at P.O. BOX 9445, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93389
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **BARBY NATALY RODRIGUEZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 01/01/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 07/20/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: M SALES,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 07/20/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5085
Doing business as:
COFFEE SHIELL at 4105 IRONROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
Mailing address: 4105 IRONROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
ASTRID SILVIA NIETO at 4105 IRONROCK AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **ASTRID SILVIA NIETO**
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: 08/18/2026
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: 08/18/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B5037
Doing business as:
BCA SOLUTIONS at 9530 HAGEMAN RD #B362, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312, KERN COUNTY
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
BCA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC at 9530 HAGEMAN RD #B362, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
SIGNED: **ALEJANDRO BARRIOS, Manager**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/10/2026
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 08/14/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk
By: J PADILLA,
Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code).
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 08/14/2031

BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4441
Doing business as:
SWEETSURRENDERS222 at 4416 HAHN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
Mailing address: same
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):
JANET PEREZ RODRIGUEZ at 4416 HAHN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
The business is conducted by: Individual
SIGNED: **JANET PEREZ RODRIGUEZ**
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/01/2021
This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 07/21/2026
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

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information

PUBLIC NOTICE

which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime
This statement expires on: 07/21/2031
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4947
FILE NO: 2026-B4948
FILE NO: 2026-B4949
Doing business as:
DREAMWEAVER SCENTS / DREAMWEAVER / DWS at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern

PUBLIC NOTICE

Full name of registrant(s):
FRANCES ELIZABETH BRANCH at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
JUSTIN ALLEN BRANCH at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
The business is conducted by: Married Couple
SIGNED: **FRANCES ELIZABETH BRANCH / JUSTIN ALLEN BRANCH**
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: 08/12/2026
AIMEE X. ESPINOZA
County Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

By: M SALES,
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Features

Why Black-Owned Businesses Can't Afford to Be Invisible to AI

By Rob McManus

Many people use AI tools to search for products and services instead of search engines. If Black-owned businesses aren't easy for AI to find, they end up losing potential customers. Let AI help you gain the trust of people who are considering your business for the first time so your brand can grow.

According to McKinsey & Company, Black Americans run over 3 million businesses across the U.S. It hasn't always been easy for small businesses owned by Black people to stand out in their communities.

Start using AI to gain a competitive advantage and keep up with how customers find brands now.

How Much Do Black-Owned Businesses Contribute to the Economy?

They generate around $133.7 billion in total sales, as reported by the Department of Small and Local Business Development.

Your business doesn't need to make a huge amount of revenue to have an impact on the economy. You're helping others grow by:

Offering them a job

Inspiring them to be future entrepreneurs

Supporting their businesses when they supply you with items

Why Do Black-Owned Businesses Struggle to Survive?

Failing to keep up with technology as it evolves and having limited access to funding. When you first start your business, you'll probably do most of the work by yourself.

Handling the following tasks without the right tools can be overwhelming:

Bookkeeping

Customer service

Supply chain management

Marketing

You might find yourself having little time to focus on the things that can actually help your company grow. Set aside time to ask your clients for their feedback. You may struggle with brand visibility if you don't have reviews to help you earn trust.

Many entrepreneurs start their businesses with savings or get loans from their loved ones. If lenders with good interest rates don't consider you for loans, you'll probably end up borrowing from those with high rates. Paying a huge interest reduces your profits over time.

Discovering the Benefits of Staying Visible to AI

Ensure your business shows up in AI searches whenever someone is looking up something related to what you offer. You don't even need a huge budget to boost digital visibility.

AI Helps Customers Find Your Business Faster

Many shoppers begin searching for products using simple questions. Someone may ask an AI tool to tell them who sells the best scented candles near them.

If a homeowner needs their pipes fixed, they might search for price estimates. You can boost your chances of appearing in AI snippets by:

Answering the questions customers often ask using your content

Providing accurate details about your company

Posting great photos of your products

Don't just create a simple business website and hope that your potential customers will stumble upon it. When you start using tools like GetNextNet.ai, you'll be able to see how AI tools see your brand. Tracking your readiness score helps you figure out what you need to improve.

Better Online Presence Builds Trust Before Customers Call

It's not easy for people to trust a business they've never worked with, especially when they want to order something online. You'll be able to leave great first impressions if you have:

Clear descriptions for all your services

Updated business hours

An active blog with content posted regularly

Genuine customer testimonials

AI tools scan such things before recommending businesses to users. Avoid just marketing your products on your site. Posting content that also helps customers address the issues they're facing makes you more trustworthy.

If you own a Black-owned accounting firm, post guides explaining tax deadlines for small businesses. You should give AI more reasons to see you as the best solution.

Once someone visits your page after coming across it in an AI overview or an answer provided by a tool like ChatGPT, your job isn't done. Ensure your site shows them what to do next so they don't feel stranded.

Saving Time While Growing Your Online Presence

You'll keep enjoying the results of AI visibility for longer than you would with traditional marketing campaigns. If you have helpful content on your site, it can help you keep bringing in business for months or even years.

Start simplifying consumer discovery by:

Creating articles that answer questions customers will continue asking for years

Reviewing older blog posts to update statistics and links

Tracking how each post is performing to see what you should invest in

When you use these tips, you will be able to reduce how much you spend on marketing. It's important to be flexible since customers' behavior changes frequently.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can AI Recommend Small Businesses Even if They Aren't National Brands?

Yes. AI doesn't recommend businesses based only on size or popularity since it mostly looks for:

Reliable information

Content that's relevant to what a user is asking

Consistent business details

Don't be discouraged if you're mostly competing against big businesses. When you position your brand well for AI tools to discover, people might pick you over brands they already know.

How Long Does It Take to Improve AI Visibility?

The results will vary depending on your website and the level of competition. It's possible to notice a huge difference in just a few weeks after getting new reviews.

AI tools were probably not suggesting your site simply because you didn't have testimonials they could refer to when checking if your brand is authentic.

Be consistent and know what AI tools reward the most. It will help you grow your visibility faster.

Do Social Media Pages Help AI Understand My Business?

Yes. Your social media profiles can give AI tools more details about your business. Post more often and don't ignore your customers in the comments.

Responding to them helps you build trust. Use your social media pages to support your website and help you direct more traffic to it.

Enhancing Digital Visibility

Black-owned businesses now have the chance to stand out and earn trust without you spending a lot of money. If you update your content and use it to address the problems your customers face, AI tools are more likely to notice you.

Get positive reviews from your loyal customers. Posting these on your pages and engaging with your customers boosts your visibility. Check out more black-owned business growth insights on our page.

Insurance Redlining Means Two Identical Drivers Pay Different Prices

By Amy Kang

Insurance redlining happens when the address on your policy shapes your rate more than your record behind the wheel. Companies build prices from personal details like your neighborhood and credit, not just your driving history. The result: two drivers with identical records can pay far different premiums, and the steeper bill usually falls on Black neighborhoods.

State regulators are starting to back up what drivers have suspected for years. A 2024 study by the D.C. Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking found that Black drivers pay 46% more than white drivers on average — $1,031 a year compared to $705. Even after researchers accounted for age, claims history, and driving records, this gap persisted.

Gaps this large are no coincidence. They come from pricing formulas that lean on credit scores, homeownership, and neighborhood lines shaped by decades of housing discrimination. The old red ink is gone from the maps, yet its outline still lives in the algorithms that set your premium.

What Is Redlining in Insurance?

In the 1930s, federal housing maps drew red lines around Black neighborhoods and branded them "hazardous." This is what insurance redlining is. For decades, insurers and banks used these maps to deny coverage and loans. This practice was outlawed by the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

Modern insurance redlining wears a different disguise. An agent will be happy to sell you coverage regardless of race. By the time the quote reaches you, the higher price looks like just another number.

These models measure where you live and what you own, not how well you drive. Advocates say the pricing pattern lands almost exactly where the old red lines sat. Even with a flawless record, a driver in a majority-Black area often pays hundreds more than a twin driver a few miles away.

Why Do Auto Insurance Premiums Vary by ZIP Code?

Insurance companies frame ZIP-based pricing as basic risk math. More crashes, more theft, and pricier repairs in an area should mean higher rates, they say. The explanation sounds fair until you look at how narrowly the map gets sliced.

ZIP codes are only one piece of the formula. Insurers also rely on non-driving rating factors, including:

Credit history

Education level

Occupation

Marital status

Homeownership

Each of these inputs sits entirely outside driving skill, and each can still shift auto insurance premiums by hundreds of dollars a year.

The same pattern shows up outside auto coverage. The Consumer Federation of America documented a racial premium gap in home insurance as well, with predominantly Black neighborhoods paying roughly 16% more, about $500 extra each year, for the same coverage.

What Are Regulators Doing About Insurance Redlining?

State watchdogs are finally looking inside the pricing machinery. Colorado has moved first, with a rule that requires insurers to hunt down bias in their own models and correct it.

Under the state's expanded regulation, which took effect in October 2025, auto insurers that use outside consumer data must prove their tools avoid unfair discrimination in insurance practices. The requirements are direct:

Test pricing models for racial bias

Report the results to state officials

Fix any model that fails

This makes Colorado the first state to require measurable evidence of fair pricing from auto insurers rather than taking their word for it.

What Can Drivers Do About High Rates and Claim Denials?

The formula is out of your hands, but the first quote is not. Shopping around remains a driver's best weapon, since every company weighs the same inputs differently.

Start with these steps:

Compare quotes from at least three insurers

Ask which discounts apply to you

Recheck your rate at every renewal

Save copies of quotes and letters

The same coverage can cost hundreds of dollars less at the next company, and finding out takes minutes.

Unfair pricing is only one side of the problem. After a crash, drivers can also run into:

Dragged-out investigations

Lowball offers

Flat claim denials

Insurers bet that most people will take the outcome quietly.

Bringing in legal help rewrites that equation. Experienced personal injury attorneys can:

Review a denied claim

Deal with the insurance company directly

Fight for the full compensation a policy promises

Frequently Asked Questions

Is Insurance Redlining Illegal?

Charging higher rates based on race is illegal in every state. Pricing based on ZIP code, credit, and other non-driving rating factors remains legal in most places, even when the results fall along racial lines. That gap between what the law bans and what the data shows is exactly what regulators are now examining.

Does My Credit Score Affect My Car Insurance Rate?

Most states let insurers use credit-based insurance scores, and a weak score can raise your premium more than a speeding ticket does. California, Hawaii, and Massachusetts ban the practice for auto policies entirely. Improving your credit can lower your rate everywhere else, often within one or two renewal cycles.

Can I Find Out Why My Rate Went Up?

Federal law requires an adverse action notice whenever your credit information raises your rate or limits your coverage. You can also ask your agent in writing for the specific reasons behind any increase. The answer may reveal a factor you can change before the next renewal.

How Do I File a Complaint About Unfair Insurance Pricing?

Every state insurance department accepts consumer complaints online at no cost. Include your policy number, the quotes you received, and any letters from the insurer. Regulators track complaint patterns, so each filing helps build the case for stricter rules.

Can Usage-Based Insurance Lower My Premium?

Usage-based programs track real habits through an app or plug-in device, then price the policy on braking, speed, and mileage. Safe drivers in high-priced ZIP codes often save 10% to 30% this way. Read the terms first, since some programs can raise rates for risky driving.

Fair Prices Should Follow the Driver, Not the Map

Insurance redlining works best when nobody notices it. It lives inside an algorithm, a credit check, or a boundary drawn decades ago, and it leaves careful drivers in Black neighborhoods paying more for identical protection.

State testing rules and skeptical consumers are moving the needle. Until your record matters more than your address, the best defense is to shop, document, and object. Subscribe to our newsletter for the latest updates delivered straight to your inbox.

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Political

Political Playback:

California Capitol News You Might Have Missed

By Bo Tefu
California Black Media

"Passing a Law Isn't The Finish Line": California Assembly Evaluates Implementation, Results

California lawmakers are finding that laws passed in Sacramento do not always work as intended once implemented. A new Assembly oversight program has identified gaps in laws addressing wildfire recovery, insurance, foster care and clean energy.

Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) announced Aug. 17 that the Assembly had completed the first year of its Outcomes Review program. Billed as the first initiative of its kind in the nation, the program enlisted 15 Assembly members to evaluate 14 laws they authored or championed. Through public hearings and community meetings, lawmakers assessed whether the measures were producing their intended results.

"Passing a law isn't the finish line," said Rivas. "The Outcomes Review project makes sure we're checking our work."

The reviews identified both successes and shortcomings. The expansion of telehealth largely improved access to care and provided patients with greater flexibility. Affordable housing financing reforms also strengthened coordination among state agencies and could reduce duplicative paperwork, development costs and delays.

Other reviews uncovered more significant implementation problems.

One focused on Assembly Bill (AB) 238, which was enacted after the Eaton and Palisades fires to provide eligible borrowers with up to 12 months of emergency mortgage forbearance. The review found lender noncompliance, insufficient consumer complaint data and a need for stronger coordination between state and federal agencies.

Those findings helped shape AB 1842 and AB 1847, both victim-protection bills that are currently pending in the Senate.

After discovering that California's FAIR Plan clearinghouse was failing to transition affected homeowners back into the private insurance market, Assemblymember Lisa Calderon (D-Whittier) introduced AB 69 to fix the issue.

A separate review found that the California Public Utilities Commission's implementation of AB 2316 had not fulfilled the law's intent or produced new community solar projects. In response, Assemblymember Chris Ward (D-San Diego) introduced AB 1813, legislation to overhaul the state's renewable energy program and increase access to solar technology.

Lawmakers also found that the FAIR Plan clearinghouse was not effectively helping homeowners move into the traditional insurance market, prompting the introduction of AB 69, legislation adding new reporting, notification, and access requirements.

The program identified additional implementation problems related to foster care placement protections, oversight of charitable fundraising and wage theft enforcement.

Rivas said the findings demonstrate the need for lawmakers to continue evaluating legislation after it takes effect.

"This isn't oversight for its own sake — it's what accountability looks like, and we're just getting started," he said.

The Assembly plans to expand the Outcomes Review program in 2027 by involving more lawmakers and holding additional public hearings and community meetings. The next phase, according to Rivas, will build on the pilot year as lawmakers seek to identify implementation problems earlier and improve how state laws work in practice.

Gov. Newsom's Latest Appointees Include Sacramento Advocate for Formerly Incarcerated Students; State's New Tech Chief

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced eight appointments Aug. 19, including a new state chief technology officer and the reappointment of a Sacramento State outreach coordinator who works with formerly incarcerated students.

Ayushi Roy, of San Francisco, was appointed state chief technology officer at the California Department of Technology. Roy has taught at Harvard Kennedy School since 2022 and previously held technology and policy roles with New America, the U.S. General Services Administration, and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Roy's policy work has focused on the gap between government programs and the people they are intended to serve. In a Harvard course inspired by Beyoncé's "Cowboy Carter," she teaches students to examine how administrative and implementation barriers can undermine social safety-net programs.

"I do know as a practitioner, having served in the government for over a dozen years, that the building of technology is the easy part; managing the political feasibility and the implementation is the hard part," Roy said.

Roy's appointment requires Senate confirmation and carries compensation of $214,692.

Newsom also reappointed Michael Love, of Sacramento, to the State Rehabilitation Council, where he has served since 2025. Love has been an outreach coordinator at California State University, Sacramento since 2024 and previously held several roles at the university, including administrative services coordinator for Project Rebound and teacher's associate.

Project Rebound supports formerly incarcerated students as they pursue higher education, making Love's appointment relevant to the council's work involving vocational rehabilitation services.

Love earned bachelor's and master's degrees in communication studies from Sacramento State. He is a Democrat.

Newsom also appointed Eric De La Cruz of Sacramento as executive director of the Racial Equity Commission. De La Cruz has served as chief of the Office of Civil Rights at the Department of Toxic Substances Control since 2022. The position pays $146,220 and does not require Senate confirmation.

The governor additionally appointed Christine Aurigemma to the State Rehabilitation Council and reappointed Lisa Weiler, Michelle Bello and Matthew Asner. The council positions are unpaid and do not require Senate confirmation.

Gov. Newsom Launches New Free Lunch Program; Announces Nearly $14,000 Per Family in Universal TK Savings

Gov. Gavin Newsom marked the start of California's new school year by highlighting universal free school meals and the statewide expansion of Transitional Kindergarten, which the state says saves families nearly $14,000 per child each year.

Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom celebrated the full implementation of Universal Transitional Kindergarten, making free TK available to every 4-year-old in California. The state enrolled 213,313 children in TK during the 2024-25 school year and has invested $12.5 billion in the program since 2019.

"California is proving what's possible with historic investments in the next generation," said Newsom. "Free TK for every 4-year-old. Free meals at school. Expanded after school programs."

California is also providing two free school meals each day to every public-school student, regardless of family income. The state has served nearly 3.5 billion free meals through its Universal Meals Program, with 2.9 million students connected to California-grown, nutritious food.

The administration says the school investments extend beyond meals and early education. California has committed $4.7 billion to its Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health, placed more than 4,000 trained professionals in schools and community organizations, and provided free mental health services to more than 500,000 children, youth and families.

The state is also expanding literacy programs, with more than 800 high-need elementary schools receiving support from literacy coaches and reading specialists. Special education funding has increased by $2.4 billion, or 43%.

The investments come as California reports academic gains across every tested subject and grade level, with particularly strong gains among Black and Latino students and continued improvement among socioeconomically disadvantaged students.

Newsom said the broader effort is aimed at ensuring students have the support they need before, during and after the school day.

"Every parent wants their child to feel safe, supported, nourished, and inspired when they walk through the school doors," said Siebel Newsom. "California recognizes that if we want to give our kids the best start in life, we need to invest in the whole child."

On Aug. 21, Gov. Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom announced that families have claimed 1 million accounts through CalKIDS, California's publicly funded college and career savings program. Launched in 2022, CalKIDS has established more than 6 million accounts containing over $2.3 billion in savings, with eligible students receiving up to $1,500 for higher education or career training. The Newsoms also unveiled the California Golden Start Challenge, a public-private partnership aimed at encouraging businesses and philanthropic organizations to contribute additional money to children's savings accounts.

Gubernatorial Candidate Steve Hilton Blasts California's New Tire Rules

Republican gubernatorial candidate Steve Hilton is criticizing California's new replacement-tire efficiency standards, arguing they will limit consumer choice and increase costs for drivers.

Gov. Gavin Newsom, however, says the regulations will save consumers money.

Hilton protested the standards Aug. 20 outside the California Energy Commission in Sacramento, where he and supporters chanted, "Hands off our tires." The commission unanimously approved the regulations Aug. 17, making California the first state to adopt energy-efficiency standards for replacement tires.

"We are done with these bureaucrats and these politicians in our state, making everything so insanely expensive," Hilton said at the protest.

Hilton said that, if elected governor, he would eliminate or defund the Energy Commission. His opposition to the tire standards is part of his broader criticism of California's high cost of living.

Newsom defended the regulations Aug. 19, citing the commission's projected savings for consumers.

"I think it was a good choice," said Newsom. "Save a billion dollars a year in fuel. Talk about an affordability agenda, that makes sense to me."

The Replacement Tire Efficiency Program sets limits on rolling resistance, which measures how much energy a tire requires to move along a road. Tires with lower rolling resistance can improve a gasoline-powered vehicle's fuel economy or extend an electric vehicle's driving range.

The first phase will take effect in 2029, setting a maximum rolling resistance of 9.1 newtons per kilonewton. A stricter limit of 7.2 newtons per kilonewton will take effect in 2033.

The Energy Commission says the standards will ensure that replacement tires are, on average, at least as energy efficient as those installed on new vehicles. The agency estimates the regulations will save Californians nearly $1 billion annually in gasoline and electricity costs while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by two million metric tons a year.

Some tire manufacturers, however, have raised concerns about the effect on prices and product availability. Goodyear estimates that about 70% of replacement tires currently sold in California would not meet the 2033 standard and argues that the regulations could increase costs for consumers.

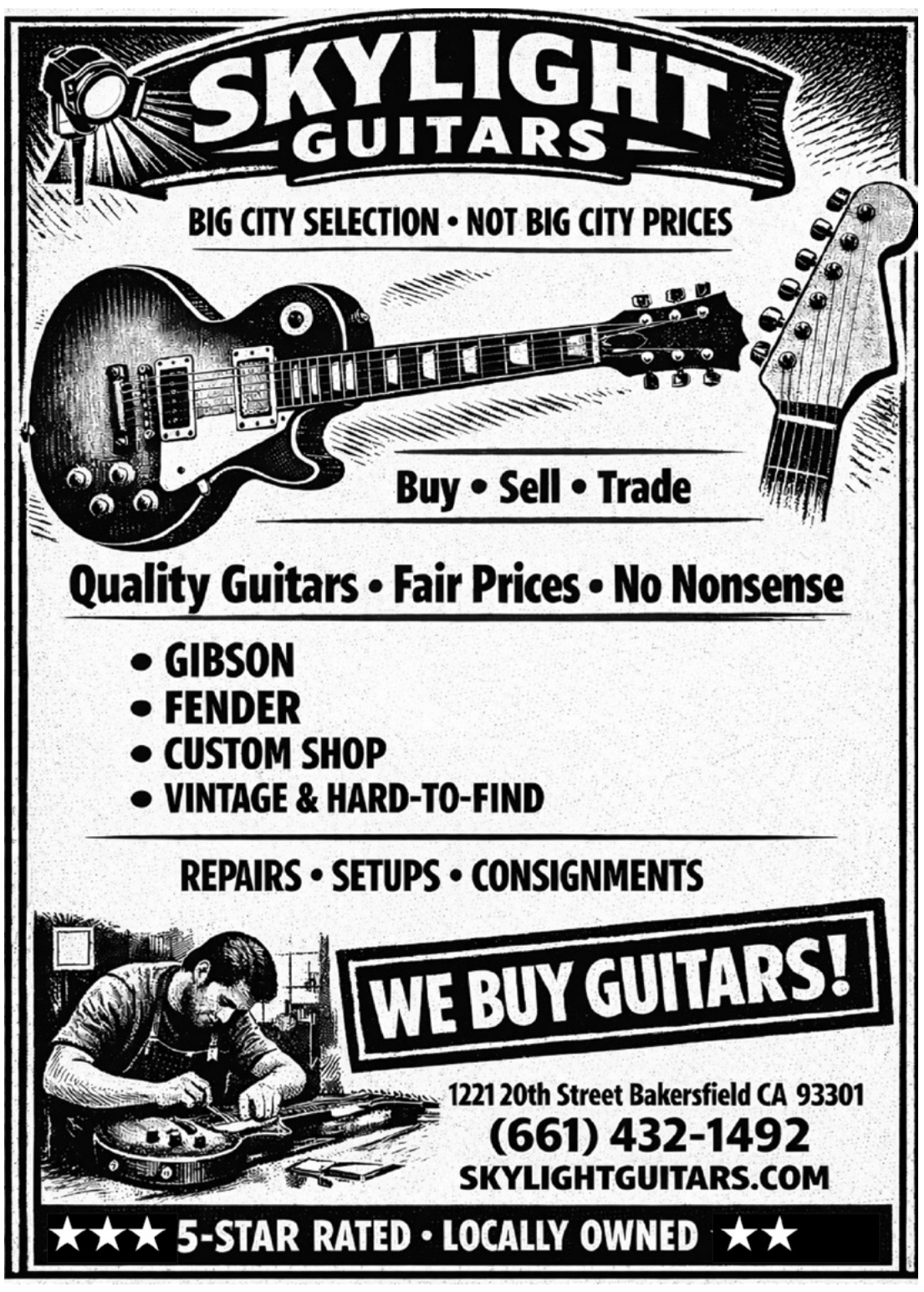
The Energy Commission estimates the standards will add about $1.50 to the cost of each tire during the first phase and $6.50 per tire beginning in 2033. The commission projects that a driver with a gasoline-powered vehicle could save about $179 in fuel costs over the life of a set of tires meeting the 2033 standard.

The regulations exempt several specialty products, including competition, winter, used, retreaded, motorcycle and certain off-road tires.

Local

From L-R: Dr. Joseph Ohens, President, Nigeria American Association of Bakersfield; Smith Efada, awardee and longtime Bakersfield resident; Karen Goh, Bakersfield Mayor; Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency; Dr. Sota Omoigui, physician and awardee recognized for his sickle cell discovery; Segun Adeyina, Georgia State Representative; Dr. Francis Uwagie-Ero, President, United Nigeria Diaspora Foundation. (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

Bakersfield's Nigerian Community Eyes a Role in Growing California-Nigeria Ties



By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

The relationship between California and Nigeria took center stage at the United Nigeria Diaspora Foundation's (UNDF) 2026 annual dinner, where community leaders, elected officials and a senior California state official explored how the Nigerian diaspora could help deepen economic, cultural and diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Held under the theme "Partnering for Prosperity: Deepening the U.S.-Nigeria Strategic Alliance," the gathering brought together Nigerian-American community leaders and public officials, including California Transportation Secretary Toks Omishakin, Georgia State Rep. Segun Adeyina and Bakersfield Mayor Karen Goh.

The conversation went beyond celebrating the Nigerian community's contributions in the United States to harnessing the diaspora as a bridge for investment, technology, workforce development, agriculture, healthcare and cultural exchange between Nigeria and the United States.

Omishakin, whose portfolio includes transportation and infrastructure, highlighted areas where California and Nigeria could learn from each other.

California, he said, has expertise in infrastructure, technology, artificial intelligence, agriculture and clean energy that could offer lessons for Nigeria. But he stressed that the relationship should not be viewed as one in which California simply teaches Nigeria.

"There are so many things that we can learn from one another," Omishakin said. "Vice versa, not a one-way aspect of this relationship."

He pointed to developments across Africa, including Nigeria's technology and entertainment industries, as examples of areas where California could also learn from the continent.

With Nigeria's median age significantly lower than that of the United States, Omishakin also highlighted Nigeria's large and youthful population as both an opportunity and a challenge.

"The challenge that's in front of Nigeria is making sure that as these young people graduate, there's employment opportunity for them," he said.

Energy was another area he identified as a significant potential for cooperation. He said that California is experienced in renewable energy and that Nigeria could capitalize on its abundant solar, wind, hydropower, and other resources to diversify its energy system.

Omishakin also outlined steps California has taken to strengthen its relationship with Africa, including the California Africa Climate and Economic Forum, which brings together African government and business leaders with California officials to discuss trade, economic development, and climate issues.

Dr. Sota Omoigui, a physician and researcher, receives recognition during the UNDF 2026 annual dinner in Bakersfield, flanked by Georgia State Rep. Segun Adeyina, left, and UNDF President Dr. Francis Uwagie-Ero, right. (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

Longtime Bakersfield resident Smith Efada receives an award from Mayor Karen Goh and UNDF President Dr. Francis Uwagie-Ero (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

Karen Goh, Bakersfield Mayor, and Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

For Bakersfield, the discussion carries a potentially local economic dimension.

Adeyina, who represents Georgia in the state legislature, specifically pointed to agriculture as an area where California and Nigeria could find common ground.

"I know Bakersfield is very big on agriculture," he said, identifying the region's agricultural strength as a potential avenue for trade and cooperation.

Bakersfield's Nigerian community is moving to act on the momentum of that partnership. Dr. Joseph Ohens, president of the Nigerian American Association of Bakersfield, said the group is encouraging its members to attend the California-Lagos Business & Investment Summit on Sept. 17 in Sacramento and hopes to be a major player in this strategic alliance.

"The Nigerian diaspora here in Bakersfield can help turn that relationship into practical economic opportunities through the skills, businesses and expertise we already contribute to California," Ohens said.

UNDF president Francis Uwagie-Ero said the Nigerian-American diaspora can and should serve as a bridge between Nigeria and the communities where we live and work.

"I believe the Nigerian diaspora should be viewed not simply as a bridge between two countries, but as an important economic and intellectual asset in the relationship between them."

Bakersfield Mayor Goh said she felt the "palpable determination" of Bakersfield's Nigerian community to create opportunities and mentor young Nigerians to contribute to community development in both the United States and Nigeria.

"Thank you to UNDF for building bridges, empowering communities, and creating opportunities," Goh said.

The UNDF dinner offered a reminder that the Nigerian contribution to healthcare is not limited to providing care– it also includes research and innovation.

Among those honored was Dr. Sota Omoigui, a researcher and pain medicine specialist based in Los Angeles whose work includes research into sickle cell disease and pain management. He described his recent discovery as an effort to identify interventions that could help prevent sickle-cell crises from becoming life-threatening emergencies.

He has called the early intervention period the "Golden Half Hour" – the first half hour of a crisis, arguing that timely access to oxygen at home could help prevent a crisis from progressing and avert hospitalization. For him, the stakes extend beyond medicine.

"Every time a child or a person uses home oxygen and prevents a crisis, we are saving a family," he said.

The evening also honored Smith Efada, a longtime California resident whose decades in Bakersfield have given him a front-row view of the growth and evolution of the Nigerian community. His almost 40-year perspective shows how dramatically the community has diversified.

"The Nigerian community has evolved; today we contribute immensely to healthcare provision for the county," Efada said.

For Omishakin, another sector of exchange is already visible globally through Nigeria's entertainment industry. He cited the international growth of Afrobeats and Nollywood as examples of Nigerian influence reaching far beyond the country's borders.

For the United Nigeria Diaspora Foundation, the challenge now is turning the conversations at this dinner into measurable partnerships.