

Arnold Perkins: At 85, a Life of Service, Faith and Giving Back

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Lionel Richie Checks Into ICU After St. Louis Concert

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Bakersfield News Observer

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He Learned to Believe in Himself. Then He Built a Legacy

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow
After 35 years with the Bakersfield City School District, Lewis Neal leaves behind generations of students, mentors, and a blueprint for the work to continue.

Visitors to Lewis Neal's office at the Bakersfield City School District quickly understand his enormous impact on generations of students even before the 64-year-old administrator utters a single word.

Awards, photos, plaques, trophies, and certificates accumulated over decades of working with young people adorn the walls. There's also a classroom poster that perhaps best captures Neal's driving philosophy: "We all smile in the same language."

Speaking with Bakersfield News Observer reporter Cecil Egbele, Neal - who retired Aug. 27 after roughly 35 years with the district - did not focus on his numerous honors. Rather, he spoke about people and influences that shaped his life.

The boy before the man

Neal recalled the teachers who believed in him as a child, and the students who needed someone to see their potential.

"I think that's my best satisfaction, the joy I get," Neal said. "Kids respond to people who care about them, who lift them up and who believe in them."

In many ways, Neal has spent his career returning that gift.

Growing up in Bakersfield, Neal attended Fremont Elementary School, Chipman Junior High and Lincoln Junior High before graduating from Bakersfield High School.

At Chipman, where he took the bus from his neighborhood, Neal recalled encountering a school environment that exposed him to students from different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

He remembered feeling like his presence was quietly questioned. "But his teachers helped change that experience."

"I remember him being a very respectful, engaging, curious (boy), silly, silly at times, just full of fun," said Leasa Royal Sutliff, his third-grade teacher, who is now 83.

During an assembly rehearsal, she recalled that Neal kept his classmates laughing so much that the class eventually had to abandon practice and return to the classroom.

"He was just so pleasant," she said.

But Sutliff said there was more to him than humor. She remembered a child who cared about other students and was willing to help, his smile, and his ability to connect with children and adults.

Teresa Guerra Espinoza, a childhood classmate who attended school with Neal from pre-kindergarten through fourth grade, remembered him as her guardian in the classroom.

"Lewis was always my protector," she recalled, "I was always the smallest one in the classroom, and Lewis and Benny were always my big brothers. He was always the one to speak up."

Decades later, Guerra sees the same instinct in the children Neal serves.

"You can obviously tell that these kids look up to Lewis as a mentor, as a big brother, as a parent," she said. "They trust him."

Even as a child, Guerra said, Neal was the person who spoke up when something was wrong. Later, during his middle school years at Lincoln, educators like Bill McClain broadened Neal's horizons through field trips to Washington, D.C., and New York, teaching him that a child's possibilities stretch far beyond their immediate ZIP code.

The young man with the black binder

Neal, who initially considered a career in law, took a different course in the 1990s when the



Mr. Lewis Neal, retired Bakersfield City School District youth services coordinator surrounded by some awards and honors (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

Bakersfield School District launched the Black Male Student Project to support underperforming male students.

Ida Randall, a district administrator tasked with screening applicants, walked down the hall to invite Neal into his interview and was instantly struck by his poise.

"I was impressed with his professional demeanor, professional dress, and he carried a black binder," Randall recalled.

She recalled him sharing his experiences growing up in the Fremont School area, supervising group homes for African American boys and men.

"He understood many of the challenges young males faced. Lewis had the skillset to develop a team and lead," Randall recalled.

Randall, who became Neal's mentor before retiring from the district in 2006, said she watched the young man with the black binder become a "visionary and compassionate leader."

Proud Academy, the scorecard and a legacy left behind

Neal implemented the National Youth Sports Program with Cal State Bakersfield, a program that has now connected with an estimated 8,000 students.

His signature initiative was the PROUD Academy, serving roughly 3,000 of Bakersfield's African-American youth.

His other projects include Parent University, a program that helps parents become active participants in their children's success, and the Links, Inc. Bakersfield chapter's STEAM Academy, a hands-on learning session at Emerson Middle School.

Neal's work was shaped partly by his own insecurities as a Black child among other races, and his personal mantra: "I'm just as good as you."

He worked on his communication skills, excelled in spelling, and learned to present himself confidently. Later, he began teaching young people—particularly Black students—to express themselves through speaking, reading, and writing.

He recalled a student once asking him if they had left town during a visit to California State University, Bakersfield.

His response was to take them farther—pairing cultural field trips, leadership conferences, and mentoring with a curriculum centered on Black history and achievement. Students now travel to HBCU showcases and twice a year to Colonel Allensworth, where he hopes former students will volunteer to train as docents.

"It's not just about slavery," Neal said. "It's about geniuses. It's about our engineers, our scientists, our African-American females. Our kids didn't know that information."

A lifetime of impact, remembered.

Current students describe the Powerful Resilient Outstanding Unique Determined (PROUD) Academy program as one that reshaped how they see themselves.

Dey'Anna Lloyd, a sixth-grader at King Elementary, said she went from avoiding public speaking to now delivering Black History speeches.

"He is one in a million," she said. "Mr. Neal



Dey'Anna Lloyd, King Elementary School sixth grader and a participant of the PROUD Academy (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)



Memory Penn, King Elementary School sixth grader and a participant of the PROUD Academy (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

gave me opportunities. He shows he believes in every single last one of us by his actions."

Another sixth grader, Memory Penn, said she'd never personally met Neal but thanked him for the PROUD program.

"I wasn't really confident before," she said. "Now I learned how to be more outgoing."

She credited her direct mentor, youth services specialist Victor Hinojos, for that growth.

Hinojos, who has worked under Neal for more than five years, credited him for his mentorship model.

"Mr. Neal is a leader who trusts his staff, but a leader who also has been in the work that we do," he said. "His true vision is that children needed to be exposed to environments outside of what they see on an everyday basis, so that college or university settings aren't foreign concepts to them."

Hinojos said Neal taught his team the power of relationships, and that unlocking the greatness inside every student requires trust, consistency, and genuine connection.

Neal said he left a roadmap of future ideas with his team.

"My staff has the blueprint. All they have to do is follow it," he said.

35 years after

Neal said he is enjoying the shift to an unscheduled life.

"It is relief, and it's just freedom," he said of his first days off work. But he is quick to admit he will get bored quickly if he doesn't stay active.

Espinoza doesn't think Neal's story is finished.

"I truly believe that he is going to do so many



From L-R: Lewis Neal, Leasa Royal Sutliff, his third-grade teacher, and Teresa Guerra Espinoza, his third-grade classmate. (Photo Credit: Cecil Egbele)

more things, great things in this world," Espinoza said.

Randall said, "Bakersfield is losing a visionary and compassionate leader."

She said she hopes to see Neal inducted into the district's Hall of Fame.

While he is currently stepping back for a few months to recharge, travel, and live an impromptu life, Neal's next phase is clear.

"I know what I'll do later," he said. "It will be with young people because that's what I love to do."

Midterms: Building Trust with Black Voters Dominates Democratic Strategy

By Tannistha Sinha

Black Press USA Wire

Democratic candidates hoping to compete statewide in Texas must fundamentally rethink how they engage Black voters. This includes investing in year-round organizing instead of relying on loyalty built over decades, Democratic Party strategists warn.

Texas now has more than 2.9 million Black eligible voters, more than any other state, while another said Black voter registration in Texas stands at 71.5%, the highest among racial groups in the state.

Speaking to Black voters in Houston, communications strategist Ashley Etienne argued that Democrats have spent years taking one of their most reliable voting blocs for granted.

Etienne, who has served as a senior advisor to Presidents Barack Obama and Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, added that it has created a widening trust gap that threatens the party's long-term prospects in Texas and nationally.

"Trust is the currency of persuasion," she said. "We're seeing distrust at an all-time high, especially with black voters...distrust of the media, institutions, the Democratic Party, self-agreement. Campaigns don't lose because they fail to talk to voters. They lose because they fail to listen."

Tackling election cycles persistently

Houston's local elected officials are trying to confront a harsh reality after multiple "disappointing" election cycles. Can the party maintain overwhelming Black support while persuading more eligible voters to participate?

Throughout a town hall focused on issues faced by the Black community, election strategists argued that the challenge is not voter registration but sustained engagement.

Etienne, for example, argued that Democrats



Harris County Democratic Party Chair Traci Gibson pointed to close election losses to show Black turnout could change outcomes. Credit: HCDP

have consistently underinvested in Black communities between elections while spending heavily on polling and consultants.

"Investment drives outcomes. If you don't

invest in it, it doesn't work," Etienne said.

According to Etienne, Democratic campaigns nationwide spend billions each election cycle while directing only a small fraction of that funding toward Black-led political infrastructure. She framed Texas as the country's most important testing ground because of the size and diversity of its Black electorate.

"The first opportunity that the Democratic Party will have to address Black voters will be in the state of Texas," she said. "All eyes are on Texas. We need serious amounts of listening. We need to get back to a level of intimacy with Black voters, activate our message, take all that intel, give it back to the campaign, put it back into the system, and formulate an effective message. Build trust...Our voters have to be able to trust each other at first and then connect and mobilize. Then we'll have a way to turn it out."

Her comments came against the backdrop of growing concern among Democratic strategists that support among Black voters, while still overwhelmingly Democratic, has gradually eroded over the past decade.

Etienne cited polling showing growing dissatisfaction among Black voters, particularly Black women, whom she described as the community's most influential political organizers.

"We're a force multiplied by our community," she said. "The entire community that has to be addressed. I would definitely stop and have a strategy specific to engaging Black women."

Rather than viewing Black voters as a single political constituency, Etienne urged campaigns to recognize differences in age, geography, income, and political priorities.

"The first opportunity that the Democratic Party will have to address Black voters will be in the

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Black Columnist Ordered to Be Reinstated by Washington Post After Charlie Kirk Comments

Karen Attiah, an black columnist who formerly worked at The Washington Post, has won her legal challenge over her termination following social media posts about Charlie Kirk's assassination. An arbitrator ruled that the newspaper violated her labor agreement and ordered it to reinstate her.



Karen Attiah

According to Fox News, the arbitrator handling the dispute, Sarah Miller Espinosa, found that the newspaper did not have sufficient grounds to fire Attiah. She also ruled that the paper failed to establish that the columnist committed "gross misconduct," which the newspaper had cited in her termination. The decision came after Attiah challenged her firing through arbitration.

The dispute started after Kirk, a conservative activist, was killed and Attiah shared several posts about him on Bluesky. In one post, she said she would not participate in what she called "performative mourning" for a White man who had promoted violence. She also criticized what she viewed as pressure to show sympathy and forgiveness toward White men who promote hateful or violent views.

Her comments sparked backlash, particularly over another post involving remarks she attributed to Kirk about Black women. Critics accused Attiah of misrepresenting what he had said. The remarks came from a 2023 episode of "The Charlie Kirk Show," in which he discussed affirmative action while naming several prominent Black women, including Joy Reid, Michelle Obama, Sheila Jackson Lee and Ketanji Brown Jackson.

The controversy eventually led The Washington Post to fire Attiah. Her termination letter described her social media posts as "unacceptable" and "gross misconduct." She challenged the decision last fall, arguing that the newspaper had wrongfully terminated her. In June, she announced that the dispute would move forward through arbitration, setting the stage for the ruling that now requires the newspaper to bring her back.

Following the decision, Attiah said she was relieved that the ruling had cleared up the record. She maintained that she had been doing the work expected of an opinion columnist and described her firing as wrongful. The Washington Post said it respects the arbitration process but declined to comment further. Andrew Kolvet, a spokesman for Turning Point USA, defended the newspaper's original decision and said companies should have the right to fire employees over conduct they consider unacceptable.

Actress Viola Davis Says She Does Not Accept Target's Apology Over Racist Costume

Viola Davis has rejected Target's apology after the retailer pulled a Halloween costume that sparked accusations of racist and blackface imagery. She said the company's response failed to acknowledge the deeper pain and history connected to the images.



Viola Davis

The controversy started after photos of the costume spread online and drew criticism from social media users. Sold as the "Kids' Glows under Blacklight Circus Clown," the costume featured a black-and-orange bodysuit, a hood, a mini top hat, and a large, exaggerated smile showing rows of teeth.

A young Black boy modeled the costume in photos on Target's website, which added to the backlash. According to People, critics also pointed to the child's pose, saying it resembled negative depictions of Black people associated with the Jim Crow era. Target later removed the costume from its website and stores.

On Aug. 24, Target issued an apology and acknowledged that the costume should never have been sold. The company said it was no longer available and admitted, "As a company, we got this wrong, and we are deeply sorry." Target also said it understood that the costume was especially hurtful to Black customers, employees, and business partners.

Davis addressed the apology on Instagram the following Tuesday, making clear that she did not accept it. "Target, I do not accept your apology, and I do not believe that you understand the impact... the pain... the dehumanization of the above. These images laid the foundation and the ideology for every atrocity that has been committed against my people." She connected the controversy to the long history of racist imagery used to demean Black people.

Blackface became widely associated with minstrel shows, where white performers darkened their faces and used racist stereotypes to mock Black people.



Target apologized after pulling a Halloween costume that sparked accusations of racist and blackface imagery.

The controversy also comes as Target continues to face criticism over its decision to scale back several diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. The company has faced consumer boycotts and other backlash since making those changes, adding another layer to the reaction surrounding the Halloween costume.

A State Alert for Missing Black Children Has Been Used 31 Times. Families Can Ask for It.

The first-in-the-nation Ebony Alert reaches cases police log as runaways, the classification that keeps most missing children out of the Amber Alert system.



By OGNSC Staff
Ognsc.com

When a Black child or young woman between the ages of 12 and 25 goes missing in California, the family can ask the law enforcement agency investigating the case to request an Ebony Alert from the California Highway Patrol. The system is nearly three years old. It has been used 31 times.

The alert was created by Senate Bill 673, authored by then-state Sen. Steven Bradford of Inglewood and signed in October 2023, making California the first state with an emergency alert built for missing Black youth and young women. In its first year the alert was activated 31 times and 27 of the people it was issued for were found and returned home, according to the California Highway Patrol. Pennsylvania, Alabama and Massachusetts have since proposed versions of their own.

The law was written around a classification that keeps most missing-child cases out of the public eye. California agencies took more than 60,000 reports of missing children in 2025, according to the state Department of Justice, and about 19 of every 20 were logged as runaways. Stranger abductions, the cases that dominate public fear, numbered in the dozens statewide.

Children logged as runaways are not necessarily

safe, and many did not meaningfully choose to leave. They run from abuse at home, and children living on the street are whom traffickers look for first. The classification can still keep a case out of the Amber Alert system. SB 673 reaches those cases directly: it covers young people considered runaways, those who may be victims of trafficking and those missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances, and it directs that its provisions “shall be broadly construed.”

Nearly one in three children reported missing in the United States is Black, though Black people are about 14 percent of the population, according to Villanova University law professor Itay Ravid, who has written that Black children who go missing “are often labeled as runaways, which excludes them from the Amber Alert system.” FBI figures show Black children under 18 accounted for about 141,000 missing-person cases in 2022.

The recovery operations that make the news work on a different scale. Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier announced Aug. 25 that a five-day sweep called Operation Statewide Shield had recovered 163 missing children, ages 2 months to 17, across Florida, six other states, Puerto Rico and 12 countries. Three people were arrested. Uthmeier said many of the children “were human

trafficking victims and suffered abuse, neglect and exploitation,” and acknowledged that the recoveries also included custody disputes, foster care cases and runaways.

California ran a comparable operation in March. Attorney General Rob Bonta and Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that Operation Safe Return had located 37 missing children in Riverside County, with seven arrests, working with the U.S. Marshals Service, Riverside police and the county sheriff. Investigators used the FBI’s National Crime Information Center database to identify the children they considered most at risk. “Finding missing children and bringing them home safely is some of the most important work we can do,” Bonta said.

California’s annual missing-children reports break the totals out by report type, county and gender. They do not include a racial breakdown, which leaves no published measure of whether the state’s first-in-the-nation alert for missing Black children is reaching the children it was written for.

An Ebony Alert is issued by the Highway Patrol at the request of the agency investigating the case. Families who believe a case qualifies can make that request of the agency handling it.

A version of this story first appeared on ognsc.com.

Midterms: Building Trust with Black Voters Dominates Democratic Strategy

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state of Texas.”

Ashley Etienne, political advisor

“Texas is a microcosm of almost every Black person in America,” she said, pointing to suburban professionals, students, rural Texans, and longtime Houston residents as examples of communities requiring different approaches.

Outlining five recommendations for Democratic campaigns, Etienne suggested that campaigns should abandon what she called the “monolith myth” by recognizing the diversity of Black communities rather than assuming a single message fits every voter.

Second, she argued campaigns must look beyond traditional church-based organizing.

“You’ve got to go outside of the Black church,” Etienne said, arguing that younger voters and infrequent voters are increasingly disconnected from religious institutions where campaigns have traditionally concentrated their outreach.

Third, campaigns should build what she described as a modern communications ecosystem centered on trusted Black voices and Black-owned media. Black influencers and community media, Etienne added, should be compensated the same way campaigns routinely purchase advertising through mainstream outlets.

Fourth, she urged Democrats to shift their messaging away from appeals to party loyalty.

Instead of asking Black voters to support Democrats simply because of history or partisan affiliation, campaigns should emphasize policies that expand Black political and economic power.

“We’ve been making that same argument decade after decade,” she said. “Those are becoming less persuasive arguments.”

Finally, Etienne called for permanent grassroots infrastructure that exists beyond Election Day. She pointed to Georgia as an example, arguing that years of sustained investment in Black organizing produced electoral gains that extended well beyond individual campaigns. The strategy requires campaigns to think beyond winning the next election.

“We have to build Black political power,” said Etienne, arguing that Texas Democrats have a rare opportunity to strengthen their coalition by investing early and consistently in Black-led organizations rather than concentrating resources in the final months before an election.

What is the way out?

Harris County Democratic Party Chair Traci



Ashley Etienne identified trust, rather than party loyalty alone, as the foundation of effective voter persuasion. Credit: CAA Speakers

Gibson said local election results demonstrate why Democrats cannot afford to ignore Black turnout,

arguing that even modest increases in participation could determine the outcome of dozens of races.

Gibson, the first Black woman to hold the position, framed the stakes in terms of registration and turnout data specific to Harris County. Texas has more Black eligible voters than any other state (2.9 million).

“Registration is not our problem,” Gibson’s presentation slide show. The task now, she said, is turning registered voters into actual votes. She urged voters to become precinct chairs and organize block by block in their own neighborhoods rather than waiting on the state party.

“We are the base,” Gibson said. “Midterms are almost 100 days away. The rest of our lifetime will be decided by what we do in November.”

Using county voting data, Gibson sought to reinforce the argument that Black voters are not simply an important Democratic constituency but the party’s electoral foundation in Texas.

In the March 2026 primary, approximately 94% of Black primary voters chose a Democratic ballot, compared with 77% of Hispanic voters, 60% of Asian voters, and 46% of White voters. Another slide noted that nearly 120,000 Black voters participated in the Democratic primary, almost matching White Democratic turnout despite a much smaller eligible voting population.

Gibson also highlighted several judicial races from the 2024 election that Democrats lost by razor-thin margins. In 2024, District judge candidate Elaine Palmer lost by 304 votes, and Jeralynn Manor lost by 647, while several other Democratic judicial candidates lost by a few thousand votes. Gibson said the results illustrate how lower participation in predominantly Black precincts can determine countywide elections.

“Remember, 144 races and these judges are at the bottom,” she said. “If you go into these polls and you vote for the first five people and then you leave, that’s how we get Elaine Palmer losing by about 300 votes.”

She encouraged voters to complete the entire ballot, noting that Texas regularly has some of the nation’s longest ballots.

Shamier Bouie, chair of the Houston Black American Democrats, called for increased funding for Black-led voter engagement efforts. Credit: H-BAD

Shamier Bouie, chair of the Houston Black American Democrats (H-BAD), said persuasion remains the Democratic Party’s challenge.

“This is what we mean by African Americans



Shamier Bouie, chair of the Houston Black American Democrats, called for increased funding for Black-led voter engagement efforts. Credit: H-BAD

are the base of the Democratic Party,” Bouie said. “We do not split our vote with Republicans.”

H-BAD reported reaching more than 53,000 Black voters by mail and approximately 18,000 voters through phone calls and text messages. The presentation also included a proposed budget calling for roughly \$450,000 to \$460,000 for a countywide Black voter outreach program.

“They [Democratic Party] should definitely be playing for Black media, mail, digital vote support,” Bouie said. “The number here is \$450,000 minimum...It’s not a strategy fund. That’s investing in Black people.”

Bouie added that successful organizing must continue between election cycles rather than beginning a few months before Election Day.

“To increase the Black voter turnout, participate early, participate well,” she said. “Year-round engagement...increased investment in Black voter outreach, more funding for Black-led organizations that have relationships, infrastructure, and experience in effectively engaging Black communities.”

Based on reporting by Houston Defender.

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Arnold Perkins: At 85, a Life of Service, Faith and Giving Back

By Tanya Dennis
Oakland Post

The Post’s Healthy Aging Series addresses key components for healthy aging: mind, body and spirit. This article addresses the importance of having a strong spiritual or religious foundation.

As America’s population grows older, conversations about healthy aging often focus on diet, exercise and medical care. But for Dr. Arnold Xavier Cornelius Perkins, who will celebrate his 85th birthday next month, another ingredient has been equally important: a spiritual foundation and a lifelong commitment to serving others.

Perkins believes that health is not simply physical. It is emotional, mental, and spiritual. And for much of his life, he says, his faith and philosophy of service have kept him vibrant, happy and connected to the world around him.

“I am my brothers’ and sisters’ keeper,” Perkins said. “I am a ‘we’ person,” and referenced the South African expression of ‘Ubuntu,’ which means ‘I am because we all are.’

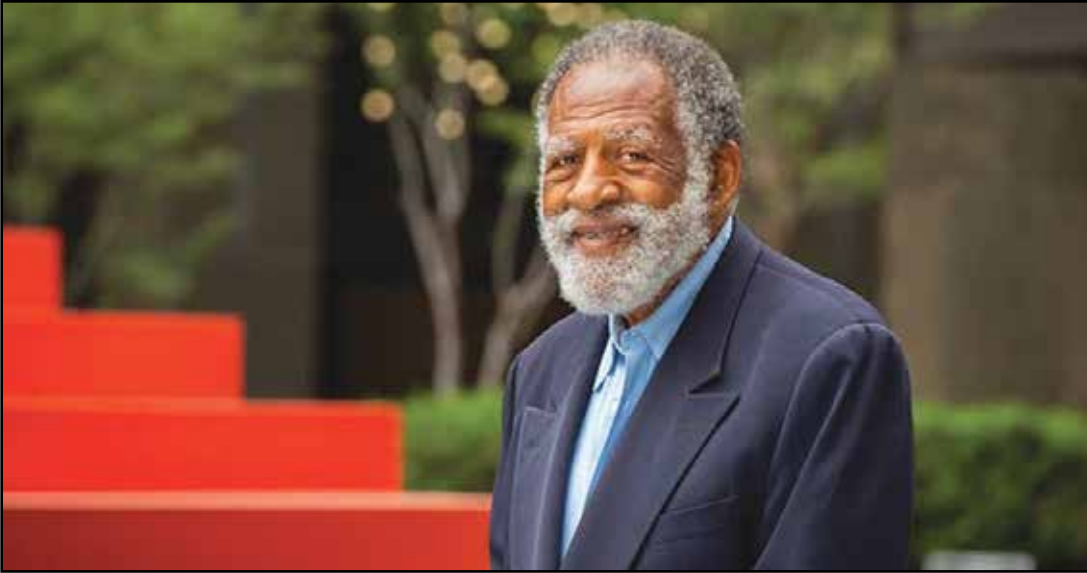
Born in Miami, Florida, Perkins came to California in 1954 with his family to attend a Seventh-day Adventist General Conference. His family ultimately decided to remain in California, unwilling to return to the harsh racism of the segregated South.

He grew up in Berkeley, attending Golden Gate Academy, Willard School, and Berkeley High School before joining the Navy during the Vietnam War era. He later attended Merritt College when the Black Panther Party was emerging in Oakland, where he became involved as a volunteer for the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). He graduated from San Francisco State University and completed additional coursework at Cal State East Bay.

His professional career became a remarkable journey through public service. Perkins served as Alameda County’s homeless coordinator, became a program officer with the San Francisco Foundation, headed a drug and alcohol program, and ultimately served as director of the Alameda County Public Health Department for 12 years before retiring in 2006.

But retirement did not mean stepping away from service.

Perkins jokingly describes this stage of his life as being in “preferment,” doing what he pleases. What he pleases, however, is continuing to help people.



iStockphoto /INNPA.

He has worked with young people, served on San Quentin Prison’s warden advisory council, previously served on the Oakland Police Department Selection Commission, and completed two terms as chair of the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission. He chaired the University of San Francisco’s Helen Diller Stanley Comprehensive Cancer Center for 10 years and is now in his 11th year serving on the California Wellness Foundation board.

Perkins even views a hereditary heart defect through the lens of his spiritual philosophy.

“I have a hole in my heart, so I’m not physically perfect,” he said. “But I look at it as I have a hole because I pour my heart out to people.”

That perspective may be one of his greatest lessons about healthy living. Perkins believes that kindness, compassion and community have a direct impact on a person’s emotional and spiritual well-being.

“If I see an unsheltered relative, I’d give them that \$20,” he said. “My responsibility is to take care.”

For Perkins, giving does not deplete a person; it gives life back. “My life’s mission is to give,” he said. “And what I get back is life.”

He knows firsthand that one person can change another person’s destiny. As a young man, Perkins stuttered and often fought in response to the teasing and humiliation he experienced. A teacher, Jeff Tedisco, defended him and changed the direction of his life.

“If it hadn’t been for him,” Perkins said, “I would have been in San Quentin.”

Instead, Perkins now goes to Indaba Court, a restorative justice program, to help young people who have made wrong choices understand that they are part of a larger community.

“When they harm one person, they harm the community,” he said.

His prescription for a vibrant life is simple: be understanding, be kind and remember that life is not all about you.

“When we fold our arms, we can’t receive anything,” Perkins said. “But when we stretch out our arms and serve one another, we build community.”

At nearly 85, Arnold Perkins continues to prove that a life rooted in faith, service and love may be one of the most powerful foundations for healthy aging.

Aaliyah's Death At Center Of Lawsuit Between Uncle And Cousin

The uncle and cousin of late R&B icon Aaliyah are in court making explosive claims over money owed and even who's responsible for her death.

25 years ago today (August 31), 22-year-old singer and actress Aaliyah was officially laid to rest in New York City after the tragic plane accident that took her life and eight others less than a week prior on August 25, 2001.

In the two-and-a-half decades since, her death is still a subject of pain and unanswered questions that has even resulted in legal litigation amongst her own family. Barry and Jomo Hankerson, the uncle and cousin of Aaliyah, respectively, are currently in the midst of a court battle that has one side fighting for money owed and the other making a shocking claim that centers on responsibility for the fatal crash itself.

Sadly, it appears we still need a resolution.

According to TMZ, the father/son duo who together ran Aaliyah's record label, Blackground Records, haven't been on good terms since the August 2001 plane crash. In legal documents obtained by the outlet, Barry makes the shocking claim that Jomo was negligent in handling the travel plans that forced the rising triple threat to instead take a private jet that plummeted only minutes after takeoff. Jomo on the other hand is fighting back by stating that his dad owes him a percentage of profits from the label which he says was used for money laundering.

"Barry says the fatal crash 'may have been avoided had [Jomo] followed through on his compensated task of travel coordination."

Aaliyah's uncle said his relationship with his son was never the same after Aaliyah's death.

Blame game aside, the rest of the family war is pretty interesting too.

Jomo claims his dad breached a settlement over music rights ... specifically, recording masters and music publishing copyrights for Aaliyah, Toni Braxton, DMX, and Timbaland.

Jomo says he is owed 12% of the money Barry made from the music assets per a settlement deal ... but claims his dad used the record label to hide money and 'manufacture expenses that have nothing to do with the music assets, all for the purpose of pressuring [him] into accepting less than what he is owed.' Jomo is seeking over \$1.2 million in damages."

Both parties are claiming no wrongdoing, although Barry went on to claim that Jomo threatened to go public with unreleased Aaliyah music if he wasn't financially compensated. This may be the reason why Blackground Records has been awfully silent in commemorating the 25th anniversary since losing Aaliyah, in addition to



shelving her highly-anticipated posthumous album, Unstoppable.

Either way, it's a sad situation to witness as the tragedy of Baby Girl still lingers on 25 years later.

Ali G Is Back, But Not Everyone's Laughing After Intense Backlash Over New Movie Trailer



Sacha Baron Cohen's controversial character is facing a growing campaign in the U.K. to keep his latest mockumentary out of theaters.

Ali G is making his return to the big screen, but the response hasn't exactly been a warm welcome home.

Following the release of the trailer for Amazon MGM's Ali G: Who Iz I?, Sacha Baron Cohen's infamous faux rude boy has once again found himself at the center of a debate over race, satire and whether the joke has fallen flat.

Online criticism of the character has steadily grown, with detractors accusing Ali G of being an outdated and racist caricature. In the trailer, Cohen appears wearing fake dreadlocks and a Rastafarian hat, reviving the same deliberately ignorant character who first appeared on British television in 1998, Variety reports.

Now, a group is trying to make sure audiences never see him in theaters.

NewsCord, a media monitoring platform, launched a campaign urging cinemas to refuse to screen the film, claiming it has been asked to send more than 36,000 emails to theater chains. The campaign argues that Cohen has long used satire as a shield for reinforcing racist stereotypes.

That criticism isn't exactly new.

When Ali G first became a cultural phenomenon, Black British comedians questioned whether audiences were laughing at the character's ignorance or simply using him as permission to laugh at Black culture. More than two decades later, British writer and broadcaster Afua Hirsch argued that the character is even more out of step with the times.

"Black people don't dress like that anymore," Hirsch wrote, criticizing what she described as the character's reliance on outdated stereotypes and casual misogyny.

Still, reports that the campaign had already

convinced Picturehouse Cinemas to boycott the movie appear to have been overstated. Variety reports that the theater chain's response was simply a standard reply indicating that the film had not yet been booked, not a decision to refuse to show it.

The U.K. Cinema Association also pushed back against the idea that theaters should serve as cultural gatekeepers, saying cinemas should make programming decisions based on what their audiences want to see.

And apparently, some people still want to see Ali G.

The film has also generated enthusiasm online, with Kevin Durant and ASAP Rocky among those publicly expressing support.

Cohen, for his part, seemed to anticipate the backlash, joking that in an era when one politically incorrect joke can end a comedian's career, he decided to "play it safe" by bringing Ali G back.

Safe? Probably not. But boring? Definitely not.

Lionel Richie Checks Into ICU After St. Louis Concert



Prayers are in order for music icon Lionel Richie as reports say he checked into intensive care following a concert at The Muny in St. Louis.

We're sending prayers to music icon Lionel Richie following reports that he checked himself into intensive care at a St. Louis hospital over the weekend.

The Oscar-winning singer had just finished performing at The Muny in a show where he definitely seemed to be giving his all to the packed stadium of fans.

According to TMZ, Richie did it as a precautionary move after what doctors believe to be dehydration. He's expected to be discharged as early as Tuesday (September 1) after resting up over the weekend. Per witness testimony and images captured from the show, many took his request to be seated for the last duration of his set, particularly during the closing number, "All Night Long," as a clear sign of fatigue taking over.

A similar incident occurred back in June after the "Endless Love" crooner cut a performance short at the Grand Casino Arena in St. Paul, Minnesota. He suffered dizzy spells that left him seated on stage while ironically singing "Dancing on the Ceiling." Some might chuck it up to opening night jitters, but it was enough that he was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

At 77 years old, you can say that Lionel Richie is defying the odds as a still-in-demand performing artist. After a summer tour alongside Earth, Wind & Fire, paired with an upcoming residency at Wynn Las Vegas, he doesn't seem to be slowing down anytime soon. We can only hope he makes a full recovery while also listening to what his body may be ultimately trying to tell him. In a similar fashion to Gladys Knight recently taking a step back from a full schedule of live performances, it may be time for Richie to consider the same.

The Great Potential of Black Children in Texas

BlackPressUSA Newswire

Every child deserves a fair chance to learn, grow, and achieve their dreams. In Texas, millions of brilliant, creative, and hard-working Black children want to become doctors, engineers, artists, and leaders. However, facts show that Black youth face tough challenges that make it much harder for them

to succeed. This is not because of who they are or how hard they try. Instead, it is because of unfair rules, historical problems, and a lack of resources in their schools and neighborhoods. By understanding these problems and looking at real solutions, we can help every Black child in Texas reach their full potential. To understand why this happens, we must

look at where the money goes. Texas is a wealthy state, but it ranks 47th in the nation for how much money it spends on each student. Even worse, schools are funded by local property taxes.

This means neighborhoods with lower incomes get less money for education. Because of this, about 35% of majority-Black schools in Texas get low grades like a "D" or "F" from the state, while only 8% of majority-white schools do. Many underfunded schools do not have enough teachers, up-to-date computers, or advanced classes like

glasses when they need them, their grades suffer. Furthermore, the child welfare system treats Black families differently. Black children make up only 11% of the Texas population, but they make up 21% of the kids taken away by Child Protective Services. This creates deep sadness and instability. Even though these problems are big, there are clear solutions that can fix them.

First, Texas needs to change how it funds education. Instead of taking money away for private school vouchers, the state should use its billions of

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Algebra II. On top of that, Texas recently started a voucher program that takes tax money away from public schools and gives it to private schools. This hurts Black children because most private schools are in wealthy areas, leaving public schools with fewer resources. Another major hurdle inside the school building is unfair punishment.

Studies show that Texas school districts are two and a half times more likely to suspend Black students in early grades, like Pre-K through second grade, than white students for the exact same behaviors. When kids are constantly kicked out of class, they miss important lessons and start to feel rejected by their school. This problem is called the "school-to-prison pipeline."

When children are pushed out of classrooms, they are much more likely to fall behind, drop out of high school, or get into trouble with the law later in life. Additionally, many schools in low-income neighborhoods do not have enough counselors to help kids deal with stress, but they do have school police officers who treat normal mistakes like crimes.

Outside of school, life can also be very stressful for many Black families in Texas. About 29% of Black children in Texas live in poverty, which means their families struggle to pay for basic necessities. It is very hard for a student to focus on a math test if they did not eat breakfast, or if their family is worried about losing their apartment. Texas also has a very high number of people without health insurance. When a child cannot see a doctor or get

dollars in extra cash to fund public schools equally. Schools should also stop punishing kids by sending them away. Instead, they should use "restorative justice," which teaches students how to fix their mistakes and stay in class. Schools also need more Black teachers. Research shows that when Black students have teachers who look like them, they do better in school and feel more confident about their futures. Right now, there are also great groups helping Black children succeed.

Organizations like the 100 Black Men and the African American Youth Harvest Foundation offer free tutoring, fun summer camps, and mentors who help kids plan for college. At home, families can help by teaching children to be proud of their history and who they are. When kids know they are strong and intelligent, they can face tough challenges without giving up. In conclusion, Black children in Texas have all the talent in the world, but the system around them needs to be fixed. By giving schools equal money, stopping unfair punishments, and supporting families with healthcare and food, Texas can become a place where every child can thrive. It takes everyone working together to make sure that a child's future is determined by their big dreams, not by the hurdles in their way.

The post THE GREAT POTENTIAL OF BLACK CHILDREN IN TEXAS appeared first on African American News and Issues.

Based on reporting by African-American News and Issues – Dallas.

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW)
CITACION (Derecho familiar)
CASE NUMBER (Número de Caso): BFL-25-003074
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Deisy Guadalupe Tafolla Álvarez 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 require 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 despidia 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:
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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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
Vanessa 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
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

PUBLIC NOTICE

AIMEE X. ESPINOZA County Clerk
By: D HINOJOSA, Deputy
This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. This statement expires on: 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: July 24, 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
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
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:
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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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): **MAGDIE YOTHARAI** at 1206 CALIFORNIA AVE STE A, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304
The business is conducted by: an Individual
SIGNED: **MAGDIE 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 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-B4686
Doing business as: **BAKERSFIELD SPORTS NETWORK** at 12501 STONINGTON STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312

PUBLIC NOTICE

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: 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-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
BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER
PUB: Aug 12, 19, 26, Sep 2, 2026
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO: 2026-B4686
Doing business as: **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

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-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: **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

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: **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: **JO'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-B55

Legal Notices

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formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más informacion 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 1009, 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-406748Z** **BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER** **BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER** **PUB: Aug 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 program. You can locate these 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

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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 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**

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 MATHWE 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 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: BLESSEDBAKESBYPAGE 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 ASHLEY CORDERO at 4311 ALMOND GROVE LN, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312 The business is conducted by: an Individual SIGNED: PAIGE ASHLEY 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 93301 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-B4952 FILE NO: 2026-B4953 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: 2026-B5000 Doing business as: The business is conducted by: an 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: 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**

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,

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: 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: 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**

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,

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: 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**

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.,

Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

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
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-B4621
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-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 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. COMMERCE CENTER 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-B4947
FILE NO: 2026-B4948
FILE NO: 2026-B4949
Doing business as:

DREAMWEAVER SCENTS / DREAMWEAVER at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):

FRANCES ELIZABETH BRANCH at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
JUSTIN ALLEN BRANCH at 2809

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 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
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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 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-B4947
FILE NO: 2026-B4948
FILE NO: 2026-B4949
Doing business as:

DREAMWEAVER SCENTS / DREAMWEAVER at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
County: Kern
Full name of registrant(s):

FRANCES ELIZABETH BRANCH at 2809 DALEA ST., BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308
JUSTIN ALLEN BRANCH at 2809

PUBLIC NOTICE

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
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: 08/12/2031

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FUNDRAISING MANAGER. A religious non-profit org seeks FT/Perm Fundraising Manager in Delano, CA. Bachelor's degree or equiv't req'd, in Busi, or Mngmt, or Acct'ng, or Finance. Mail Resume & Ad to: His Vineyard Church Inc 2226 Via Basileca Ave. Delano, CA 93215. Attn: A. Quismundo

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PUB: Aug 26, Sep 2, 9, 16, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: October 29, 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., SBN 217788
The Law Offices of Young & Nichols
1901 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 861-7911

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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., SBN 217788
The Law Offices of Young & Nichols
1901 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Telephone: (661) 861-7911

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Legal Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime This statement expires on: 08/26/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	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: 08/25/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	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: 08/27/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	08/07/2014 This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 08/13/2026 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: 08/13/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	Limited Liability Company SIGNED: ANISH MOHAN, CEO The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 02/18/2019 This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 08/28/2026 AIMEE X. ESPINOZA County Clerk By: D HINOJOSA, Deputy This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime This statement expires on: 08/28/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	Full name of registrant(s): SNOWIE BLUES SHAVE ICE LLC at 9705 MESA OAK DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311 State of incorp. or org.: CA The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company SIGNED: ANNETTE HULSEY, CEO The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 04/01/2024 This statement filed with the County Clerk of Kern County on: 08/27/2026 AIMEE X. ESPINOZA County Clerk By: D HINOJOSA, Deputy This fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another to a trademark or trade name under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 ET SEQ., business and professions code). I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A) Registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime This statement expires on: 08/27/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	FILE NO: 2026-B5205 Doing business as: THE LILY POP CO. at 9430 GLENWOOD SPRINGS LN, SHAFTER, CA 93263-9490 Mailing address: same County: Kern Full name of registrant(s): SENAIT MAHARI RADKE at 9430 GLENWOOD SPRINGS LN, SHAFTER, CA 93263-9490 The business is conducted by: Individual SIGNED: SENAIT MAHARI RADKE 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: 08/24/2026 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: 08/24/2031 BAKERSFIELD NEWS OBSERVER PUB: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026	STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO: 2026-B0888 Business Name you wish to abandon: ANKM CONSTRUCTION at 11606 HARRINGTON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311 Mailing Address: 11401 CRABBET PARK DR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311 County: Kern Registrant(s) whose wish to abandon the business name: TGRAPE LLC at 11606 HARRINGTON ST, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93311 The business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company SIGNED: ANISH MOHAN, CEO The original fictitious business name statement was filed on: February 13, 2026 Original File No: 2026-B0888 This fictitious business name statement was abandoned as of: August 28, 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: Sep 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026



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Features

California Globe’s Biased Attack on Assemblymember Corey Jackson Exposes How Politics and Partisanship Are Corroding Journalism

By Hardy Brown
Special to California Black Media Publishers
Assemblymember Corey A. Jackson is my friend. An outspoken advocate for equity, fairness, public health, and social service resources for our Inland Valley community, I have come to admire and respect Jackson's grit and his work as a legislator. However, I don't always agree with his political or policy positions.



Hardy Brown

That's why I was deeply disappointed when the California Globe published a scathing, one-sided and blatantly under-reported hit piece on Jackson last week. Written by reporter Katy Grimes, that article omitted pertinent details, added off-topic information, conflated facts and stretched the truth to suggest that Jackson inappropriately or illegally directed \$6 million in taxpayer money to the Center

Against Racism and Trauma (CART), a non-profit he founded in Moreno Valley.

Grimes's article was followed by another takedown written by her that quoted Herb Morgan, candidate for California State Controller, calling on the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate Jackson. Morgan's request automatically suggests that what Jackson did was illegal.

White House correspondent, War Room co-anchor and outspoken conservative commentator, Natalie Winters, weighed in, too.

“California quietly boosted taxpayer funding for a nonprofit founded by a sitting Assemblyman from \$250,000 to \$6 MILLION—a 2,300% increase. Its latest IRS return reports zero employees, zero volunteers and only \$57,667 in annual expenses,” Winters posted on X.

Grimes' two articles might raise some questionable concerns about Jackson's non-profit going from \$250,00 to \$6 Million. I want to caution you of accusing him of any inappropriate self-serving dealing and putting a stain on his reputation by publicly calling for the Trump Administration DOJ to investigate a Black elected official.

As a community newspaper founder and news publisher in California for over 46 years, aBlack elected school board member for 12 years and a representative for U. S. Congressman George Brown, I know how some journalists who work for the White press work, when it comes to covering Black leaders and the Black community in general.

Too often, over my years as a journalist who has strived to be independent and truthful, I'vewitnessed shocking yet successful smear campaigns, many of them have been brazenly politically motivated. They singled out public figures for their party affiliation or political statements, and they run their names and reputations through the mud – basingreporting more on optics than evidence.

While Grimes's article points to things that might raise red flags for any good reporter and prompt her to dig deeper, it fails to adequately investigate those primary findings or connect the dots among them.

Grimes also does not indicate that she reached out to Jackson or others to question the

budget allotment to CART. Finally, Grimes inserts information that is completely unrelated to the main topic of the story, in my opinion, to discredit Jackson's character: that he allegedly featured “DSA and Marxist figures as speakers” at his events.

If you had reached out to Assemblymember Jackson or me, you would have learned how he worked with Entertainer and Civil Rights leader Harry Belafonte, Jim Brown, NFL Football Hall of Fame, the NAACP

Local and National office helping our youth in civic engagement, as well.

In the Black community we do not have the luxury of ignoring any of our leaders whether we agree with them or not. To use my own experience, I am a Christian, yet I worked with Minister Louis Farrakhan, a muslim and had dinner with him in his home in Phoenix, Arizona to better understand how we could work together in serving our community. Our mission was the same. We just we had different ways of serving.

Another person I met with will blow your mind. It was centered on the first amendment in 1982 where I served as a panelist and George Pepper, the leader of the Regional KKK was in the audience. A few days after the discussion, I received a call from someone who knew me at work. That person said, “Pepper would like to meet with you and talk about the First Amendment.”

We met in public at a restaurant across the street from my place of employment in Fontana. We enjoyed each other's company, even though, because of KKK bylaws, he could not shake my hand in public. I know he enjoyed our conversation because he came by my Black VoiceNewspaper wanting to talk again.

So, for Grimes to infer that Jackson is something other than who he is, is misleading and is anattempt to smear his reputation and character for talking points and political gains for Herb Morgan, a Republican candidate for California State Controller running against Malia Cohen,the current California State Controller, a Black Female.

In my opinion, her article begins with a lie, and it builds on it. It states that Jackson “founded and directs CART, which has been tax-exempt since

February2022.” While Jackson may have founded CART, he no longer “directs” it or have any official affiliation with it, according to his office and the group's website.

I visited CART's website. It lists an executive director and three board members – no mention of Jackson on there or on the organization's tax filings.

It is also customary for lawmakers in Sacramento to support the earmark funding for district-focused projects. Yet, the California Globe builds its report on information that gives the appearance of impropriety but does not provide evidence that Jackson committed any wrongdoing.

While I was let down by the California Globe article, I was not surprised. The publication does little to conceal its right-leaning political bent. Although the California Globe bills itself as “pro-growth and pro-business, nonpartisan and objective,” the content on the publication's website is highly partisan and political. It also describes itself as an “independent, professional news website obsessively chronicling everything political throughout the state of California.”

If you're a partisan news media then, admit it to your readers. If you are not, you have to live up to the highest journalistic standards. We must resist allowing our party affiliations orpolitical views to influence our news judgment or compromise the objectivity of our stories.

As the Black Press struggles to produce quality journalism in this age of misinformation,disinformation and the unregulated flow of information on the internet competing for our readers' attention, it is incumbent upon those of us who think ourselves as responsible, civic-minded news publishers to hold ourselves accountable. We must do the due diligence to ensure that our reports are reading information that is accurate, factual, complete and thoroughly investigated.

Anything short of that contributes to the corroding of journalism's historic and public role, which is central to American civic life, especially in the Black community.

- City Limits

57,000 Empty Apartments and Not a Word of Apology

By Annette Robinson
BlackPressUSA
Every indicator in New York City's housing market is pointing in the wrong direction.

Rents are at historic highs. Foreclosure notices are climbing in Black and brown neighborhoods that never fully recovered from the last crisis. Deed theft, the predatory stripping of generational wealth from families who built their equity over decades, continues to devastate communities from Brownsville to Jamaica.

On top of all these factors, there were more than 57,000 rent-stabilized apartments sitting completely empty as of April last year. That number grew by 8,000 units in a single year, with the sharpest increases hitting Brooklyn and Queens hardest.

Brooklyn and Queens. My neighborhoods. Your neighborhoods.

You would think that news of 57,000 empty affordable apartments in the middle of a housing emergency would produce outrage, emergency hearings, and demands for accountability. Instead, New Yorkers got a collective shrug from opinion leaders.

Read that again: 57,000 families could be housed in those apartments. Households currently paying market rent, doubled up, couch-surfing, or one missed paycheck away from the street could have relief. And silence from the city's housing leadership, activists, and coalitions.

In my experience as chair of the Subcommittee on Affordable Housing in the Assembly, that is not advocacy. That is surrender.

These are the same voices, the same institutions, the same political class that successfully lobbied to effectively ban short-term rentals in New York City through Local Law 18. At its peak, Airbnb had roughly 20,000 listings in New York City, nearly a third the number of apartments currently sitting vacant and padlocked in the rent-stabilized system. The campaign against those listings was relentless, loud, and wrapped in the language of affordability and housing justice.

Where is that energy now?

Where are the press conferences about landlords warehousing stabilized units while families sleep in shelters? Where is the legislation with teeth? Where is the outrage that was apparently plentiful when a Black homeowner in Bed Stuy wanted to rent out

sitting empty while rents spiral and foreclosures mount, and the response from housing advocates is essentially: that's just how big numbers work.

This is not sound policy. This is politics. And the communities paying the price know the difference.



Photo: iStockphoto /INNPA.

her spare bedroom to make ends meet?

Because that is exactly who Local Law 18 hit hardest. Not the corporate bad actors. Not the hedge funds. The struggling homeowner, disproportionately Black, disproportionately in Brooklyn and Queens, who used their home as a small economic engine to survive in a city that grows more expensive by the month.

Those families were told their activity was destabilizing the housing market. Those families were fined, delisted, and legislated out of a livelihood. And now we learn that 57,000 stabilized units are

I have spoken with homeowners across Central Brooklyn who are barely holding on. They bought their homes, sometimes one generation removed from the Great Migration, and they have watched the equity they built become both their greatest asset and their greatest vulnerability. Predatory lenders, deed theft schemes, and rising property taxes all circle that equity like wolves.

Short-term rental income was, for many of these families, not a luxury. It was the margin between keeping the house and losing it. Local Law 18 closed that door, and the people who closed it

are now waving away 57,000 empty apartments as statistical noise.

Everyone in this fight knows what needs to happen but will not say it out loud: Local Law 18 needs reform. Common sense reform. The kind that distinguishes between an investor running a ghost hotel and a homeowner renting a room. The kind that actually targets bad actors instead of penalizing the most economically vulnerable property owners in the city.

I hear it in private conversations with elected officials, with housing attorneys, with planners. The consensus is there. The political will is not, because the same advocacy groups and political donors who pushed the original law are still in the room, and nobody wants to take their call.

What this moment requires is courage, not calculation.

Every month that passes with 57,000 empty stabilized apartments is a month of families in crisis, of shelter costs ballooning, of neighborhoods destabilizing. Every month that Local Law 18 remains unreformed is another month a Black homeowner in Flatbush or Hollis faces impossible choices that wealthier New Yorkers simply never have to make.

You cannot ban the small and ignore the large. You cannot mobilize armies of lobbyists against a homeowner's spare bedroom while shrugging at tens of thousands of warehoused affordable units. You cannot claim to stand for housing justice and then tell 57,000 families worth of empty apartments that the math just works out this way.

The hypocrisy has to stop. Politics have to give way to people. And the officials and advocates who have the power to fix this, who know what needs to be done, have to decide which side they are actually on.

Because from where I stand, in the communities I have served for decades, it is very clear who is being left out in the cold.

Dr. Annette Robinson is a former member of both the State Assembly and City Council in Brooklyn.

ICE Already Shocks America – Gloves Can’t Hide Their Fingerprints!

By Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony
NAACP Detroit Chapter President, Michigan Chronicle Black Press USA Wire
The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announcement that it would spend \$20 million to equip ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) with electric shock gloves is indeed shocking. Equipping ICE with electric shock gloves is tantamount to equipping a wolf with a knife and fork to enter the hen house.

The only thing missing is a white napkin to wipe his mouth after completing his meal. The wolf has proven that he will bite, tear, rip, and kill his prey with a ferocious efficiency. ICE has shown no accountability for any of its lethal actions. They are already well equipped and armed to the teeth. These masked-wearing, plain-clothes, unmarked-car-driving agents of terror are currently armed with the following:

- Nine-millimeter semi-automatic handguns, specialized Sauer P320 and the GlockP19, long guns, rifles and shotguns, M4 carbines/assault rifles, Remington 870 shotguns (for high-risk operations)
- Specialized tactical firearms including machine guns such as the SIG MPX
- Conducted energy devices (Tasers)
- Chemical munitions, pepper spray (OC spray), tear gas canisters
- Body armor designed to stop handguns and rifle caliber rounds
- Gas masks and riot gear

If ICE cannot function with this arsenal of autocracy, shame on them. Our tax dollars are going to equip a special masked militia accountable to no one other than Stephen Miller and President Donald Trump. They have proven that they cannot be trusted. They will lie and deceive, as revealed in various fatal incidents.

Too often we hear the line, “They resisted arrest, and they tried to mow me down with their car.”



Both eyewitness and citizen cameras have disproven their lies. They have not implemented body cameras for their agents. This past July, they committed \$30.9 million to procure equipment from Axiom. Only after a determined public outcry over the fatal murders of Ruben Ray Martinez in Texas, Renee Nicole Good and Alex Pretti in Minnesota, Lorenzo Salgado Araujo in Houston, and Johan Sebastian Duran Guerrero in Maine did they relent.

In combining ICE with Customs and Border Protection, at least 41 total shootings by immigration officials have been recorded since January 2025, resulting in 11 deaths. Between 10-20 individuals die annually in ICE custody. The American Immigration Council has noted that over 50 people died in ICE custody over a recent multi-month period, including medical emergencies in facilities like Delaney Hall in New Jersey.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning organization Futuro Media has reported hundreds of immigrants being sexually abused in detention centers controlled by ICE. They report over 308 sexual assault and abuse complaints, filed nationwide between 2015 and 2021.

A new set of gloves is not needed for ICE. It is a new standard of accountability for its illegal and unconstitutional actions. Even the scripture gives a clear analysis of America's current dilemma: “Every good tree brings forth good fruit. But a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit,” Matthew 7:17. The tree of ICE is corrupt. All that can come from this tree is evil and more bad fruit. There must be a fair, congressionally approved, and monitored DHS. Its policies must be respectful of due process and the rule of law based on the following:

- Truth and transparency
- Enhanced training for all agents

Domestic abusers, violent lawbreakers, and former fired or reassigned abusive police officers must be ineligible

Cultural and sensitivity training must be included

Independent investigations of incidents involving lethal and non-lethal force must be included in the process. Rubber bullets, electric shock, overextended restraints, and pepper spray can both injure and, in some cases, result in death.

America does not need a system of injustice modeled after non-democratic and authoritarian regimes. Electric gloves are reminiscent to the African American community of the ropes and chains used to control Blacks in America. Currently, those chains are being used as ankle bracelets to contain and control Haitians.

This proposed policy is consistent with what seems to be the sterilization and purification of America. The Trump Administration has indicated that certain immigrants are poisoning the blood of the nation. Yet over 6,500 white South Africans from a nation rooted in Apartheid have been admitted and welcomed into the U.S. Detaining 2,000 people per day, subject to deportation, is no more than human exploitation.

People of goodwill must stand against this policy. Corporations and businesses must indicate to the Administration this is not good business. It has resulted in a decline in employment, fear of consumers shopping at small businesses, and a major reduction in tourism. Congress should investigate this proposal and block it. Courts must not allow this to go forward. The faith community must preach and teach against this evil corrupting the very soul of our nation. If not us, then who? If not now, then when? Shocking the life out of refugees seeking asylum in America today will lead to the same electric shock to peacefully protesting American citizens tomorrow.



By Bo Tefu
California Black Media

California Puts Black Girl Joy on the Calendar Every Aug. 10

California has designated Aug. 10 as Black Girl Joy Day, an annual statewide celebration of Black girls' achievements, talents and potential. Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 226, authored by Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson, D-Suisun City, was chaptered by the secretary of state Aug. 20 as Resolution Chapter 193. It passed the Assembly 70-0 and also received unanimous Senate approval.



Participants in the 2025 Black Girl Joy Day celebration in Los Angeles, including Kellie Todd Griffin, President and CEO of the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute (2nd from left) and Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass (back row, 7th from left). Photo by Robin Marshall

The measure recognizes Black girls' contributions to California's social, cultural, economic and political life and the systemic barriers they face. It encourages activities that amplify their voices and foster communities in which they can thrive.

"Black Girl Joy Day started with a very simple but powerful belief: our girls deserve spaces where they do not have to overcome something to be celebrated," said Kellie Todd Griffin, president and CEO of the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute (CBWCEI).

"They deserve to experience joy simply because they exist. They deserve to know that California sees them, values them and believes in their future. To see August 10 permanently recognized as Black Girl Joy Day is incredibly meaningful," added Todd Griffin.

The institute created the observance to celebrate Black girls through mentorship, programs and community events. Its broader work uses research, policy change and practice transformation to improve the lives of Black women and girls and advance their social and economic mobility.

"This is bigger than a day on the calendar," Todd Griffin said. "We created Black Girl Joy Day to change the narrative around Black girls. Too often, conversations about our girls begin with disparities, discipline, trauma or what they lack. We are intentionally beginning from a different place. We begin with their gifts. We begin with their dreams. We begin with their potential. We begin with joy."

"Our goal is for a Black girl anywhere in

California to wake up on August 10 and know that this day belongs to her," Todd Griffin said. "From Los Angeles to Oakland, Sacramento to San Diego, Fresno to the Inland Empire, we want our girls surrounded by communities telling them: We see you. We celebrate you. Your dreams matter. Your voice matters. And your joy matters."

Sacramento: Republicans Demand Data on How Much "Cost-Saving" Bills Really Cost Taxpayers

California Republicans are demanding an independent review of how several bills and regulations could affect consumers, arguing that lawmakers should know the potential costs before imposing new requirements on residents and businesses.

The lawmakers made the request during an Aug. 24 affordability press conference, where they called on the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) to prepare Citizen Cost Impact Reports on five bills as the Legislature enters the final week of the 2025-26 session.

Assemblymember David Tangipa (R-Fresno) questioned how Californians are faring under current policies.

"With this tire fire of a supermajority and under Governor Newsom's tenure, is your life better today than it was before that?" Tangipa said.

In a letter to Legislative Analyst Gabriel Petek, 12 lawmakers requested reviews of a number of current bills: AB 1448, AB 1776, AB 2646, SB 295 and SB 1259. Republicans argue the measures could increase costs for Californians, including through higher gas and food prices and additional costs for businesses.

They also asked the LAO to examine potential consumer costs associated with AB 844, a 2003 law they say was recently cited by the California Energy Commission in connection with new replacement tire efficiency standards.

Republicans claim the standards could result in 70% of tires sold in California being unavailable by 2033, potentially increasing costs for drivers.

Tangipa said the request is intended to give Californians more information about the financial impact of legislation and regulations.

"This letter is to simply ask the question before you implement a regulation or a bill is do we deserve to know how much it's going to cost the people," he said.

The lawmakers cited gas prices, utility bills, rent and credit card debt as financial pressures facing California families. They said independent analyses would provide greater transparency if the Legislature moves forward with the bills.

"If we are in the richest state in the richest country in the history of the world, why is it so hard to live here?" Tangipa said.

The request was signed by Assembly Minority Leader Alexandra Macedo (R-Tulare) and 11 other lawmakers. The Republicans urged the Legislature to hold the bills while their potential costs are evaluated.

A Conversation on

Mothering: Black Women Collective Welcomes Mayor Karen Bass and Author Anna Malaika Tubb

The California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute (CBWCEI) brought



(Left to Right) Kellie Todd Griffin, President and CEO of the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute, Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and author Anna Malaika Tubbs.

together Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, best-selling author Anna Malaika Tubbs and about 150 community members for a conversation about community mothering and the power of collective care.

The discussion, held Aug. 22, at the A C Bilbrew Library, was part of the Institute's Museum of Black Women and Girls Pop-Up Book Series. The event examined the longstanding role Black women have played in caring for children, supporting families and strengthening communities, often extending the idea of motherhood beyond biological relationships.

Tubbs, author of "The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation," joined Bass to explore how networks of Black women have helped nurture families and influential leaders throughout history.

"Community mothering has always been part of how Black women have sustained our families, our neighborhoods and our movements," said Kellie Todd Griffin, president and CEO of CBWCEI.

The conversation also focused on how communities can rebuild and strengthen those networks today. Bass brought her experience as a public leader and longtime community organizer, while Tubbs' work examines the often-overlooked influence of mothers and women who helped shape transformative figures.

"The Three Mothers" centers on Berdis Baldwin, Alberta King and Louise Little, the mothers of James Baldwin, Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. The book explores their lives, resilience and influence beyond the achievements of their sons.

The event is part of the Institute's Museum of Black Women and Girls, which seeks to preserve, document and celebrate the experiences and contributions of Black women and girls in California and beyond. Through its Pop-Up Book Series, the Museum connects literature and history with conversations about issues facing communities today.

The gathering provided a forum for residents to discuss rebuilding community connections, strengthening relationships across generations and recognizing collective care as a source of community strength.

Facing Criticisms, Democrats Stand Firm on Their Record Fighting for Affordability

California Assembly Democrats are defending their affordability record against Republican criticism that policies they have instituted are driving up costs for state residents.

In Aug. 25 statement, Speaker Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) and Assembly Democrats highlighted legislation and budget investments they say are designed to lower household costs, expand affordable housing and protect taxpayers as California faces continued economic pressure.

"We must chart a new path forward and renew the California Dream by focusing on affordability," Rivas said when he began the 2025-26 legislative session.

Democrats pointed to measures addressing housing, utilities, consumer protections, wages and food assistance. Among the bills they are advancing are proposals to make townhome construction easier, prohibit surveillance pricing, expand housing near transit and create long-term assistance for water costs.

The Assembly Democrats also highlighted the state's 2026-27 budget, which they say protects families from rising costs while maintaining essential services. The budget includes \$300 million to help keep health coverage affordable, \$100 million for food banks, 25,000 new subsidized childcare slots and billions of dollars for education and special education.

Housing remains a central part of the Democrats' affordability strategy. The Assembly said it enacted major housing reforms during the current two-year session and advanced an \$11.25 billion veterans and affordable housing bond that lawmakers say will expand construction and homeownership opportunities.

Democrats also pointed to energy legislation passed in 2025 that they say will deliver an estimated \$3 billion annually in climate credits to households. They said integrating California's electricity grid with other Western states could save residents more than \$1 billion annually.

The affordability defense comes as Republicans separately call for independent analyses of bills they argue could increase costs for consumers, including higher gas and food prices.

Assembly Democrats said their approach is also focused on protecting Californians from federal policies they blame for increasing economic pressure. They cited efforts to protect Medi-Cal, food assistance, reproductive health care and other safety-net programs from cuts under the Trump administration.

Democrats also pointed to Speaker Rivas' new Outcomes Review process, which evaluates whether laws are achieving their intended results.

The Democrats say their affordability agenda is aimed at addressing housing, energy, health care and everyday expenses while ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent effectively.

Turning Tragedy to Healing: California's Firefighters Burn Institute Expands Its Mission Across the State

By Edward Henderson
California Black Media

More than five decades ago, a tragedy at a Sacramento ice cream parlor exposed a critical gap in the region's ability to care for people suffering from severe burns. Today, that tragedy remains part of the origin story of the Firefighters Burn Institute (FFBI), a Sacramento-based organization whose work has grown into a statewide network of burn care, recovery, prevention and education.

In 1972, a jet attempting to take off from Sacramento Executive Airport crashed into a crowded Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor, killing 23 people and leaving many others with burn injuries. Among those killed were Sacramento firefighter Gene LaVine and eight members of his family.

At the time, Sacramento did not have a specialized burn treatment facility, meaning severely injured patients had to be transported elsewhere for care.

The tragedy prompted then-Sacramento Fire Department Captain Cliff Haskell to act. Haskell began fundraising with the Sacramento Area Fire Fighters, Local 522, with the goal of creating a specialized burn unit in Sacramento.

Those efforts led to the founding of the Firefighters Burn Institute in 1973 and, shortly afterward, the opening of the UC Davis Medical Center Regional Burn Center in January 1974.

More than 50 years later, the Institute continues to support the burn center while helping survivors and their families navigate the physical and emotional challenges that follow serious burn injuries.

"We make it one of our missions to continue funding that burn center and trying to figure out ways we can help advance the research," said Sara

Valentine, the Institute's events and marketing manager in an interview with California Black Media.

In late 2024 and early 2025, FFBI contributed approximately \$200,000 toward advanced laser technology for burn treatment, with UC Davis Health providing matching funding.

Valentine said the technology can improve the elasticity and mobility of scarred skin, potentially helping survivors regain abilities that might otherwise remain limited.

The Institute's work extends well beyond medical treatment. Its Firefighters Kids Camp brings about 50 young burn survivors ages 7 to 17 together for a week in Livermore, where they can connect with other children who have experienced similar trauma. Firefighters, burn nurses and adult burn survivors serve as counselors.

"In the beginning of the camp, they're very kind of standoffish. They don't open up as much," Valentine said. "And then by the end of it they are just running around having fun with one



Shutterstock

another and really opening up to other parents and everybody's crying at the end of camp."

For younger children, the Little Heroes Family Burn Camp brings together burn survivors ages 6 and under with their families. Valentine said the program recognizes that a serious burn affects the entire family, providing opportunities for parents, siblings and survivors to connect with others who understand their experiences.

FFBI also hosts adult and young-adult retreats and support programs designed to help survivors rebuild social connections and share strategies for navigating life after a burn.

That work will receive support this September through the Sac-Town Rodeo at Cal Expo. Scheduled for Sept. 12 and 13, the two-day event will bring together rodeo fans, families, first responders and local businesses for bull riding, bronc riding and other Western entertainment.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the FFBI and its programs.

Valentine attended last year's rodeo and described it as a celebration of the first-responder community that also welcomes people who have no connection to firefighting.

"Grab your boots and head out to Cal Expo," she said.

The Institute's mission also includes preventing the injuries it works to treat. That has brought FFBI into California's policymaking.

One example is Senate Bill (SB) 870, introduced by state Sen. Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) which would prohibit the sale in California of tabletop liquid-fuel fire features that do not meet specified American Society for Testing and Materials safety standards beginning in 2027.

The bill was prompted by reports of serious

burns and deaths associated with tabletop fire pits. FFBI is listed among the organizations supporting the legislation.

Valentine said the issue came to the Institute through a Sacramento fire captain who asked the organization to help explain the dangers of the products.

"If we can stop a burn before it happens, that's the ideal thing," Valentine said.

SB 870 remains part of a broader debate over fire safety as California lawmakers confront the consequences of increasingly destructive fires. At the same time, Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders are negotiating a package addressing wildfire liability and compensation for survivors of utility-caused fires.

The proposal has drawn criticism from wildfire survivors and lawmakers over provisions that could limit certain compensation while seeking to stabilize utilities and speed payments to victims.

Although legislative advocacy is only one part of the Institute's mission, its leaders say its involvement in state policy reflects the organization's evolution from responding to a single Sacramento tragedy to leading a broader effort to prevent burns, improve treatment and help survivors rebuild their lives.

Its reach now extends beyond Sacramento. FFBI maintains relationships with fire departments throughout California, including departments that organize fundraising drives, and connects with burn survivors through national organizations such as the American Burn Association and World Burn Congress.

The Institute also helps survivors outside California access its programs and events.

Why Kern County and Black Americans Love Dolly

By Cecil Egbele
Contributing Writer | California Local News Fellow

I wonder if “quiet” is the right reference here. Maybe it’s more a particular kind of “grief?” In Kern County, Dolly Parton is being mourned as much for her philanthropy and impact on children as she is for her worldwide impact on music and bridging cultures.

There’s a particular kind of quiet that settles in when someone like Dolly Parton dies.

Not the shock of a sudden loss, but the ache of losing someone who felt like she’d always be around. In Kern County, Parton has been arriving at people’s homes for nearly three years.

Not in person, but in books.

Through Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library in Kern County, more than 8,000 Kern County children between birth and age 5 have been enrolled since the program launched locally in 2023 to foster early literacy. Each child receives a free, age-appropriate book every month, regardless of family income. The Kern Literacy Council administers the



DOLLY PARTON’S IMAGINATION LIBRARY AND KERN LITERACY COUNCIL

only thing bigger than her hair was her heart. She challenged the double standards women often face and supported communities of color. The world will be less sparkly without Dolly.”

In Bakersfield, Parton’s death lands a little closer than one might expect. The city has its own country music DNA - the Bakersfield Sound built by Buck Owens and Merle Haggard.

Parton’s story was always bigger than country music. Perhaps one of the most interesting parts of her legacy is how deeply her music traveled into Black America.

Think Whitney Houston.

Let’s start with “I Will Always Love You,” a country song Parton penned in 1973 about saying goodbye. Nearly two decades later, Houston turned it into one of the best-selling singles of all time for “The Bodyguard.”

Parton celebrated what Houston had done with her song.

“She’d have outsung me on that one for sure,” Parton said.

That relationship has become part of both women’s legacies. A white country songwriter from Tennessee writing the song, and a Black pop and R&B superstar transforming it into something that belonged to another generation.

Parton made an estimated \$10 million off that cover in the ‘90s. She chose to use part of the money to buy an office complex in a mostly Black Nashville neighborhood. Later telling Andy Cohen she wanted to “be down here with (Whitney’s) people, who are my people as well.”

Consider also Beyoncé.

Beyoncé’s Cowboy Carter in 2024 reopened a conversation about Black people’s place in the genre. The album includes “Jolene,” one of Parton’s signature songs. Parton also appeared on the album in the “Dolly P” interlude.

After Parton’s death, Beyoncé paid tribute on her website, calling Parton “the barometer” and the



Dolly Imagination Library

north star. She thanked her for the impact she had on music and on her own life.

Perhaps the song that best explains why Parton could connect with people far beyond her own background is “Coat of Many Colors.”

The song reflects a coat Parton’s mother made from scraps of fabric at the family’s rural Tennessee home. At school, the coat became a source of ridicule because it looked poor. But to Dolly, it represented something entirely different: her mother’s love.

The song’s emotional core is relatable to people from different communities and classes. Parton was a songwriter who could tell a very specific story about her life and somehow leave enough room for someone else to see theirs in it.

That may help explain why the reaction to her death has crossed racial and cultural lines.

Black media has been naming this legacy directly today. The Black Wall Street Times published a piece calling her a country icon who reached across racial divides, pointing to her blunt 2020 comment to Billboard that “of course Black lives matter.”

The Root ran its own tribute, in a post titled “11 Reasons Why Black Folks Will Always Love Dolly Parton.”

“She didn’t just collaborate with some of our favorite artists; she showed up for us as an ally and outspoken advocate for a variety of issues,” The Root said.

Online, the heartbreak across Black social media circles has been immediate and deeply affectionate.

On r/BlackPeopleofReddit, top posts refer to Parton as an “honorary Auntie,” and “National Treasure.”

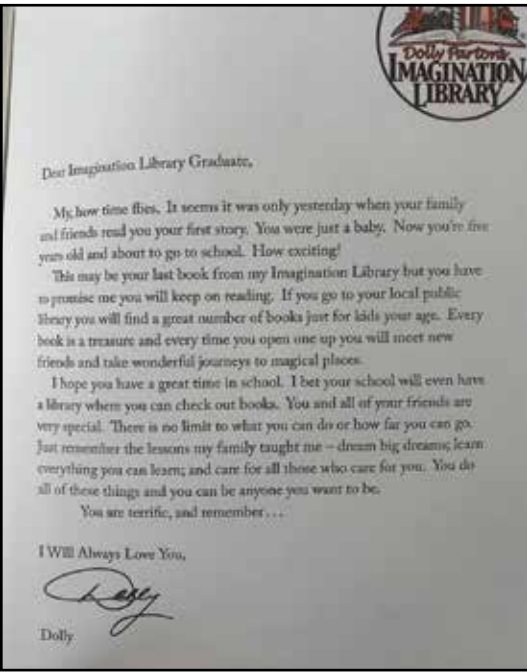
The affection wasn’t confined to ordinary fans. Dionne Warwick, who collaborated with

Parton, described her as a “true child of God.”

Oscar-winning Black actor Octavia Spencer called Parton “a gift to the world.” Lil Nas X, who had previously performed his own version of Jolene, also remembered Parton as “the one and only.”

The political tributes have crossed party lines and ideologies.

Referring to Parton as one of the greatest



DOLLY PARTON’S LETTER TO CHILDREN GRADUATING FROM THE DOLLY PARTON’S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

country singers ever, President Donald Trump said her death was a “true loss for millions of people.” He ordered American flags lowered nationwide for a week in her honor.

Former President Barack Obama also remembered Parton, writing that it was difficult to imagine anyone else having such an impact. Obama said he and Michelle were thinking of Parton’s family and fans.

In Kern County, the most fitting reminder lies in the child waiting for next month’s book from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

The singer is gone. But her legacy remains in one book, one song, and one child at a time.

Young Black Men Suffering in Silence A Curse That Can Be Broken

By Dominic Boston
BlackPressUSA Newswire

As a young Black man, this topic is personal to me.

When people discuss mental health, they usually don’t picture someone who looks like me. Instead, Black men are often seen as strong, tough, or able to handle anything life throws at us.

Growing up, I was taught exactly that.

My elders always told me to be strong. If I got hurt, I was told to get back up. If I was upset, I was told not to cry. Showing emotion wasn’t encouraged. It was seen as a weakness.

Looking back now, I realize I wasn’t just being taught how to be a man. I was being conditioned to hide my emotions. I was taught to believe that strength meant staying silent, no matter how much pain I was carrying.

I know my family wasn’t trying to hurt me. They wanted me to survive in a world that has never been easy for Black men. They wanted me to be prepared for life’s challenges.

But somewhere along the way, being strong became confused with pretending everything was okay.

Instead of talking about our feelings, we learned how to bury them. Instead of asking for help, we learned how to deal with everything on our own.

The problem is that emotions don’t disappear

just because you ignore them. They stay with you, and eventually, they find another way to come out.

I believe that is the reality for many young Black men today.

We’re expected to carry the weight of our families, our communities, our schools, our work, and our lives without ever breaking down. People admire our strength, but they rarely ask how much it costs to always be strong.

The truth is, many of us are hurting in silence because we’ve spent our entire lives believing that is what real men are supposed to do.

For many Black boys, those lessons start early.

Some grow up in neighborhoods where hearing gunshots or seeing police lights is normal. Others lose friends or family members before they are even old enough to understand why. Some are raised in communities where violence, poverty, and limited opportunities are part of everyday life.

When you’re constantly worried about making it home safely or helping your family make ends meet, you don’t always have time to process your emotions.

You focus on surviving.

Then there is the way society sees us.

Before some people even hear us speak, they have already made assumptions. Many Black men know what it feels like to be watched while shopping, stereotyped because of the clothes they



wear, or judged simply because they are Black.

On top of that, many of us grow up having conversations with our parents about how to act if we are ever stopped by the police.

We aren’t taught those lessons because our parents don’t trust us. We are taught them because our parents are afraid of what could happen if someone else doesn’t see our humanity.

Living with that kind of pressure affects your mental health, whether people realize it or not.

Constantly feeling like you have to prove you are not a threat is exhausting. Always feeling like you have to be perfect just to be treated fairly takes a toll.

Those experiences create anxiety, fear, and stress that many young Black men carry every single day, even if they never talk about it.

I also think these experiences help explain why some young Black men feel disconnected from politics and voting.

If you have spent your whole life watching your community struggle no matter who is in office, it is easy to believe that your vote won’t change anything.

You see schools that need more resources, neighborhoods that deserve more investment, and communities asking for change year after year. After a while, some people stop believing anyone is listening.

But I also believe that is exactly why voting matters.

The people we elect make decisions about education, mental health funding, affordable housing, community programs, healthcare, and criminal justice. Those decisions directly affect neighborhoods like mine and families like mine.

If we want things to change, we can’t sit back and expect someone else to make those choices for us.

Our voices matter, and our votes do too.

One of the biggest changes that needs to happen is the way we talk about mental health.

We have to stop teaching young Black boys that crying makes them weak. We have to stop acting like asking for help is something to be embarrassed about.

Real strength isn’t pretending you’re okay when you’re not.

Real strength is being honest enough to say you’re struggling and courageous enough to ask for help.

As I continue growing into the man I want to become, I’m learning that strength and vulnerability can exist at the same time.

I can be determined, hardworking and resilient while still being honest about my emotions. I don’t have to carry everything by myself, and neither does the next generation of young Black men.

It’s time we change the conversation.

Instead of only telling young Black boys to be strong, we should also tell them it’s okay to cry.

It’s okay to talk.

It’s okay to heal.

Because when we create a generation of men who feel safe expressing themselves, we aren’t making them weaker. We are giving them a better chance to live healthier, happier lives.

And that is the kind of strength our communities have needed all along.

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