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## SBCUSD Board of Education Presents February Outstanding Awards

*The Outstanding Achievement Awards Recognize District Students, Parents and Staff*



SBCUSD Superintendent Mauricio Arellano and the Board of Education honored Paakuma' K-8 School first-grader Kennedy Williams as an Outstanding Student for February 2025.  
(Photo by Corina Borsuk and provided courtesy of SBCUSD)

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – On Tuesday, Feb. 18, the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD) Board of Education presented the Outstanding Achievement Awards to students, parents and staff of Salinas Elementary School, Thompson Elementary School, Paakuma' K-8 School and San Bernardino High School (SBHS).

The Board recognizes Outstanding Student Award winners to honor excellence in academics, athletics, fine arts, citizenship and most improvement. The Board also presents the Outstanding Parent/Grandparent/Volunteer Award and Outstanding Employee Award

See "SBCUSD Boa..." page 7

## Crafton Hills College Girls Empowerment Camp Inspires Future Firefighters

YUCAIPA, CA--- 22 young women participated in a Girls Empowerment Camp led by Crafton Hills College (CHC) Fire Academy Cadre Captain Theresa Rivera in partnership with local community organizations. The event, held with the support of multiple fire agencies and community partners, provided attendees with hands-on experience using tools and skills associated with the fire service.

Participating departments and agencies included Calimesa



See "Crafton Hi..." page 7

# Time for Change Foundation Honors Charisse Bremond Weaver & George Weaver with the 2025 Dynamic Duo Award



Charisse and George Weaver

SAN BERNARDINO, CA--- Time for Change Foundation proudly announces Charisse Bremond Weaver and George Weaver as the esteemed recipients of the 2025 Dynamic Duo Award at the 23rd Annual Awards Gala. This year's theme, "Unwavering: Igniting Change, Inspiring Hope," celebrates visionary leaders who have dedicated their lives to creating lasting change—and Charisse and George exemplify this mission through their extraordinary leadership at Brotherhood Crusade.

For nearly two decades, Charisse Bremond Weaver, President & CEO, and George Weaver have expanded Brotherhood Crusade's reach, championing equity and social justice while uplifting thousands of underserved youth and families. Under their leadership, the organization has raised over \$75 million, growing its annual operating budget from \$1 million to \$15 million. With a dedicated team, they serve 3,000 youth daily and impact over 20,000 lives annually through trans-

formative programs that empower the next generation.

Beyond their impact in Los Angeles, Charisse and George's influence has been recognized nationally, with accolades such as the NFL & Los Angeles Chargers Inspire Change Award, KTLA's Black Visionary Award, and the James Irvine Leadership Award, often regarded as the Nobel Prize of the nonprofit sector. Their ability to cultivate powerful partnerships across government, corporate, and community sectors has solidified Brotherhood Crusade as a force for economic empowerment and youth development.

"Charisse and George embody what it means to be unwavering in their commitment to justice, equity, and opportunity," said Vanessa Perez, Executive Director of Time for Change Foundation. "Their leadership continues to ignite hope and transform communities, making them the perfect recipients of this year's Dynamic Duo Award."

# Sierra High School Holds Ribbon Cutting for New Student Wellness Center

*SBCUSD Campus Also Celebrates Grant to Launch Pilot Youth Mental Health Program*



Sierra Principal Hector Murrieta and SBCUSD Board member Abigail Rosales-Medina (center) prepare to cut the ribbon on the continuation high school's brand-new Wellness Center. They are joined by Board member Michael Santos, SBCUSD Superintendent Mauricio Arellano, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Dr. Sandra Rodriguez, Associate Superintendent of Business, Facilities and Operations Terry Connick, Director of Communications/Community Relations MaryRone Goodwin, Sierra Vice Principal Candice Adamson, officials from the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, other Sierra staff and Sunshine Crew students. (Photo by Corina Borsuk and provided courtesy of SBCUSD)

SAN BERNARDINO, CA—San Bernardino City Unified School District's (SBCUSD) Sierra High School held the ribbon cutting ceremony for its new student Wellness Center February 21.

"This new center represents a promise to our students that their well-being matters just as much as their academic success," said Superintendent Mauricio Arella-

no, during the ceremony. "We know that when students are healthy, when they feel supported and cared for, they're better able to focus, learn and thrive. And that's exactly what we want for each of our more than 45,000 students."

The building serves as a school-based health center providing a full range of services that will allow for both individual

and small group therapy sessions. There are calming spaces and tools for students to use and self-regulate. A larger wellness classroom is available as a meeting space for peer-to-peer counseling, academic counseling and health and wellness workshops.

"In an era where the pressures of daily life can feel overwhelming, this center will provide

a safe space for rejuvenation, support, and growth," said Sierra High School Principal Hector Murrieta. "It embodies our vision of nurturing a healthy, balanced student and community where every individual has the resources to shine."



# From Wrongful Incarceration to Advocacy: Final Member of Marquette Park 4 Set Free, Ready to Share His Story



CHICAGO, CA--- When he was 17 years old, Troshawn McCoy was arrested, convicted and sentenced to 55 years in prison for a crime he did not commit. In 2017, after being incarcerated for more than 20 years, McCoy's conviction (along with those of three other men) was overturned, leading to a lawsuit in which the City of Chicago settled with the four men for a combined \$50 million.

McCoy was the first of four teenagers arrested in Chicago in 1995 for a double murder and robbery. Despite the lack of physical or forensic evidence linking the teens to

See "From Wro..." page 7

## Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium Names Chanceé Lundy as Executive Director



Chanceé Lundy

SELMA, AL — The Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium (Southern Black Girls) proudly announces the appointment of Chanceé Lundy as its new Executive Director. A distinguished environmental engineer, entrepreneur, and social justice advocate, Lundy brings decades of leadership experience to an organization dedicated to empowering Black girls and women across the South.

Founded in 2017, Southern Black Girls channels resources to underfunded Black women-led organizations that empower Black girls and women in 13 Southern states. The consortium has awarded over \$10.2 million to more than 220 Black girl and women-led organizations and empowered over 800 girls with microgrants totaling nearly \$500,000 since its inception. Lundy's appointment signals a bold step forward in expanding the organization's influence, sustainability, and commitment to investing in Black girls and women.

"Chanceé embodies everything our organization stands for – vision, resilience, and a deep commitment to uplifting Black girls and women," said LaTosha Brown, Visionary Founder. "When I first met Chanceé as a bright-eyed 14 year old, I glimpsed a spark that has

since blazed into a powerful force for change. As a founder of Southern Black Girls and Women's Consortium, I am profoundly confident she will elevate our vision to extraordinary heights. I'm blessed to call her my mentee, and now, with immense pride, my leader." Lundy's relationship with Brown began in 1995 when Brown was working with a youth activism and social justice organization in Selma, Alabama.

For Lundy, leading Southern Black Girls represents a full-circle moment in her journey. Growing up in Selma, Alabama, she directly benefited from the type of community organizations that Southern Black Girls now fund. "I am honored to lead an organization that is transforming the landscape for Black girls and women across the South," said Lundy. "My own life trajectory was forever changed by community organizations that invested in me as a young Black girl in Selma. These programs gave me access to opportunities, mentorship, the confidence to pursue a career in engineering, and the social consciousness to understand systemic injustices and fight against systems of oppression."

To continue, visit [www.wssnews.com](http://www.wssnews.com).

## Senator Reyes Urges Mental Health Awareness and Support of SB 800 *New Safety Measure Introduced in Response to recent Student Suicides.*



Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton)

SACRAMENTO, CA -- Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes (D-Colton) in partnership with the City of Rancho Cucamonga has introduced legislation to ensure community safety on freeway overpasses in San Bernardino County.

Last year, the Rancho Cucamonga community was shaken by two subsequent suicides that occurred on the Haven Avenue overpass onto the 210 Freeway. Along with urging mental health awareness and prioritizing suicide prevention resources, the city has also been seeking opportunities to work with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to install infrastructure that will ensure similar situations do not occur in the future. SB 800, also known as Highway Emergency Life Protection (H.E.L.P.) The program requires Caltrans to establish a program to install suicide deterrents on 10 freeway overpasses in the County of San Bernardino. These deterrents would include signage, and a physical barrier designed to prevent a person from falling or jumping off the overpass. The program would prioritize deterrents for overpasses with the highest rates of documented suicides.

"Mental health awareness amongst our youth is of incredible importance, and it is just as critical that we have appropriate infrastructure that protects our residents", said Senator Reyes. "SB 800 creates a program that will bring resources to San Bernardino County for this purpose for areas such as the Haven Avenue overpass. This combined with securing mental health resources will better support our community and its youth."

"Ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of our community—especially our most vulnerable residents – remains a top priority for the City of Rancho Cucamonga. We are grateful for Senator Reyes' leadership in advancing SB 800 and for her commitment to addressing this critical issue," said Rancho Cucamonga Mayor L. Dennis Michael. "We look forward to collaborating with the state to implement meaningful solutions that will protect lives and strengthen mental health resources for our region."

SB 800 was introduced earlier this year and will be heard by the Senate Transportation Committee.

## “When God Repeats Himself Over and Over I Tell You, We Better Listen!”

By Lou K. Coleman | WSS News Contributor



Lou K Coleman

Because the repetition of "listen" and "hear" underscores the urgency and necessity of heeding divine guidance. Give ear and hear My voice, listen and hear My words you deaf; and look, you blind, that you may see. Heed, instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. If you do your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying; This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. – [Isaiah 28:23; Isaiah 30:21; Isaiah 42:18; Proverbs 8:33]. For when the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come [John 16:13]. So, watch out! Don't let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Keep alert at all times. And pray that you might be strong enough to escape these coming horrors and stand before the Son of Man." [Luke 21:34-36].

For the water is boiling, and the pot is about to explode. You have got to choose and choose NOW! It is the last hour! Receive the saving grace of God. Waiting any longer is like playing with fire while soaked in gasoline because you never know when your time in this world is up. The

day is near; It will be a day of clouds, a time of doom for the nations. [Ezekiel 30:3]. No more procrastination, you have got to choose and choose NOW! For the trumpets are sounding; the mountain is engulfed and smoking; the earth is quaking; thunders are clapping; lightning is flashing; people are trembling [Exodus 19:19–20].

O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord! [Jeremiah 22:29]. Listen to God's warnings and instructions [Isaiah 28:23].

Why do you play so loose with your life? Not this physical life but the one coming after – the eternal life. Consider today with some urgency your eternal life. Choose Christ NOW, for NOW is the acceptable time, NOW is the day of salvation [2 Corinthians 6:2].

Understand the value of time. The brevity and uncertainty of life: [James 4:14]. The importance of making the most of every opportunity: [Ephesians 5:16]. The consequences of wasted time and missed opportunities: [Proverbs 10:5]. The danger of procrastination: [Proverbs 27:1]. The eternal implications of temporal decisions: [2 Corinthians 4:18].

Turn to God before it's too late [Hebrews 9:27] because God is about to turn up the heat. He has sent an eagle to fly above the earth and send out one last warning before a period of unexampled warfare, distress and suffering come upon this troubled world. Give your life to Christ NOW before the Rapture to avoid the horrible tribulation period, which includes the Antichrist, Armageddon, and the Final Judgment. For the tribulation period will be the most horrible, horrible time for those who are not saved.

See "When Go..." page 8

# Violence, Theatre, and the Luigi Effect

By Ty Jones



Ty Jones

Many people take the stand that violence should never be used to combat violence, believing it only breeds more violence, and as some believe, corrupts the moral center of a liberation movement. However, history has endlessly chronicled that the ruling class only wakes up to how they exploit the working class when the threat of violence is on the table. Those who find this idea abhorrent, feel free to sit this one out. For those still with me, as the young folks say—L.F.G!

action to the death of the UnitedHealth CEO Brian Thompson was not joy but the release of years of rage at the policies and ruthless exploitation embedded in our for-profit healthcare system. And rather than just debating whether Luigi Mangione was right or wrong, part of the equation should be: Is his choice the only way?

This is where theatre comes in.

Specifically, I'm speaking to those in the "working class" realm of theatre—those without

See "Violence..." page 8

# Report Offers Policies, Ideas to Improve the Workplace Experiences of Black Women in California

By McKenzie Jackson | California Black Media



Backed by data, a report released last month details the numerous hurdles Black women in the Golden State must overcome to effectively contribute and succeed in the workplace.

The "Invisible Labor, Visible Struggles: The Intersection of Race, Gender, and Workplace Equity for Black Women in California" report by the California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute (CBWCEI), unveiled the

findings of a December 2024 survey of 452 employed Black women across the Golden State. Three-fifths of the participants said they experienced racism or discrimination last year and 57% of the unfair treatment was related to incidents at work.

CBWCEI President and CEO Kellie Todd Griffin said Black women have been the backbone of communities, industries, and movements but are still overlooked, under-

paid, and undervalued at work.

"The data is clear," she explained. "Systemic racism and sexism are not just historical injustices. They are active forces shaping the workplace experiences of Black women today. This report is a call to action. It demands intentional policies, corporate accountability, and systemic changes."

The 16-page study, conducted by the public opinion research and

strategic consulting firm EVITARUS, showcases the lived workplace experiences of Black women, many who say they are stuck in the crosshairs of discrimination based on gender and race which hinders their work opportunities, advancements, and aspirations, according to the report's authors, Todd Griffin and CBWCEI researcher Dr. Sharon Uche.



# Advocates, Attorneys Arm Immigrants with Education to Fight ICE Raids

By Manny Otiko | California Black Media

A number of California groups, officials and individuals are taking proactive steps to educate immigrants subject to deportation about their legal rights as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids escalate.

One of them is Assemblymember Mia Bonta (D-Oakland), who represents a district encompassing Oakland, Alameda and Emeryville. "Communities in Assembly District 18 and the entire nation are confronting direct attacks on our fundamental rights as citizens,"

said Bonta in a press release. "ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) raids and presence in our neighborhoods are threatening our safety in the workplace, schools, and places of worship, breaking apart families and disrupting commerce -- all while costly federal delays threaten funding for schools, healthcare, and countless other aspects of our lives."

Bonta listed several immigrant rights resources in her newsletter. • Know your rights: How to Communicate with ICE Agents. This is a series of videos explaining

what to do if ICE officers show up at your door.

• A listing of state, national, and local resources in different languages such as Spanish and Haitian Creole.

• California Rapid Response Networks. This features a listing of hotline numbers that help immigrants.

• A link to the California Department of Justice's website featuring resources and information for immigrants.



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## Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas Honors California Women in Construction with State Proclamation, Policy Ideas

By Antonio Ray Harvey | California Black Media

## The Fight for Abortion Care is a Fight for Equality

By Sylvia Ghazarian



To honor Women in Construction Week, Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D-Los Angeles), a member of the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC), introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 30 in the State Legislature on March 6. This resolution pays tribute to women and highlights their contributions to the building industry.

The measure designates March 2, 2025, to March 8, 2025, as Women in Construction Week in

California. It passed 34-0 on the Senate floor.

"Women play an important role in building our communities, yet they remain vastly underrepresented in the construction industry," Smallwood-Cuevas stated. "This resolution not only recognizes their incredible contributions but also the need to break barriers -- like gender discrimination that continues to block women from pursuing construction careers."

Authored by Assemblymember Liz Ortega (D-San Leandro), another bill, Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 28, also recognized women in the construction industry.

The resolution advanced out of the Assembly Committee on Rules with a 10-0 vote.

The weeklong event coincides with the National Association of Women In Construction (NAWIC) celebration that started in 1998 and has grown

and expanded every year since.

NAWIC began in 1953 by a group of women to help create a support network for other women in the industry. Women In Construction Week (WIC) raises awareness about the role women play in the male-dominated profession.



## Revoking Lawful Status for Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelans in the United States is a Cruel Misstep

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Church World Service today expressed its alarm over the Trump administration's decision to categorically revoke the humanitarian parole status that granted over 530,000 Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan ("CHNV") nationals living in the United States protection from deportation and work authorization. The blanket revocations, which are set to go into effect on April 24, will place hundreds of thousands of people at risk of deportation to unsafe conditions, endanger and separate

vulnerable families, and create chaos and uncertainty for communities. Today's decision will also revoke work authorization for these groups, undermining their ability to be full participants in their communities, support local businesses and the economy, and provide for their families.

"Many Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans joined our communities after fleeing brutal repression and violence imposed by gangs or authoritarian governments. . ." said Danilo Zak, Director of Policy at Church World Service.

"People impacted by today's decision came here through a lawfully established program to seek protection through a legal pathway. They have helped local economies grow, they have paid taxes, they have embraced the spirit of their communities. This is nothing more than a betrayal of those who believed in the promise of America, and it undermines the future of all of us."

Under today's decision, on April 24 CHNV parolees will receive notices to appear in court and will lose their work authorization, unless they have

applied for or received another immigration status, such as asylum, lawful permanent residence, or TPS.

Church World Service continues to call on the White House and Congress to reject policies that will separate families, deport those contributing to our communities, and instead return to the spirit of welcome—a proven national security bulwark—that has long-defined the United States.

For more information or to speak with Zak, contact [media@cwsglobal.org](mailto:media@cwsglobal.org).

Every March, we celebrate Women's History Month—a time to honor the trailblazers who fought for our rights and recognize how far we have come. But it is also a time to take stock of the battles we're still fighting, and one of the most urgent is the fight for abortion care.

Abortion access isn't just about healthcare; it's about power, equality, and dignity. It's about recognizing that pregnant people—should have the same autonomy, agency, and opportunities as anyone else. Yet, time and time again, legislation is used as a weapon to strip us of our rights, rendering us invisible in the eyes of those who hold power.

When abortion rights are restricted, the effects ripple far beyond the individual. The economic consequences are devastating. Studies have shown that being denied an abortion drastically increases the likelihood of a person living in poverty. The landmark Turnaway Study found that people who were unable to access an abortion were four times more likely to experience financial insecurity, struggle with housing instability, and be trapped in cycles of domestic violence.

This is not just a coincidence—it's by design. Anti-abortion legislation is not about "life"; it's

about control. It's about keeping people, especially women and those who can become pregnant, economically vulnerable and dependent. It's about ensuring that the structures of power remain unchallenged, forcing people to carry pregnancies they cannot afford while denying them the resources to escape poverty.

The hypocrisy is staggering. Many of the same politicians who push for abortion bans are the ones gutting social safety nets—cutting funding for childcare, slashing paid family leave, refusing to raise the minimum wage, and the list goes on. They claim to care about "life" while making it impossible for parents to provide for their children. This is not pro-life; it is anti-equality.

The United States already has the highest maternal mortality rate among developed nations, and the numbers are even more alarming for Black and Indigenous people, who die at three to four times the rate of their white counterparts during childbirth. When states restrict abortion access, they force more people into dangerous pregnancies, increasing these mortality rates even further.



CLASSIFIED / LEGAL SECTION

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: FBN20250001873. The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: 28 STRONG CONSULTING, 8692 9TH STREET UNIT 8., RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730. Business Mailing Address: 10950 ARROW RTE #2214, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91729. County of Principal Place of Business: SAN BERNARDINO. Number of Employees (Optional): This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Name of Individual: MICHAEL W. LACY JR. Registrant commenced to transact business: NOT APPLICABLE. By signing, I declares all information in this statement is true and correct. Signature: /s/ MICHAEL W. LACY JR. Printed Title of Person Signing: OWNER. Date: 02/25/2025. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on 02/25/2025. I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/J7527

copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/K4866 NOTICE - IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. THIS FICTITIOUS 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 ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE, OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411, ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). Original Run Dates: 03/06/-03/13/-03/20/-03/27/2025. WSS# 25-026

ESTATE OF: KATHI ANN KELLEY PETITION FOR LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES ACT CASE#: PROVA2500196 ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY: CURTIS R AIJALA, ESQ., LAW OFFICES OF CURTIS R. AIJALA, 121 WEST B STREET, SUITE C., ONTARIO, CA 91762. TELEPHONE #: (909) 983-0877 FAX#: EMAIL: ATTORNEY FOR: KYLE BOWMAN, PETITIONER SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 17780 ARROW BOULEVARD, FONTANA, CA 92335 BRANCH: FONTANA DISTRICT - PROBATE HEARING DATE AND TIME: Date: 04/16/2025 Time: 9:00 A.M Dept: F3 Publication will be in: WESTSIDE STORY NEWSPAPER - 577 N. D STREET, 112H, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401 TEL. NO: (909) 384-8131 PETITIONER: KYLE BOWMAN requests that: KYLE BOWMAN be appointed administrator. FULL authority be granted to administer under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. Bond not be required for the reasons stated in item 3d: (3a): Decedent died on 09/16/2024 at (place): ONTARIO, CA, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY a resident of the county named above. Street address, city, and county of decedent's residence at time of death (specify): 1949 E. OLIVE STREET, ONTARIO, CA 91764. SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY. Character and estimated value of the property of the estate: (1) Personal property: \$0 (2) Annual gross income from (a) real property: \$0 (b) personal property: \$0 (3) Subtotal (add (1) and

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: FBN20250001736. The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: 1 OF BERT'S GALS AUTO SALES, 2130 N ARROWHEAD AVE, SUITE 207B., SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. Business Mailing Address: 2130 N ARROWHEAD AVE., SUITE 207B., SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. County of Principal Place of Business: SAN BERNARDINO. Number of Employees (Optional): 0. This business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name of corporation or limited liability company as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: 1 OF BERT'S GALS AUTO SALES LLC., 2130 N ARROWHEAD AVE, SUITE 207 B., SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. Inc./Org./Reg.No. (Optional): Registrant commenced to transact business: NOV 01, 2024. By signing, I declares all information in this statement is true and correct. Signature: /s/ RHONDA ARTERBERRY. Printed Title of Person Signing: MANAGING MEMBER. Date: 02/20/2025. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on 02/20/2025. I hereby certify that this

copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/K1583 NOTICE - IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. THIS FICTITIOUS 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

(2)): \$0 (4) Gross fair market value of real property: \$227,950.00 (5) (Less) Encumbrances: \$ 51,742.00 (6) Net value of real property: \$176,208.00 (7) Total (add (3) and (6)): \$176,208.00 E. (3) All heirs at law are adults and have waived bond. (Affix waiver as Attachment 3e(3) F. (1) Decedent died intestate. Appointment of administrator: (2a). Petitioner is a person entitled to Letters. (If necessary, explain priority in Attachment 3g(2)(a). 3g(2c). Petitioner is related to the decedent as (specify) SON. 3g(1h). Proposed personal representative is a resident of California. Resident of the United States. 5a(2a). The decedent was survived by no spouse as follows: divorced or never married., no registered domestic partner. Child as follows: natural or adopted. No issue of a predeceased child. Decedent was not survived by a stepchild or foster child or children who would have been adopted by decedent but for a legal barrier. (See Prob. Code, §6454). (8) Names and relationships to decedent, ages, and addresses so far as known to or reasonably ascertainably by petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN, SON, AGE: 30. Address: 1949 E. OLIVE ST., ONTARIO, CA 91764. KRISTINE DAY, DAUGHTER AGE: 54. Address: 8389 BAKER AVENUE, SPACE 54, RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730. (9) Number of pages attached: 0. DATE: 03-04-2025. Name of Attorney: CURTIS R. AIJALA. Signature of Attorney/Petitioner: CURTIS R. AIJALA I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Date: Name of Petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN. Signature of Petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN DATE: 03/04/2025 RUN DATES: 03/13 - 03/20 - 03/27/2025 WSS#: 25-030

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: FBN20250002395. The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: AUTOMOTRIZ CEDILLO, 15443 VIA CARTAGENA ST., HESPERIA, CA 92345. Business Mailing Address: 15443 VIA CARTAGENA ST., HESPERIA, CA 92345. County of Principal Place of Business: SAN BERNARDINO. Number of Employees (Optional): 2. This business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Name of Individual: ANTONIO A. CEDILLO BENITEZ. Registrant commenced to transact business: MAR 07, 2025. By signing, I declares all information in this statement is true and correct. Signature: /s/ ANTONIO A. CEDILLO BENITEZ. Printed Title of Person Signing: OWNER. Date: 03/07/2025. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on 03/07/2025. I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/K1583 NOTICE - IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. THIS FICTITIOUS 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 ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE, OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411, ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). Original Run Dates: 03/13/-03/20 -03/27 -04/03/2025. WSS# 25-028

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: FBN20250002419. The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: UNITY THRIFT STORE, 3310 N G STREET, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. Business Mailing Address: 3310 N G STREET, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. County of Principal Place of Business: SAN BERNARDINO. Number of Employees (Optional): 0. This business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. Name of corporation or limited liability company as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: CRAFTING HOPE INTERNATIONAL, 1907 VISTA DEL ORO, FULLERTON, CA 92831. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. Inc./Org./Reg.No. (Optional): 4202194. Registrant commenced to transact business: FEB 13, 2025. By signing, I declares all information in this statement is true and correct. Signature: /s/ TINA SOEDJAK. Printed Title of Person Signing: CFO. Date: 03/10/2025. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on 03/10/2025. I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/J9676

NOTICE - IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. THIS FICTITIOUS 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 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 ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE, OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411, ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). Original Run Dates: 03/20 -03/27 -04/03 -04/10/2025. WSS# 25-033

CASE NUMBER: PROVA2500179 ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY: MARK W. REGUS II 279653, LAW OFFICES OF MARK W. REGUS II, 453 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, UPLAND, CA 91786. TELEPHONE: (909) 500-1161 FAX NO (Optional): EMAIL: mark@reguslaw.com ATTORNEY FOR: PETITIONER, MICHELLE TUCKER/MELISS BROKAW SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO STREET ADDRESS: 17780 ARROW BLVD., MAILING ADDRESS: 17780 ARROW BLVD., CITY AND ZIP CODE: FONTANA, CA 92335. BRANCH NAME: FONTANA - PROBATE To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of (specify all names by which the decedent was known): JOSEPHINE ANNE MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE A. MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE MORAMARCO A Petition for Probate has been filed by MICHELLE TUCKER & MELISSA BROKAW in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. The Petition for Probate requests that MICHELLE TUCKER & MELISSA BROKAW be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING ON THE PETITION WILL BE HELD IN THIS COURT AS FOLLOWS: Date: APRIL 10, 2025 Time: 9:00 A.M. Dept: F1 Room The address of the court is the same as noted above. 17780 ARROW BOULEVARD, FONTANA, CA 92335. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your 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: MARK W. REGUS II, LAW OFFICES OF MARK W. REGUS II, 453 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, UPLAND, CALIFORNIA 91786. Telephone: (909) 500-1161 Run Dates: 03/20 - 03/27 - 04/03- 04/10/2025 WSS#: 25-032-(A)

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION TO ADMINISTER UNDER THE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES ACT WITH LIMITED AUTHORITY CASE#: PROVA2400179 ESTATE OF: JOSEPHINE ANNE MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE A. MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE MORAMARCO, DECEDENT ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY: MARK W. REGUS II 279653, LAW OFFICE OF MARK W. REGUS II, 453 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, UPLAND, CA 91786 TELEPHONE #: (909) 500-1161 FAX #: N/A EMAIL: mark@reguslaw.com ATTORNEY FOR: PETITIONER, MICHELLE TUCKER/MELISS BROKAW SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO Street Address: 17780 ARROW BLVD., FONTANA, CA 92335 Mailing Address: 17780 ARROW BLVD., FONTANA, CA 92335 Branch Name: FONTANA HEARING DATE AND TIME: Date: 04/10/2025 Time: 9:00 A.M Dept: F1

Publication will be in: WESTSIDE STORY NEWSPAPER - 577 N. D STREET, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401 PETITIONER: JOSEPHINE ANNE MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE A. MORAMARCO aka JOSEPHINE MORAMARCO requests that decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. MICHELLE TUCKER and MELISSA BROKAW be appointed ADMINISTRATOR. LIMITED AUTHORITY be granted to administer under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. Bond not be required for the reasons stated in item 3e.

Decedent died on: 01/04/2025 at UPLAND, CA a resident of the county named above. 3(c) Street address, city, and county of decedent's residence at time of death: 9078 HEMLOCK AVENUE, CITY OF FONTANA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, 92335 Character and estimated value of the property of the estate:

- (1) Personal property: \$
  - (2) Annual gross income from (a) real property: \$ (b) personal property: \$
  - (3) Subtotal (add (1) and (2)): \$
  - (4) Gross fair market value of real property: \$
  - (5) (Less) Encumbrances: (\$)
  - (6) Net value of real property: \$
  - (7) Total (add (3) and (6)): \$
- Will wave bond Decedent died intestate.

The original of the will and/or codicils identified above has been lost. (Affix a copy of the lost will or codicil or a written statement of the testamentary words or their substance in Attachment 3f(3), and state reasons in that attachment why the presumption in Prob. Code, § 6124 does not apply.) Appointment of personal representative: (1) Appointment of executor or administrator with will annexed: (b) No executor is named in the will. (d) Other named executors will not act because of: other reasons: (2) Appointment of administrator: (c) Petitioner is related to the decedent as: Proposed personal representative is a (1) resident of California. (3) resident of the United States. Decedent was survived by (2) no spouse as follows: (a) divorced or never married. (b) spouse deceased. (4) no registered domestic partner. (See Fam. Code, § 297.5(c); Prob. Code, §§ 37(b), 6401(c), and 6402.) (5) child as follows: (a) natural or adopted. (8) no issue of a predeceased child. Decedent was not survived by a stepchild or foster child or children who would have been adopted by decedent but for a legal barrier. (See Prob. Code, § 6454.) 6. (Complete if decedent was survived by (1) a spouse or registered domestic partner but no issue (only a or b apply), or (2) no spouse, registered domestic partner, or issue. h. Decedent was survived by no known next of kin. 7. (Complete only if no spouse or issue survived decedent.) 3. neither (1) or (2) apply. 8. Listed on the next page are the names, relationships to decedent, ages, and addresses, so far as known to or reasonably ascertainable by petitioner, of (1) all persons mentioned in decedent's will or any codicil, whether living or deceased; (2) all persons named or checked in items 2, 5, 6, and 7; and (3) all beneficiaries of a trust named in decedent's will or any codicil in which the trustee and personal representative are the same person. Name and relationship to decedent RUN DATES: 03/20 - 03/27 - 04/03 - 04/10/2025 WSS#: 25-032-(B)

ESTATE OF: ROBERT C. BOWMAN PETITION FOR LETTER OF ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES ACT CASE#: PROVA2500197 ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY: CURTIS R AIJALA, ESQ., LAW OFFICES OF CURTIS R. AIJALA, 121 WEST B STREET, SUITE C., ONTARIO, CA 91762. TELEPHONE #: (909) 983-0877 FAX#: EMAIL: ATTORNEY FOR: KYLE BOWMAN, PETITIONER SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO 17780 ARROW BOULEVARD, FONTANA, CA 92335 BRANCH: FONTANA DISTRICT - PROBATE HEARING DATE AND TIME: Date: 04/15/2025 Time: 9:00 A.M Dept: F1

Publication will be in: WESTSIDE STORY NEWSPAPER - 577 N. D STREET, 112H, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401 TEL. NO: (909) 384-8131 PETITIONER: KYLE BOWMAN requests that: KYLE BOWMAN be appointed administrator. FULL authority be granted to administer under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. Bond not be required for the reasons stated in item 3d: (3a): Decedent died on 06/10/2017 at (place): ONTARIO, CA, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY a resident of the county named above. Street address, city, and county of decedent's residence at time of death (specify): 1949 E. OLIVE STREET, ONTARIO, CA 91764. SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY. Character and estimated value of the property of the estate: (1) Personal property: \$0 (2) Annual gross income from (a) real property: \$0 (b) personal property: \$0 (3) Subtotal (add (1) and (2)): \$0 (4) Gross fair market value of real property: \$227,950.00 (5) (Less) Encumbrances: \$ 51,742.00 (6) Net value of real property: \$176,208.00 (7) Total (add (3) and (6)): \$176,208.00 E. (3) All heirs at law are adults and have waived bond. (Affix waiver as Attachment 3e(3) F. (1) Decedent died intestate. Appointment of administrator: (2a). Petitioner is a person entitled to Letters. (If necessary, explain priority in Attachment 3g(2)(a). 3g(2c). Petitioner is related to the decedent as (specify) SON. 3g(1h). Proposed personal representative is a resident of California. Resident of the United States. 5a(2a). The decedent was survived by no spouse as follows: divorced or never married., no registered domestic partner. Child as follows: natural or adopted. No issue of a predeceased child. Decedent was not survived by a stepchild or foster child or children who would have been adopted by decedent but for a legal barrier. (See Prob. Code, §6454). (8) Names and relationships to decedent, ages, and addresses so far as known to or reasonably ascertainably by petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN, SON, AGE: 30. Address: 1949 E. OLIVE ST., ONTARIO, CA 91764. (9) Number of pages attached: 0. DATE: 03-04-2025. Name of Attorney: CURTIS R. AIJALA. Signature of Attorney/Petitioner: CURTIS R. AIJALA I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Date: Name of Petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN. Signature of Petitioner: KYLE BOWMAN DATE: 03/04/2025 RUN DATES: 03/20 - 03/27 - 04/03/2025 WSS#: 25-031

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: FBN20250002698. The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: BLACK AND BROWN OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROFIT CENTER, 599 NORTH ARROWHEAD AVE., SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401. Business Mailing Address: PO BOX 1405, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92401. County of Principal Place of Business: SAN

Continued from the front page

# Crafton Hills College Girls Empowerment Camp Inspires Future Firefighters

Fire, Cal Fire/Yucaipa Fire, Redlands Fire, San Bernardino County Fire, AMR Redlands Division, Rialto Fire, Redline Rentals and members of the local EMS and fire cadre. Notably, female firefighters played a key role in mentoring and inspiring the students in the camp.

The camp aimed to inspire young women and instill a confident mindset. "There was this overwhelming sense of 'I really can do this' from the girls, which was exactly the mission of the day," said CHC Interim Associate Dean of Public Safety and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Program Director Amanda Ward. "That message was reinforced by the women currently working in the field who came out to show what's possible. The participating firefighters

truly excelled in demonstrating that spirit."

During the event, participants learned valuable skills used in the fire service, such as rappelling, operating chainsaws, using nail guns, and climbing aerial ladders and they practiced search-and-rescue techniques in smoke-filled conditions. The event created an atmosphere of encouragement and self-determination, reinforcing the belief that women can thrive in the fire service.

"The energy was so wonderful," continued Ward. "I could see a spark not only in the eyes of the attendees but also in the firefighters who came to support it. One firefighter shared how the energy and attitudes the girls came with were so impressive and how clear it was that they can be valued members of this

workforce."

As the event concluded, one participant shared a reflection on her experience. She wrote: "I started this out nervous and pretty scared, but once I realized my team was truly there to support me, as well as the other instructors/Firefighters, I felt a new confidence to push through my struggles and second thoughts and trust that with time, effort, and passion, I can achieve my goals in the fire industry. This camp changed my perspective so positively!"

Due to its overwhelming success, the Girls Empowerment Camp will become an annual event held during Women's History Month as part of CHC's outreach master plan.

Continued from the front page

# SBCUSD Board of Education

to individuals who embody the District's dedication to student achievement and well-being.

Salinas Elementary School, Principal Ramon Velasco:

Madyson Kamtan is a fifth grader and Outstanding Student. Kamtan is very dedicated and focused. This provides her a strong foundation for academic success and good citizenship. She is a

good role model for her peers.

Aeris Reyes is a third grader who was also recognized as an Outstanding Student. Reyes demonstrates responsibility and enthusiasm for her work. She is conscientious about including her peers whenever she can, which is one example of her good citizenship.

Outstanding Parent Award winner Jessica

Ruiz Montes is the mother of two Salinas students and is very involved in their educational life. She also supports every classroom and teacher at Salinas in any way she can. She volunteers to beautify and decorate the school and takes time to recognize educators and staff.

To continue, visit [www.wssnews.com](http://www.wssnews.com).

## CLASSIFIED / LEGAL SECTION

BERNARDINO. Number of Employees (Optional): 5. This business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. Name of corporation or limited liability company as shown in the Articles of Inc./Org./Reg.: TIME FOR CHANGE FOUNDATION, 2164 NORTH MOUNTAIN VIEW AVENUE, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92405. State of Inc./Org./Reg.: CA. Inc./Org./Reg. No. (Optional): 2526939. Registrant commenced to transact business: MAR 01, 2025. By signing, I declares all information in this statement is true and correct.

Signature: /s/ KIM CARTER. Printed Title of Person Signing: PRESIDENT. Date: 03/18/2025. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on 03/18/2025. I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office. COUNTY CLERK DEPUTY SAN/J9676 NOTICE - IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. THIS FICTITIOUS 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 ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE, OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411, ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). Original Run Dates: 03/27 - 04/03 - 04/10 - 04/17/2025. WSS# 25-034

Continued from page 2

# From Wrongful Incarceration to Advocacy

the crime, all were convicted and given lengthy prison sentences.

"My experience serves as a powerful reminder of the urgent need for systemic reform and the human capacity to overcome profound adversity," McCoy said.

Chicago's legacy of overturned convictions

and hundreds of millions of dollars in lawsuit settlements has led the Innocence Project to nickname Illinois the "wrongful conviction capital of the country." But no amount of money can compensate McCoy and other wrongfully imprisoned people for the years they've lost.

"While my settlement has provided financial stability, it underscores a poignant reality: material wealth cannot reclaim lost time," McCoy commented. "I cannot buy back the 22 years taken from me."



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Continued from page 4

# Violence, Theatre, and the Luigiac Effect

permanent spaces or endowments but with the ability to engage communities. Imagine if theatre could be a vehicle to challenge the exploitation of the American healthcare system without resorting to violence, yet still have an uncompromising impact on universal healthcare.

audience. Healthcare in the U.S. affects everyone, across class and political lines. Reach out to your communities—local Facebook groups, neighbors, civic organizations—and ask them to share their healthcare horror stories. Record them. Write them down. Meet with them in person.

find a venue to present them. If possible, have actors perform these stories. The people who share them will invite others, ensuring engagement is high. Start small, but be consistent—weekly if possible. Capture videos and photos to spread awareness.

How? Young theater-makers, you need an

Gather 10-12 stories and



Continued from page 3

# When God Repeats Himself, We Better Listen!

Understand, Jesus said something really tough for us to hear. He said, "you can be sure that if you don't turn back to God, every one of you will die." [Luke 13:5].

Choose Christ NOW! Don't wait until it's TOO LATE! The matter is URGENT! NOW is the time for repentance!

When God Repeats Himself Over and Over

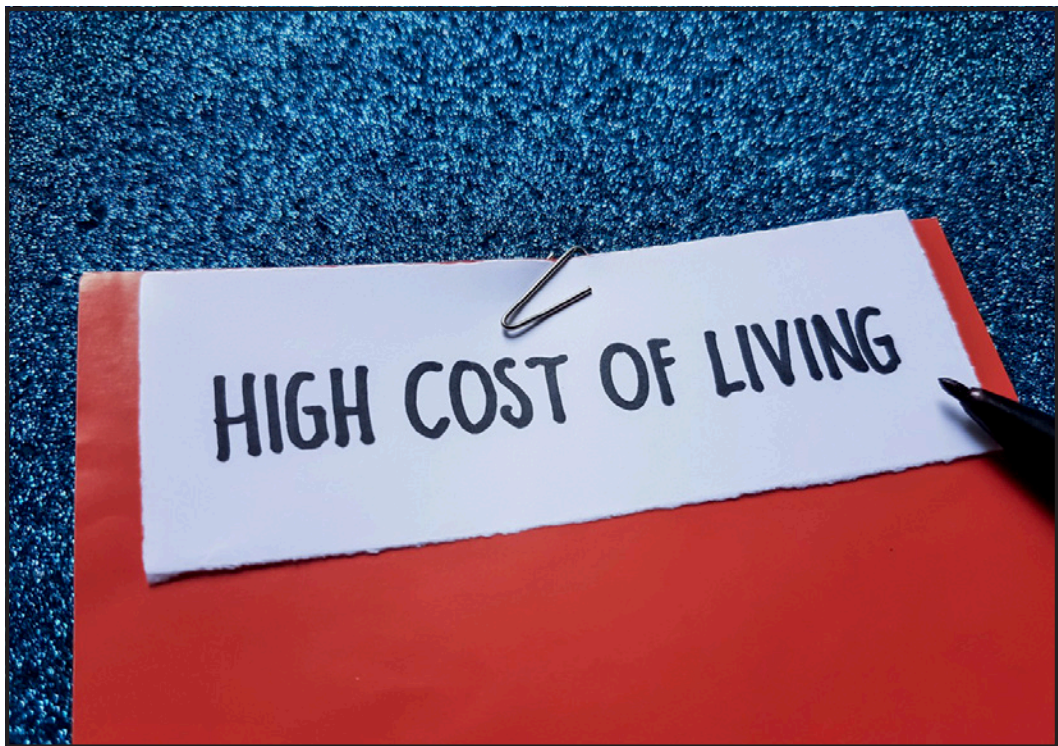
—We Better Listen! Five Cries from Hell—



# Letter to the Editor

## Overregulation and Market Manipulation Are the Roots of California's Affordability Crisis

By Craig J. DeLuz | Special to California Black Media Partners



When California Democrats recently proclaimed their intention to "Make California Affordable Again," it echoed a familiar refrain that has been heard time and again in the annals of political promises. However, a deeper examination reveals that this pledge may be more about optics than about sincere economic reform. Even more troubling is the historical context that shows a consistent pattern of policy failures rooted in overregulation and market manipulation -- a pattern that risks repeating itself.

The notion of affordability in California has been stifled not by external factors but by the very policies enacted by the state's leaders. Over the years, we have seen an alarming trend: excessive regulations that stifle job

creation and create barriers to entry for housing development, driving up costs at every turn. These regulations have restricted the supply of jobs and housing. The idea that a few tweaks can remedy the situation overlooks the entrenched nature of the problem, which is a product of policies intended to protect certain interests rather than serve the broader population.

Consider the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), enacted in 1970, it aimed to safeguard the environment, yet its implementation has inadvertently morphed into a formidable barrier to affordable housing. Critics argue that it has been subverted by NIMBY factions, who wield the law as a bludgeon to obstruct new developments, particularly in affluent neighborhoods.

For instance, a 495-unit housing project in San Francisco, which promised to include affordable options, languished in legal purgatory for years due to CEQA litigation and community pushback. Such protracted delays not only inflate development costs but also constrict the housing supply, exacerbating a crisis that leaves countless individuals and families priced out of the very urban centers they aspire to inhabit. The intended protections against environmental degradation have morphed into a tool of exclusion, revealing the paradox wherein efforts to protect the environment can simultaneously deepen the affordability crisis.

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