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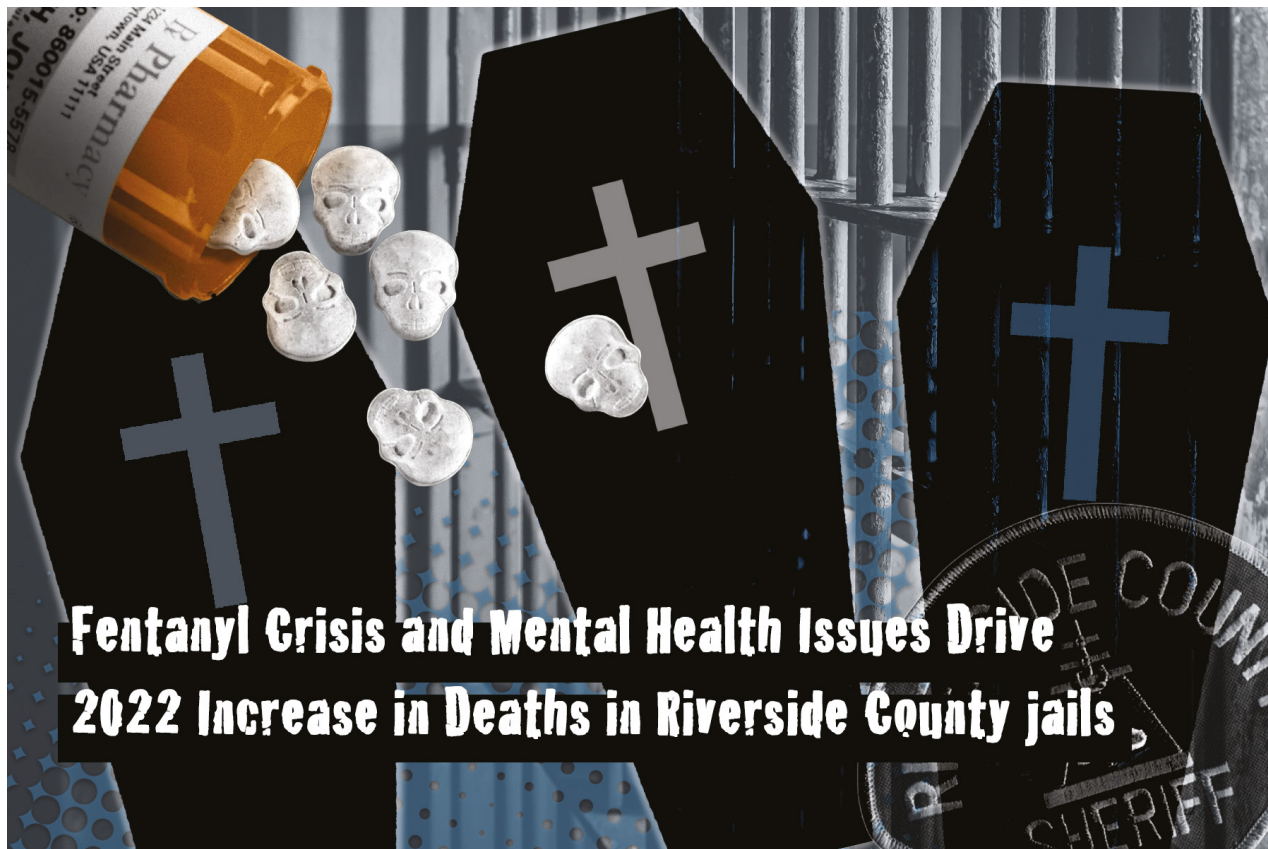
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EDITOR'S NOTES

2022 Was The Deadliest Year To Be In Riverside County Jails



**Fentanyl Crisis and Mental Health Issues Drive
2022 Increase in Deaths in Riverside County jails**

Graphic by Chris Allen, VOICE

It is alleged that in Riverside County people are frequently overcharged for purported crimes which can result in some individuals being confined to county jail because they cannot afford the bail. Whether an individual is guilty or innocent, this should not be a death sentence and yet 2022 was the deadliest year in a decade for those confined to Riverside County jails.

After months of records requests, examinations and summations of documents and data, and a series of relevant, probing and insightful interviews, Black Voice News is proud to introduce a report of our investigation into in-custody deaths in Riverside County jails in 2022.

The report is the result of a collaborative effort between Black Voice News, the Investigative Editing Corps and Report for America and produced with support from inewssource, a

nonprofit investigative newsroom in San Diego.

The work of former Black Voice News reporter Prince James Story, with contributions from freelance reporter Gail Fry, offers a compelling narrative of what contributed to the most deadly year in Riverside County jails in more than a decade while also exploring the sheriff department's near snail's paced movement toward compliance with provisions detailed in a near decade's old consent decree which called for improvements within the jails.

The feature story is supported with two companion articles. The first, shines a spotlight on Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco and the additional article highlights what Riverside County officials can learn from the experiences of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department as it grappled with systemic issues within its own

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Sec. of State Certifies Candidates for March Primary, Including Trump



Graphic by Chris Allen, VOICE

Antonio Ray Harvey California Black Media

Dr. Shirley N. Weber, the California Secretary of State, has certified a list of 20 candidates, including former Pres. Donald Trump, for the state's presidential primary election scheduled for March 5, 2024.

Weber made the decision on Dec. 28 to certify Trump despite calls from a number of prominent Democrats, including California Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis, to disqualify him. They

cite the former president's actions and inactions during the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol as a violation of Section 3 of the 14th Amendment, which should disqualify him from public office.

Responding to Kounalakis, Weber emphasized that removing a presidential candidate is a matter of public interest and must be handled within legal parameters and in the best interests of all California voters.

"It is incumbent upon my office to ensure that any action undertaken regarding any candidate's

inclusion or omission from our ballots be grounded firmly in the laws and processes in place in California and our Constitution," Weber stated.

So far, Trump's quest to run for the presidency has been blocked by two states, Maine and Colorado. Appeals of the decisions in both states are expected to be heard by the Supreme Court

“

As California's Chief Elections Officer, I am a steward of free and fair elections and the Democratic process... I must place the sanctity of these elections above partisan politics. As you may not be aware, my office has been engaged in multiple lawsuits regarding the former president's appearance on the ballot.

- Dr. Shirley N. Weber
CA Secretary of State

”

of the United States.

In a letter to Weber dated Dec. 20, Kounalakis urged the Secretary of State "to explore every legal option" to remove Trump from California's 2024 presidential primary ballot following the Colorado Supreme Court's ruling in *Anderson v. Griswold*.

"I am prompted by the Colorado Supreme Court's recent ruling that former President

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COMBATING RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS



"Combating Racism as a Public Health Crisis" is a 4-part series created by BVN's own Mapping Black California Team. This MBC project created an interactive map of official declarations by local and regional government officials establishing racism as a public health crisis.

To read the 4-part series and view the interactive map scan the QR code.

classifieds&publicnotices

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EL TORITO MEXICAN RESTAURANT
2240 Griffen Way
Corona, CA 92879
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
11065 Knott Ave, Ste A
Cypress, CA 90630
FM Restaurants El Torito OPCO, LLC
11065 Knott Ave, Ste A
Cypress, CA 90630
CA

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s. Edward Algeo, Chief Financial Officer
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p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

PLUSH INK BY JO
14552 Cessna Lane
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
14552 Cessna Lane
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
Joanna Castillo Dickson
14552 Cessna Lane
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
CA

This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/10/2023
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s. Joanna Castillo Dickson
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p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

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EASY HOUSE BUYER
EASYHOUSEBUYER.COM
FLIPPING TECHNOLOGIES INC.
20694 Odessa Ct
Riverside, CA 92508
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
P.O. BOX 55430
Riverside, CA 92517
Flipping Technologies Inc.
19069 Van Buren Blvd #114-360
Riverside, CA 92508
CA

This business is conducted by: Corporation
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Toyin Dawodu
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 11/27/2023
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expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317019
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

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EL TORITO MEXICAN RESTAURANT
3639 Riverside Plaza Dr, Ste 526
Riverside, CA 92506
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
11065 Knott Ave, Ste A
Cypress, CA 90630
FM Restaurants El Torito OPCO, LLC
11065 Knott Ave, Ste A
Cypress, CA 90630
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/29/2018
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Edward Algeo, Chief Financial Officer
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/01/2023

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317247
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File No. R-200504724
INSHAPE COMMUNICATION
129 Nisbet Way
Riverside, CA 92507
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Judith Ann Conn
26735 Summer Sunshine Dr.
Menifee, California 92585
This business is conducted by: Individual

The fictitious business name(s) referred to above was filed in Riverside County on 04/12/2005
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor is punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000).)
s. Judith Ann Conn
Peter Aldana, County, Clerk
FILE NO R-200504724
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
VWSC PRODUCTIONS
URBAN GOLF CHANNEL
THE GOLF SHACK
64337 Doral Drive
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Vincent Wayne Shack
64337 Doral Drive
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240
This business is conducted by: Individual

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Vincent Wayne Shack
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/26/2023

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p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
D-LUXE NAILS STUDIO
12831 Moreno Beach Dr, Ste 106
Moreno Valley, CA, 92555
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
D Luxe LLC
12831 Moreno Beach Dr, Ste 106
Moreno Valley, CA, 92555
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Leslie Ngoc Nguyen, Manager
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p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
Y&A MEDINA ENTERPRISE LLC
4041 Pedley Rd Spc 55
Riverside, CA 92509
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Y&A ENTERPRISE LLC
4041 Pedley Rd Spc 55
Riverside, CA 92509
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Yaneth Medina, President
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/26/2023
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p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
GENUINE MEDITATION
1202 Coronet Dr
Riverside, CA 92506
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Rajan Patel LLC
1202 Coronet Dr
Riverside, CA 92506
CA

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Rajan Patel, Member
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/13/2023
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p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

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NOTARY & THINGS

by **Jill Castellano** |  inewssource.org

This article is continual coverage of “In Custody Deaths: Fentanyl Crisis and Mental Health Issues Drive 2022 Increase in Deaths in Riverside County jails” from last week’s issue.

The high death rate in San Diego County’s jail system has troubled attorneys, lawmakers and community activists for years. It has prompted audits, lawsuits and a new state law to enact jail reforms.

The same crisis is unfolding in another nearby jail system. In Riverside County, the jail death rate rose significantly in 2022, surpassing

“

Providing a safe and secure facility for incarcerated individuals and our staff is a priority for Sheriff Martinez...She is earnest in having a coordinated approach to medical and mental healthcare, as well as reentry programs in our jails to address the underlying issues of rehabilitation and reintegration.

- David Ladieu
Spokesperson, SD County Sheriff’s Department

”

that of San Diego and most large California counties, according to an inewssource analysis.

Nineteen people died in Riverside County jails in 2022. They were primarily young Hispanic men awaiting trial. They ranged in age from 20 to 78 years old. They died from overdoses, suicides and other causes. Like in San Diego, their families want answers and

What Riverside Can Learn from the Jail Death Crisis in San Diego

How San Diego’s jail reform efforts could help a nearby county



Design by No Limit Creatives for inewssource

accountability.

Pressure is building in Riverside. The California Attorney General’s Office opened an investigation into the jail system in February, and at least five lawsuits were filed in May by families of the deceased.

inewssource spoke with advocates and decision makers who have been directly involved in pushing for reforms in San Diego’s jails. They reflected on their successes, their failures and what people in Riverside County can learn from

their efforts.

“It isn’t just a San Diego problem,” said California State Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, a Democrat who represents San Diego in the Legislature.

“You’ve got numbers from LA County, Riverside — you’ve got a number of counties that are under consent decree,” said Atkins, referencing court-mandated reforms in the jails.

“This means that it is a culture issue and

continued on page 8

SPECIAL FEATURE

What Riverside, continued from page 7

something that needs to be addressed statewide.”

Atkins’ jail reform bill, SB 519, grew out of conversations with activists and officials in San Diego County over the past few years as the death toll in detention centers climbed. It was signed into law by the governor on Oct. 4.

The new law gives the public access to reports of in-custody deaths — records the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department has fought against disclosing in an ongoing court case. It also establishes a new governor-appointed official to review death investigations with the help of medical and mental health professionals.

While Atkins called the law “a step forward, absolutely,” she also acknowledged her work isn’t done.

Earlier versions of the bill called for more oversight power of county jails, but the text went through rounds of revisions that removed some of its teeth. In an early draft, the in-custody death

reviewer could have taken over jail operations from a problematic sheriff’s department. Now, that reviewer can only make recommendations.

“I had to negotiate, and I had to compromise,” Atkins said.

The path toward jail reform in San Diego has frustrated activists who have faced numerous obstacles.

Gretchen Burns Bergman, the founder of the addiction recovery program A New PATH, said the sheriff’s department hasn’t always been cooperative with her team. When her nonprofit donated hundreds of kits of naloxone — an overdose reversal drug — to the jails during the COVID-19 pandemic, correctional officers did not use them because of resistance from union leadership. The kits eventually expired.

“To think about the months and how many people lost their lives because this wasn’t implemented when they said it would,” Burns Bergman said. “It was heartbreaking.”

San Diego County Sheriff Kelly Martinez

made a commitment to improving jail conditions when she began her term last January. But advocates pointed to several ongoing points of tension.

Despite promising to make in-custody death reports public, the sheriff’s department has only posted summaries online. And while drug screening has ramped up for incarcerated people when they enter the jails, Martinez has resisted calls to screen the correctional officers.

Burns Bergman acknowledged that well-intentioned reforms can get weighed down in bureaucracy. She encouraged community members in Riverside and elsewhere to keep reminding county leaders of the changes they wish to see.

“It’s all about the people on the ground,” Burns Bergman said. “Like we are just constantly bugging the criminal justice system for these reforms.”

In an email, San Diego County Sheriff’s

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After a Number of Deaths in Riverside County Jails in 2022, Sheriff Faces Calls for More Accountability



Graphic by Chris Allen, VOICE

by Prince James Story and Gail Fry

This article is continual coverage of “In Custody Deaths: Fentanyl Crisis and Mental Health Issues Drive 2022 Increase in Deaths in Riverside County jails” from last week’s issue.

Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco has been at the center of a firestorm of issues since he was sworn into office in 2019.

As COVID-19 swept the nation, a judge had to order Bianco to establish protocols to protect people in custody. The sheriff also refused to enforce a state vaccine mandate for his employees, describing his stance as “the last line of defense from tyrannical government overreach.”

The same year, Bianco defended his membership in the Oath Keepers. In an interview with LAist, he said he didn’t remember joining the group and that people misunderstood the goals of the far-right militia, some of whose members were convicted of seditious conspiracy in the Jan. 6,

2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Now, the Sheriff’s Department in the fourth-largest county in California is being investigated by Attorney General Rob Bonta for alleged civil rights violations. Bonta launched the inquiry in February 2023, citing conditions in the jails, among other issues.

“The investigation will seek to determine whether [the department] has engaged in a pattern or practice of unconstitutional policing amid deeply concerning allegations relating to conditions of confinement in its jail facilities, excessive force, and other misconduct,” according to a news release from the California Department of Justice.

Justice officials said they won’t comment on an ongoing investigation.

Bianco has dismissed Bonta’s investigation as “political.”

“He knows we’re not doing anything wrong. He’s made it completely political. We strive every single day to make sure we are the best law

continued on next page

“ ”

The investigation will seek to determine whether [the department] has engaged in a pattern or practice of unconstitutional policing amid deeply concerning allegations relating to conditions of confinement in its jail facilities, excessive force, and other misconduct.

- California Department of Justice

enforcement agency in the country,” Bianco said. “We have one of the largest in the state. And we have to make sure that we have one of the best in the state.”

But public concern about the Sheriff’s Department has risen since the inquiry was announced, between the record-high 19 jail deaths in 2022 to drug smuggling and other charges against deputies.

So too have questions about Bianco and the department’s accountability to the public.

In early November, Assemblymember Corey A. Jackson, D-Moreno Valley, asked Bonta to expand his investigation to include sex and drug trafficking after deputies were arrested in three incidents — using drugs, trafficking drugs and engaging in sexual acts without consent with incarcerated women.

“Ever since the pandemic, there’s been a lot of red flags about how people are treated — the illegal activity happening in the jails,” Jackson said. “That’s why we’ve asked the Attorney General to expand his investigation to find out what’s really going on. Because it’s clear that the public is losing trust in the Sheriff’s Department.”



Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco responds to questions from Black Voice News during an August 2023 interview regarding the unprecedented spike in in-custody deaths in Riverside County jails in 2022. (Photo Courtesy Riverside County Sheriff’s Department)

Bianco holds unique power in Riverside County as the elected sheriff, coroner, and public administrator. California is among three states that allow the coroner and sheriff to be the same person.

Advocates for police reform argue that it’s a conflict of interest for a law enforcement officer to oversee autopsies of people who died at the hands of other officers. In a 2017-2018 session, a Riverside County Civil Grand Jury recommended that the sheriff outsource the autopsies to avoid a “perception of a conflict of interest by the public.” The sheriff at the time rejected the idea.

But nearly 20 years ago, the department contracted with Orange County for several years to perform autopsies on people who died in custody. Riverside ended the arrangement because of costs for autopsies (\$5000 per person) and delays in receiving the information, according to a report by the grand jury, which is empaneled to review local government issues.

In 2023, a state bill to separate the coroner and the sheriff’s office failed.

Bianco has significant latitude over his affairs, but the Riverside County Board of Supervisors approves his budget. This year, his combined budget is about 12% of the annual county budget of \$8.6 billion.

When the jail deaths increased in 2022, Bianco briefed supervisors in private, said 3rd District Supervisor Chuck Washington. Supervisors were concerned, but he added that Riverside was not alone: In-custody deaths have risen in other state jurisdictions, and drugs are smuggled into jails in other counties too.

Manny Perez, 4th District Supervisor, wouldn’t comment on the sheriff or deaths. He said to represent his constituents successfully, he has to work in good faith with people he may disagree with to effect change.

“I am not interested in speaking ill or negatively about other policymakers, especially through the media or social media platforms,”

he said in an email.

Supervisors could hold the Sheriff's Department accountable for jail improvements, said Luis Nolasco, an attorney with the ACLU of Southern California, which asked the attorney general to investigate the sheriff's office on behalf of several local organizations. They could restrict additional funding if the sheriff doesn't improve jail conditions, Nolasco said, but he acknowledged that the supervisors would likely reject that route.

"You know it's a political game," he said. "Unfortunately for the supervisors, the Sheriff's Department also knows that."

Problems with the jails and law enforcement existed before Bianco, he said.

Nolasco suggested the county create an Office of Inspector General or an alternative oversight committee for the department, as some other communities have done, that includes people directly affected by the criminal justice system.

A 2020 California law allows counties to

create a watchdog group or oversight committee with subpoena power to monitor sheriffs. Riverside County hasn't created an oversight committee.

Jackson said he supports more oversight of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

"Police don't do a good job policing themselves," he said. "And we must do that. It's time for us to have another layer of accountability."

To read last week's related story, "Fentanyl Crisis and Mental Health Issues Drive 2022 Increase in Deaths in Riverside County jails", scan the QR code.

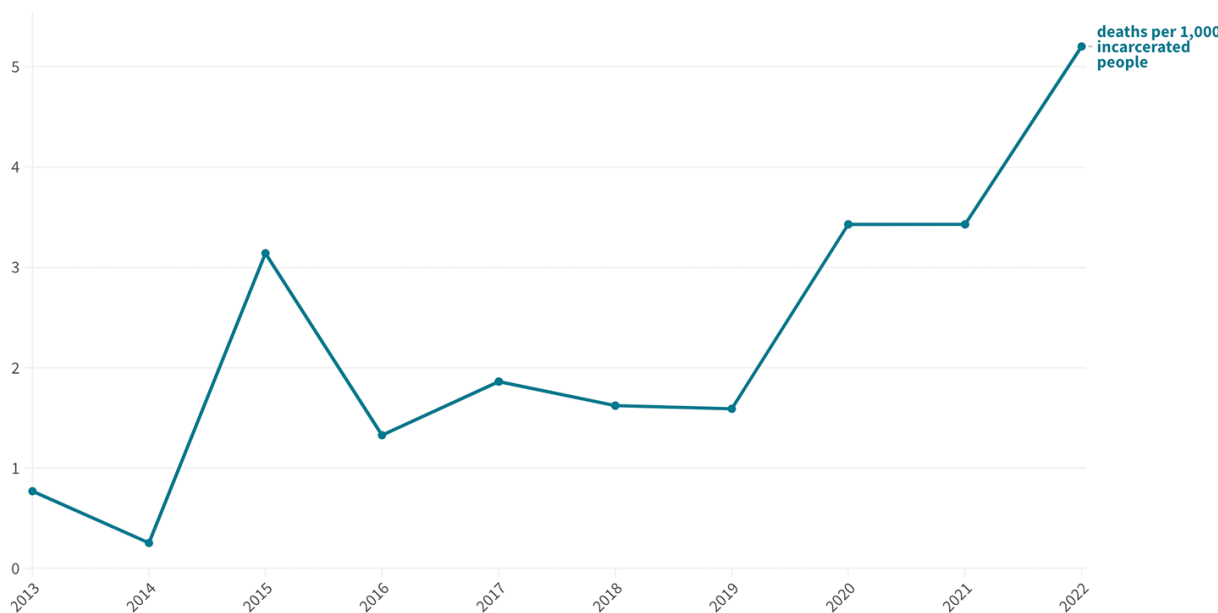


(Source: BlackVoiceNews.com)

Riverside County jail death rate climbs

Riverside County jail death rate climbs

The death rate inside the Riverside County jail system, which is operated by the county Sheriff's Department, reached a new high in 2022. The number of deaths was divided by the average daily jail population to create a death rate per 1,000 incarcerated people.



Data from the California Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center | Analysis by inewsource.com | Graphic by Shakeara Mingo

“ ”

Ever since the pandemic, there's been a lot of red flags about how people are treated — the illegal activity happening in the jails...That's why we've asked the Attorney General to expand his investigation to find out what's really going on. Because it's clear that the public is losing trust in the Sheriff's Department.

- CA Assemblymember Corey Jackson

New Doula Benefit 'Life-Changing' for California Mom



Mia Bloomer and her fiancé, Tim Smith, pose outside Smith's mother's house with their son Thaddeus, 1, while daughter Tiara, 6 months, naps inside. (Molly Castle Work/KFF Health News)

Molly Castle Work Kaiser Family Foundation

When Mia Bloomer found out she was pregnant with her fourth child, she wanted a different birth experience. She wanted to feel empowered, informed, and heard — elements she found lacking during her earlier births.

Somewhat by accident, Bloomer, 26, found Priya Kalyan-Masih six months into her pregnancy. Kalyan-Masih is a doula, a professional childbirth companion who provides emotional support, physical comfort, and education to women before, during, and after pregnancy. Bloomer hadn't realized Medi-Cal would cover the service until she visited an informational fair near her home in the High

Desert region of Southern California.

Medi-Cal, California's Medicaid program for low-income residents, started offering the benefit in January — but doulas have wrestled with the program's bureaucratic requirements and what they say is insufficient pay.

"Priya really listened to me. Out of all my births, this was the most peaceful and stress-free," said Bloomer, who is a student working part-time as an in-home caregiver and at a detox center. "The fact that I didn't have to pay anything out-of-pocket was life-changing."

Having Kalyan-Masih at her side was critical for Bloomer because her partner — now fiancé — was imprisoned a few weeks after she found out she was pregnant, which would have meant she'd have to navigate her pregnancy and delivery without him.

Across the country, doulas are being enlisted

to combat rising maternal mortality rates. In 2021, the most recent year for which data is available, about 1,200 women in the U.S. died from pregnancy complications either during pregnancy or within six weeks afterward, about 60% more deaths than were reported two years earlier, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The numbers are starkest for Black women and their children. In 2021, Black women died



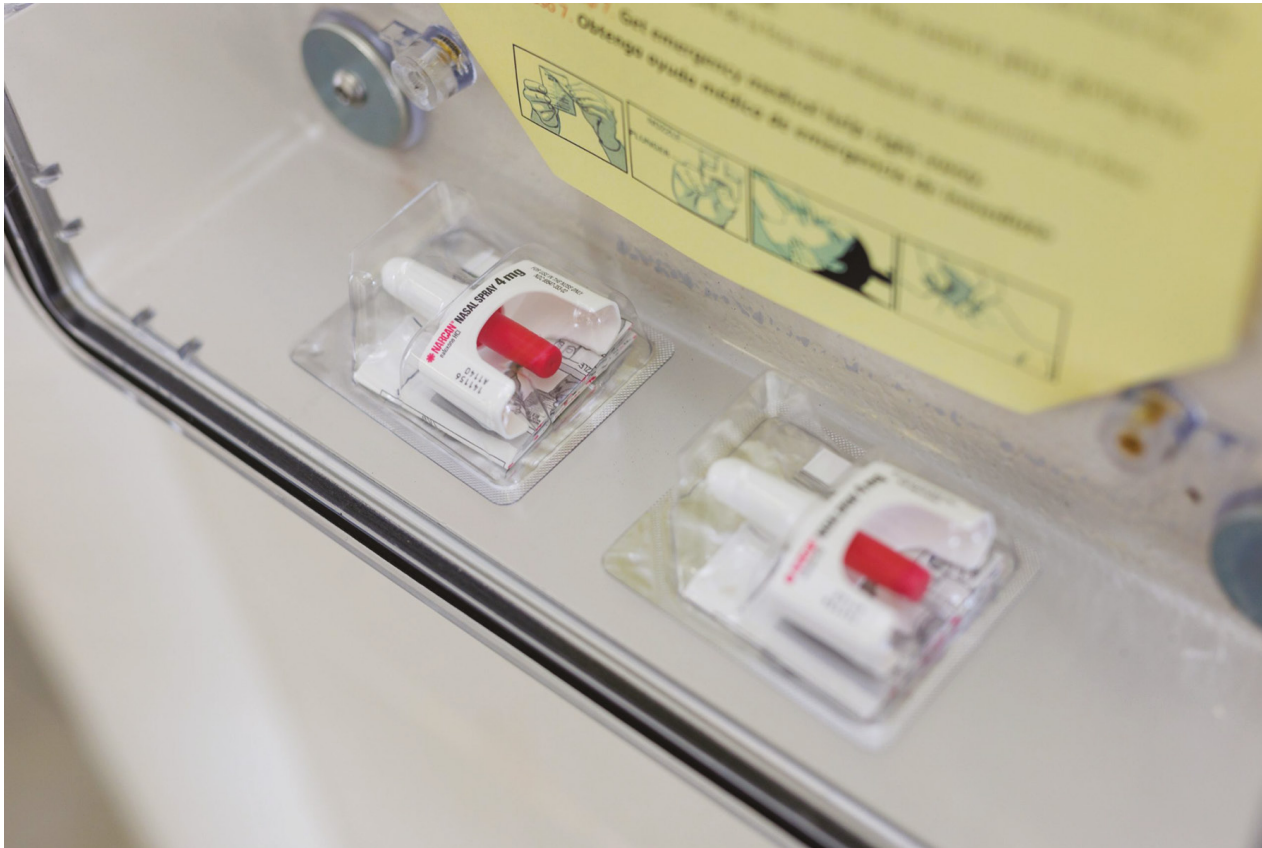
Priya Kalyan-Masih, Mia Bloomer's doula, helps put a onesie on Bloomer's newborn daughter, Tiara, at the hospital the morning after her birth. (Kim Varela)

at more than 2½ times the rate of white women. Doulas are distinct from the medical team and act as advocates for birthing parents. A National Institutes of Health study published this year found that doula care was associated with reductions in cesarean sections, epidural use, length of labor, premature deliveries, and maternal stress.

During Bloomer's pregnancy, Kalyan-Masih assisted with strategies such as mapping a birth plan and coaching Bloomer on breathing techniques to ease her anxiety.

Less than a year after Bloomer moved from Texas to be with her fiancé, Tim Smith, he was arrested for firearm possession while on probation for drug-related charges. That left

continued on page 14



The overdose reversal drug Narcan is shown in this undated photo. (Courtesy of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department)

Department spokesperson David Ladieu said the office is working collaboratively with other jail systems facing the same challenges, namely, “aging facilities, industry wide staffing challenges, and a population that is diverse and requires high levels of care.”

In November, Martinez announced a nearly \$500 million plan to modernize the county’s aging jails over the next decade. Officials are expected to report back to county supervisors in June on how they plan to fund the improvements.

“Providing a safe and secure facility for incarcerated individuals and our staff is a priority for Sheriff Martinez,” Ladieu said. “She is earnest in having a coordinated approach to medical and mental healthcare, as well as reentry programs in our jails to address the underlying issues of rehabilitation and reintegration.”

Paul Parker, executive officer of the county’s Citizens Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB), said the sheriff’s department is committed to improving jail conditions.

CLERB’s mandate includes reviewing in-custody deaths. Not long after the sheriff began her term in December 2022, Parker said he was given permission to visit the scene of every death that occurs in county jails and incorporate that information into his reports.

Still, CLERB only serves an advisory role to San Diego’s elected sheriff, who has a lot of autonomy.

Oversight in Riverside County is even less robust. There is no independent review board, and the county supervisors have little authority over the department beyond approving its annual budget.

Parker encouraged Riverside County officials to set up a civilian oversight board. While not perfect, he said the board has successfully pushed for more transparency in the jail system.

“Even if they’re doing everything possible,... no one’s gonna believe you if you’re law enforcement,” Parker said, emphasizing that it’s important “to have someone external and to not

be afraid to have that come in.”

A 2022 CLERB report found an alarming number of “excess deaths” in San Diego County jails and concluded that the county’s jail mortality rate was the “most acute” among California’s 12 largest counties at the time. The report prompted a state audit that reaffirmed the board’s concerns.

The board is still pushing for access to internal sheriff’s department reports and for drug screenings of jail staff.

“I think we have set the foundation for how an external entity can at least call and get the attention of the sheriff and the media,” Parker said.

The first major report in recent history on the San Diego jails was published in 2018, revealing a lack of proper treatment for disabled and mentally ill incarcerated people. Since then, a plethora of media exposés and other outside scrutiny has criticized the conditions of the detention centers.

Aaron Fischer, co-author of the 2018 report, said many of the same problems he wrote about still persist today.

Fischer is a lawyer who filed a class action lawsuit against San Diego County on behalf of families of those who died in the jails. Despite the continued challenges, he said he has hope and knows there is common ground with the sheriff’s department.

“It’s not a zero sum game,” Fischer said. “The safety and wellbeing for people who are incarcerated is not at the expense of public safety or staff or county resources or any of these countervailing interests.”

“When you do it right, it can benefit everyone.”

To read last week’s related story, “Fentanyl Crisis and Mental Health Issues Drive 2022 Increase in Deaths in Riverside County jails”, scan the QR code.





EDUCATE ENGAGE INFORM

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CONTINUED NEWS

Sec. of State, continued from page 4

Donald Trump is ineligible to appear on the state's ballot as a Presidential Candidate due to his role in inciting an insurrection in the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021," Kounalakis wrote. "This decision is about honoring the rule of law in our country and protecting the fundamental pillars of our democracy."

Weber wrote back to Kounalakis, saying that she is guided by her "commitment to follow the rule of law."

"As California's Chief Elections Officer, I am a steward of free and fair elections and the Democratic process," wrote Weber. "I must place the sanctity of these elections above partisan politics. As you may not be aware, my office has been engaged in multiple lawsuits regarding the former president's appearance on the ballot."

Weber also acknowledged the complicated nature of the issue and her decision regarding it.

"We can agree that the attack of the capitol and the former presidents' involvement was abhorrent, there are complex legal issues surrounding this matter," she added.

New Doula Benefit, continued from page 12

At the time, she didn't know what questions to ask or what to expect, including how to cope with postpartum depression.

"With a doula, I would have been more informed," Bloomer said as 6-month-old Tiara babbled on her lap. "I would have felt more empowered. I would have had the kind of support that would have made me a better mom."

This article is part of "Faces of Medi-Cal," a California Healthline series exploring the impact of the state's safety-net health program on enrollees.

This article was produced by KFF Health News, which publishes California Healthline, an editorially independent service of the California Health Care Foundation.

KFF Health News is a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues and is one of the core operating programs at KFF—an independent source of health policy research, polling, and journalism. Learn more about KFF.



EDITOR'S NOTES

2022 Was The Deadliest, continued from page 3
jails.

We also encourage you to take a moment to explore the effect just one of the 19 in custody deaths in Riverside County jails in 2022 continues to have on the loved ones left behind. In a compelling video, Black Voice News photojournalist Aryana Noroozi captures the impact of such loss through the voice of one mother, Lisa Matus, whose son, Richard Matus Jr., died in a Riverside County jail on August 11, 2022.

At the end of the day, it is important to keep in mind that these deaths aren't just numbers. These were people, all of whom were in custody awaiting trial at the time of their demise because they could not afford the bail.

We encourage you to share your feedback regarding this story at info@blackvoicenews.com.

publicnotices

**134 Diego Road
Beaumont, CA 92223
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Patrice Lashon Pruitt
134 Diego Road
Beaumont, CA 92223
CA**

This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)

s. Patrice Lashon Pruitt
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/28/2023

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202318424
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**KINGPINGO
K5 ENTERPRISES
GT LOGISTICS
K5 ENTERPRISE
5K ENTERPRISE
24658 Constellation Way
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
24658 Constellation Way
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
GTL MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC
24658 Constellation Way
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
CA**

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 04/11/2022
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Keith Felder, CEO
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal,

state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/19/2023
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202318004
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**O'REILLY AUTO PARTS #6699
29720 Rancho California Rd
Temecula, CA 92591
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ATTN: TAX DEPT/PO BOX 1156
Springfield, MO 65801
O'Reilly Auto Enterprises, LLC
233 South Patterson Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802
DE**
This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2014
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Jeremy Fletcher, CFO
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/13/2023

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317702
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**MOUNTAIN HIGH HANDYMAN SERVICES
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Josh Grossman
77-682 Country Club Drive, Suite H
Palm Desert, CA 92211**
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/01/2023
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Josh Grossman

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/12/2023
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317683
p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**SOUL OF THE SUN
10742 Jeri Dr.
Riverside, CA 92505
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
10742 Jeri Dr.
Riverside, CA 92505
Krista Monique Norwood Hernandez
10742 Jeri Dr.
Riverside, CA 92505**
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/9/23
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Krista Monique Norwood Hernandez
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on

12/14/2023
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317800
p. 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**REZZY MOTOSPORTS
40165 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd, Suite I
Murrieta CA 92563
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Rezzy Motorsports Inc
38372 Innovation Ct, Bldg A Unit 102
Murrieta, CA 92563
CA**
This business is conducted by: Corporation
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 09/01/2023
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Janio Rezende, President
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/08/2023
I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317506
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24,

1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**LADUE NAILS AND SPA
29910-D Murrieta Hot Springs Rd
Murrieta, CA 92563
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Vince Luat Duy Tran
30087 Rancho California Rd, Apt 322
Temecula, CA 92592**
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Tran L. Vince, Owner
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 11/16/2023
I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202316699
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**GOGO CONNECT JUNK CAR BUYER
25555 Fortuna Del Sur Dr
Moreno Valley, CA 92551
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Samina Renee Henry
25555 Fortuna Del Sur Dr
Moreno Valley, CA 92551**
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Samina Renee Henry
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of

a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/21/2023
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202318124
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:
**BABA'S BRICKS
1259 Amaryllis Way
Corona, CA 92882
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Nadim Sherman Ahmad Al-Bayati
1259 Amaryllis Way
Corona, CA 92882**
This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Nadim Sherman Ahmad Al-Bayati
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/18/2023
I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk,

public

notices

FILE NO. R-202317907
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

**DECLARATION OF EXPRESS TRUST
Est. October 1, 2020, 10:07AM**

Schedule B: Trustee Minutes 6-1796

Other Property Exchange – Non-Real Property Assets Literary Minutes of Meeting of INITIUM NOVUM (An Irrevocable Express Trust Organization)

**MISCELLANEOUS
AFFIDAVIT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT**

To The Governing Bodies of This Express Trust, ALL Corporation Soles but not limited to the State of California:

The Sole Trustee, called the meeting to order and affirmed that officially on December 09, 2023, the trustee received the Intangible Property, herein known as Affidavit of Fictitious Business Name Statement, to be held in trust, published in any local municipality newspaper filing, and but not limited to The County of LOS ANGELES Recorder Office.

Trustee approved the initial exchange of the specific property for one hundred (100) units of Beneficial Interest, known hereto as Trust Certificate Units (TCUs) to be held with this Indenture by the Trustees for the Beneficiaries also known as Members of INITIUM NOVUM EXPRESS TRUST d/b/a SENOR MANUEL, DUKE OF LOS ANGELES.

The TRUSTEE shall:

WE THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING DULY SWORN, DO HEREBY DECLARE UNDER OATH THAT THE NAMES OF ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE BUSINESS OR PROFESSION CARRIED ON UNDER THE NAMES OF THE INITIUM NOVUM EXPRESS TRUST ARE DOING BUSINESS AS THE FOLLOWING:

LIBERATED	WEALTH	TRUST
ENTERPRISE	d/b/a	MANUEL FELIPE BARRIGA
LIBERATED	WEALTH	TRUST
ENTERPRISE	d/b/a	MANUEL BARRIGA
LIBERATED	WEALTH	TRUST
ENTERPRISE	d/b/a	BARRIGA, MANUEL
LIBERATED	WEALTH	TRUST
ENTERPRISE	d/b/a	LASTING LEGACY ENTERPRISES

AT: 6083 NORTH FIGARDEN DRIVE, STE 611, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93722
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**SHINE A NAIL BOUTIQUE
12930 Day St, Ste 105
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
NTTL, LLC
12930 Day St, Ste 105
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
CA**

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A

registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)

s. Tiffany Tran, Manager

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/12/2023

I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of

section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317686
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**KORI KRYOTHERAPY
39400 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd, Ste 117
Murrieta, CA 92563
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
KORI LLC
39400 Murrieta Hot Springs Rd, Ste 117
Murrieta, CA 92563
CA**

This business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 08/01/2016
I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)

s. Patrice James, President

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/14/2023

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires

40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317782
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

**STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME**

**File No. R-202007656
SHINE A NAIL BOUTIQUE
12930 Day St, 105
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

**Tiffany – Tran
23402 Hemlock Ave #105
Moreno Valley, CA 92557**

**Nguyen Dac Phuoc Tran
23402 Hemlock Ave #105
Moreno Valley, CA 92557**

This business is conducted by: Married Couple
The fictitious business name(s) referred to above was filed in Riverside County on 07/22/2020

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor is punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000).)
s. Tiffany Tran
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on 12/12/2023
Peter Aldana, County, Clerk
FILE NO R-202007656
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**IT'S JUST SOUND
30919 Calle Pina Colada
Temecula, CA 92591
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
It's Just Sound, Inc.
30919 Calle Pina Colada
Temecula, CA 92591
CA**

This business is conducted by: Corporation
Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/15/2021

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)

s. Karie Reuther, Vice President

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/20/2023

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement

generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202318087
p. 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24, 1/18/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**VITAL RESPONSE AND SAFETY
1401 21 St Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
SACRAMENTO COUNTY
Aisham A. Ballard
1742 Arcus Ct
Beaumont, CA 92223**

This business is conducted by: Individual
Registrant has not yet begun transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Aisham A. Ballard
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County

of Riverside on 12/14/2023 I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business

name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317777
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**REYNA'S SUPER CLEAN & CARE
52999 Astrid Way
Lake Elsinore, CA 92532**

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

**Reyna – Arroyo
52999 Astrid Way
Lake Elsinore, CA 92532**

This business is conducted by: Individual

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Reyna Arroyo

The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/05/2023

I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317364
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

The following persons) is (are) doing business as:

**YUKAI
1201 W Blaine St, Apt 26
Riverside, CA 92507
RIVERSIDE COUNTY
Freddy Zhou
1201 W Blaine St, Apt 26
Riverside, CA 92507
Jaden Thai
1201 W Blaine St, Apt 26
Riverside, CA 92507
Andy Tran
9450 Gilman Dr Mailbox 55225
La Jolla, CA 92092**

This business is conducted by: General Partnership
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000)
s. Freddy Zhou
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal,

state, or common law (sec. 1440 et. seq. b &p code) Statement was filed with the County of Riverside on 12/11/2023

I certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

NOTICE- In accordance with subdivision (a) of section 17920, a fictitious business name statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the county clerk, except, as provided in subdivision (b) of section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., business and professions code). I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.
Peter Aldana, Riverside County Clerk, FILE NO. R-202317579
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVMV 2306873**

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: OTIS GENUS BENN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: OTIS GENES BENN to. OTIS AHUMM BENNZ. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court 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 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 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: 2/14/24 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2 . The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST, STE D201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507
Date: 12/26/23
David E. Gregory, Commissioner of the Court
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER CVMV2400005**

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: NEAL WAKELY GONET filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: NEAL WAKELY GONET to. JOHN RICHARD HAMILTON, II . The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person

publicnotices

objecting to the name changes 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 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: 2/21/24 Time: 8:00AM Dept: MV2 . The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 13800 HEACOCK ST, STE D201, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553. CIVIL

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507 Date: 01/02/2024 SAMRA FURBUSH, Judge of the Superior Court
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24, 2/01/24

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER CVCO2305703

To All Interested Persons: Petitioner: JULIA PANHAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: JULIA PANHAN to. JULIA PANHAN DAVID. The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court 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 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 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: 1/31/24 Time: 8:00AM Dept: C2 . The address of the court is RIVERSIDE SUPERIOR COURT, CORONA BRANCH, 505 S. BUENA VISTA AVENUE, RM 201, CORONA, CA 92582 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: BLACK VOICE NEWS 1201 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SUITE 210, RIVERSIDE, CA. 92507 Date: 12/13/23 TAMARA L. WAGNER, Judge of the Superior Court
p. 12/21/23, 12/28/23, 1/04/24, 1/11/24

T.S. No.: 2023-01409-CA A.P.N.: 541043012
Property Address: 857 EAST GEORGE STREET, BANNING, CA 92220

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.

NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE

INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/26/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.

Trustor: KHAMPHUEY PHONMAVANH, a Single Woman
Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC
Deed of Trust Recorded 11/09/2006 as Instrument No. 2006-0832163 in book ---, page --- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Riverside County, California,
Date of Sale: 03/07/2024 at 09:30 AM
Place of Sale:

THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRWAY TO THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 849 W. SIXTH STREET, CORONA, CA 92882

Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$101,429.48

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE:

All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as:

More fully described in said Deed of Trust.

Street Address or other common designation of real property: 857 EAST GEORGE STREET, BANNING, CA 92220

A.P.N.: 541043012

The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above.

The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$101,429.48 .

Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the

total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt.

If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.

The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property.

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx> using the file number assigned to this case 2023-01409-CA . Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction, if conducted after January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee

auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (877)-518-5700 , or visit this internet website <https://www.reealtybid.com/> , using the file number assigned to this case 2023-01409-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.

Date: December 31, 2023

Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary
C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 238
Ventura, CA 93003
Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 <https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx>

Trustee Sale Assistant

WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
p. 1/11/24, 1/18/24, 1/25/24

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
NOTICE FOR "Request for Proposal"
RFP PC1355 Landscape Services
HACSB CONTACT PERSON: Brittany Cook, Procurement
Housing Authority of San Bernardino
715 E. Brier Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408
procurement@hacsb.com
HOW TO OBTAIN BID DOCS: 1. Access www.hacsb.com
2. Click onto the "Do Business With Us" tab
3. Click on the "Planet Bids" link to download and submit a Proposal with instructions
PROPOSAL SUBMITALL RETURN: Bids submitted through Planet Bids website.
PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: January 31, 2024 @ 2PM.
1/4, 1/11/24
CNS-3768789#
p. 1/4, 1/11/2024

NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP-SSR24-37R STORM WATER COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

Omnitrans is accepting Proposals for: Storm Water Compliance Program Proposals are due prior to 11:00 a.m., January 26, 2024. Proposals must be submitted electronically using Omnitrans' Procurement online bidding system at www.omnitrans.org. The RFP documents can be obtained via download at Omnitrans' Procurement online bidding system at www.omnitrans.org or <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/18046/portal-home> Omnitrans

affirmatively ensures that Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin. Omnitrans 1700 West Fifth Street San Bernardino, CA 92411 Contract Administrator: Denise Fleming Phone: (909) 379-7122 Email: denise.fleming@omnitrans.org
1/11/24
CNS-3770876#
p. 1/11/2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote -Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-439-5645

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Over \$10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274.

Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-844-244-5441 (24/7)

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-877-529-0495.

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 1-855-667-0380

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/ year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central)

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1998 Only. Any condition. Top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994. Email: Porscherestoration@yahoo.com

Donating your vehicle? Get more!

Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Plus a \$200 restaurant voucher and a 2-night/3-day hotel stay at one of 50 locations. Call Heritage for the Blind to donate your vehicle today. CALL 1-844-491-2884

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23 Call 1-833-985-4766

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-888-892-5598

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HEALTH

New Doula Benefit, continued from page 12

Bloomer in Victorville, on the edge of the Mojave Desert, far from friends and family.

In Smith's absence, Bloomer was grateful for Kalyan-Masih's companionship and reminders to take care of herself, she said.

But what meant the most was Kalyan-Masih's willingness to weave Smith into the birth without judgment, she said. Kalyan-Masih acted as his eyes and ears at the hospital in June, running around with Bloomer's phone so Smith could meet his newborn daughter, Tiara, via FaceTime.

"It meant everything. I mean, I'm locked up and I saw the baby before Mia did," Smith recalled, laughing. "Priya made everything possible. She held the phone. She was running around when the baby came out. She made it feel like I was there."

Smith met Tiara in person when he was released a month later.

Kalyan-Masih's presence also led to a noticeable difference in how medical staff treated her, Bloomer said.

During her previous deliveries, she felt the medical professionals had been pushy and dismissive. For example, when her son Thaddeus was born last year, she said, doctors pressured her to get an epidural against her wishes after Smith left the room to grab her lunch.

"When I had Priya in the room, they were more attentive to my needs and didn't treat me like my opinion didn't matter," Bloomer said. "It wasn't an argument or debate. It was just like, 'OK, that's what we're doing.'"

Medi-Cal covers up to 11 doula visits before and after pregnancy, and support during labor and delivery — and patients can petition for extra postpartum visits. Doulas can also be paid by Medi-Cal for providing support during and after miscarriages or abortions.

"I always explain it as obstetricians and midwives are the ones catching babies, and doulas catch Mom," said Kalyan-Masih, who is a medical doctor by training and a doula since January.

Kalyan-Masih is pleased with California's investment in doula services but said it has been a challenge to maneuver Medi-Cal's



Mia Bloomer holds her youngest child, Tiara. Bloomer, who used a doula for Tiara's birth, says doctors were much more attentive to her needs compared with her prior births. (Molly Castle Work/KFF Health News)

administrative requirements, like acquiring business licenses.

Samsarah Morgan, a doula and founder of the Oakland Better Birth Foundation, said the business license fees, in addition to Medi-Cal's reimbursement rates, prevent some doulas from participating in the program.

The state pays doulas fixed rates per visit, adding up to \$1,154 if patients schedule the standard number of nine visits before and after birth, in addition to labor and delivery. Doulas can make up to \$2,078 through Medi-Cal if patients schedule additional postpartum visits. The \$1,154 rate is more than twice what the state initially proposed in 2022, and Morgan said that she's grateful for the increase — but that it's still not enough.

In her own practice, most clients pay \$2,500 to \$3,500, typically out-of-pocket since, in her experience, many private insurance plans don't cover doula services, she said.

"I want to work with clients who are on Medi-Cal, but I also need to pay my bills," Morgan said.

Griselda Melgoza, a spokesperson for the Department of Health Care Services, which administers Medi-Cal, said the department pays doulas the same as other providers — including doctors, nurses, and physician assistants — for the same services. The department has proposed rate increases for doula services next year, which would vary by type of delivery. A doula who provides the standard nine visits and attends a vaginal delivery, for example, would be paid \$2,180, 89% more than the current rate. Preliminary data shows that 50 doula claims were processed statewide as of July 31 and that claims from that time frame are still coming in, Melgoza said. She added that the department is working to make the benefit more accessible. In November, for instance, it eliminated most referral requirements, removing a hurdle for patients.

Bloomer said she wishes she had been able to work with a doula during previous pregnancies, especially when she was carrying Lucas, her first child, at age 19.

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