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Santa Barbara County

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COLAB

The Coalition of Labor, Agriculture & Business

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COLAB Threatens To Sue The County Of Santa Barbara

By Andy Caldwell

Every ten years, after the census, the boundaries which determine elected officials' districts are drawn, including that of city councils, boards of supervisors, the State Legislature and Congress. In the old days, this was the means by which politicians, who were in charge of drawing the lines of their own districts, picked their voters! In the case of the state and congressional district boundaries, the districts are now drawn by a state-appointed independent commission.

As a result of a ballot initiative approved by voters, county supervisor electoral boundaries are now being drawn by a local *independent* redistricting commission. The ordinance, drafted by county supervisor Das Williams, requires that anyone who has worked for a county supervisor or a candidate's election in the past 8 years can't be a member of, or a consultant to, the redistricting commission. The purpose of this requirement is to preserve the independence of the commission from partisan political interference and any form of "electioneering".

Predictably, the independence of the commission is under siege by progressive activists.

These include activist progressive attorney, Phil Seymour, Santa Barbara County Democratic Party organizing director Spencer Brandt, and Lee Heller who is a consistently large donor to local democratic candidates (she recently donated \$11,000 to support the reelection of Supervisor Williams). This group relentlessly pressured the redistricting commission to forego hiring the firm of Nielsen Merkasmer to serve as their legal counsel based on a very nebulous accusation that Nielsen was in violation of the 8 year prohibition having to do with the firm simply filling out a report indicating that one of their clients had donated \$1,000 to Supervisor Bob Nelson. Nonetheless, Nielsen was recommended by county staff because it is the only firm in the state that specializes in drawing political boundaries, having provided services to the cities of Santa Maria and Santa Barbara, among hundreds of other jurisdictions. Moreover, Nielsen's bid came in \$100,000 less than the attorney the activists wanted, Mr. Fred Woocher!

What both Mr. Seymour and Mr. Woocher failed to disclose is that they were the attorneys on record for a court case representing County Supervisor Doreen Farr, since retired, that certainly fell within the 8 year prohibition. The case ran up a legal bill in excess of \$500,000, that Farr's campaign was required to pay unless the attorneys decided to donate their time. This case clearly falls within the 8 year prohibition. The truth is, Seymour was attempting to clear the field for his former co-counsel.

So, why all the intrigue? Many of the issues that come before the board of supervisors are decided on a 3-2 vote. The partisan activists' goal is to keep Isla

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COLAB Needs Support For The Suit

(Continued from page 1)

Vista placed in the county's Third District, which is otherwise a North County district, keeping the deciding vote in all matters in the pocket of South County progressives. In that regard, nothing much has changed in the past 30 years as this boundary line incongruity has led to two attempted county splits. That is to say, the North County, despite the fact that it is more populous than the South County, is dominated by the south county by way of this Isla Vista machination. This, by virtue of the fact the students in IV vote in a monolithic block which overwhelms the rest of the voters in the district they share.

So, how does hiring Woocher fit into this narrative? Well, twenty years ago, COLAB sued the county over redistricting because of the Isla Vista machination. Who did the county hire to defend the IV-centered map? Fred Woocher! The progressives are counting on Woocher to work his magic again.

Awarding Mr. Woocher the contract violates the spirit and the letter of the ordinance and calls into question the ability of commission to withstand partisan political influence disguised as legal counsel.

THIS IS FOR ALL THE MARBLES!!!

Isla Vista and the future balance of power of the board of sups is at stake here!!!

Dear COLAB Members,

As we have explained on page 1 of this newsletter, COLAB has been diligently monitoring the county redistricting process.

To our dismay, the commission is not following the county ordinance which governs the same.

Thanks to a COLAB legacy member, we have been able to retain the services of Attorney Mark Meuser of the Dhillon Law Group to represent us.

The introduction to our demand letter goes as follows:

Dear County Supervisors:

This law firm represents the Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business ("COLAB") in connection with the Santa Barbara Redistricting Committee's ("SBRC") recent unauthorized approval and hiring of attorney Fredric D. Woocher, Esq ("Attorney Woocher") as independent counsel.

As you know, in the November 2018 Statewide General Election, Santa Barbara County voters approved Measure G, which formed an 11-member independent redistricting commission¹ to establish the electoral district boundaries in Santa Barbara County for the upcoming decade. During a recent Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission that remotely took place on February 3, 2021, the SBRC approved a final contract and recommended Attorney Woocher and his law firm, Strumwasser & Woocher, be approved as independent counsel. However, the SBRC's approval and appointment of Attorney Woocher and his law firm as legal counsel violates Sections 2-10.9A(4)(d)(1-6)(C) and 2-10.9A(5)(d)(1) of the Citizens Independent Redistricting Commission Ordinance ("Redistricting Ordinance") as codified. As such, COLAB objects to this appointment and will not hesitate to file suit and seek an injunction if Attorney Woocher and his firm are not immediately disqualified and released from their contract with SBRC as its legal counsel....

COLAB needs to raise additional support for contingency purposes! For, as you know, the COVID lockdown took out 50% of our annual operating revenues!

Please send a donation as soon as possible to:

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PO Box 7523
Santa Maria, CA 93456

Thank you, Andy Caldwell COLAB

Cleaning Up A \$35 Million Sacramento Mess

By Jon Coupal

Only in California. Sign a shady multimillion-dollar state contract with a politically connected consulting firm to do “voter outreach,” get sued over it and not only will your friends in Sacramento paper over it, but they will also appoint you to the United States Senate.

Or at least that is how it worked for Sen. Alex Padilla.

In this column last year, we told you about the attempt of then-Secretary of State Padilla to execute a \$35 million contract with a political consulting firm, SKDKnickerbocker, whose website prominently stated that it was on “Team Biden.”

But the contract was fishy from the start. Not only did the secretary of state’s office not comply with the Public Contract Code, only a handful of partisan political consulting firms, rather than nonpartisan advertising agencies, were solicited to bid and, most importantly, the contract was not supported by any line item in the state budget.

Even the state controller’s office cried foul and rejected the contract. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association sued, media scrutiny followed, and Padilla and Gov. Gavin Newsom got egg on their faces just as Newsom was appointing Padilla to the U.S. Senate.

On a call with reporters in December to discuss Padilla’s promotion, the two were quick to downplay the contract.

“The Controller’s office, the Department of Finance — everyone is sharpening their pencils and working it out,” said Padilla.

“We’re working with legislative leadership and (the Department of) Finance and we’ll get that paid,” said Newsom.

Well, the fix is in and the governor and Democrats in the state Legislature intend to get SKDK paid even if it comes at the expense of the counties.

In last year’s budget, funds were allocated to help counties cover the costs of holding an election during a pandemic. But Assembly Bill 85, now being rushed through the state Legislature, retroactively changes the Budget Act of 2020 to allow over \$35 million of that state and federal money to go to SKDK.

“Taxpayers should not have to pay for the shady deal that was executed by the previous secretary of state,” state Sens. Pat Bates, R-Laguna Niguel, and Jim

Nielsen, R-Tehama, said in a statement. “We call on our legislative colleagues to side with Californians and use the much-needed money as intended to help counties, not pad the pockets of political operatives at a partisan firm for partisan purposes.”

Despite repeated claims that HJTA’s lawsuit was meritless, the introduction of AB85 is a clear admission by the Secretary of State’s Office that it never had the legal authority to spend \$35 million in public funds for a partisan political contract that was never subject to competitive bid and was never supported by a line item in the budget bill. Sens. Bates and Nielsen are right in questioning why counties should be punished for Padilla’s sweetheart deal to a favored consultant.

But other important questions also remain unanswered by AB85.

Has the Controller indicated that this amendment is adequate? The use of federal money (\$12 million) is still subject to federal laws that prohibit the use of federal funds for GOTV (get out the vote). The contract at issue specifically included GOTV services. How does this amendment cure that defect? The contract did not comply with the Public Contracts Code, how does this amendment cure that defect?

HJTA and investigative journalists will strive to get those questions answered as legality of AB 85 is being assessed. But one glaring question remains, why is the state Legislature working so hard to clean up Padilla’s mess anyway?

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.



Gov. Newsom's Cruel, Indefinite Lockdown Of Californians 340 Days Later

By Katy Grimes

The year-long lockdown is a shakedown

The statewide confusion and anger over California Gov. Gavin Newsom's coronavirus lockdown vs. re-opening orders has only heightened with every day this drags on.

It was March 4, 2020 when we were told to shelter in place for two weeks to flatten the curve... that was more than 340 days ago.

"Compliance is not punitive," Gov. Newsom said in November, after being exposed for violating his own lockdown restrictions, imposed on the 40 million California residents. It was revealed that Gov. Newsom and his wife attended a large birthday dinner party in Napa Valley with several lobbyists at The French Laundry in Yountville, California Globe reported.

As he praised California's 40 million residents "for the good work you have done," he rewarded the state with more restrictions, a curfew and ordered businesses closed again ahead of the holidays.

One of the lobbyists at The French Laundry dinner coincidentally orchestrated exemptions from the governor's COVID lockdown restrictions for the entertainment industry, while restaurants remained under the most severe restrictions.

This coincided with millions of dollars in behest contributions from big business to Newsom's personal initiatives. There was an "overlap of at least a half-dozen companies that made substantial contributions to Newsom and received no-bid contracts from the state, influential appointments, or other opportunities related to the state's pandemic response," according to a CapRadio report. This prompted Assemblyman Kevin Kiley (R-Rocklin) to call for a legislative investigation into Governor Gavin Newsom's no-bid contracts awarded during the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

The year-long lockdown is also shakedown.

CPR found:

an "overlap of at least a half-dozen companies that made substantial contributions to Newsom and received no-bid contracts from the state, influential appointments, or other opportunities related to the state's pandemic response."

A list of major Newsom donors who have received no-bid contracts or other opportunities during the pandemic: Blue Shield of California – Contributed over \$300,000 since 2018, received a \$15 million no-bid contract; UnitedHealth – Contributed over \$200,000 since 2018, subsidiary received multiple no-bid contracts totaling over \$400 million; Bloom Energy – Contributed nearly \$100,000 since 2018, received a \$2 million no-bid contract; BYD – Contributed \$40,000, received a no-bid contract totaling over \$1 billion; FivePoint – Contributed over \$50,000, CEO received appointment to task force; Pacific6 – Contributed nearly \$50,000, state approved reopening of a hospital they operate.

When COVID hit California, Newsom told the state that within eight weeks, 25 million Californians – more than half of the state's population – would become "infected" with the virus. He was quickly corrected by prominent physicians who said there was no science or data available at the time to make such a hyperbolic statement.

Newsom was also simultaneously conducting daily news conferences outside of the Capitol, away from the press and public, and signing executive orders making new laws under his new found emergency powers.

By April 2020, Newsom's Department of Public Health suspended nursing home relocations allowing COVID-19 patients to be housed in nursing homes,

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A Healthy Dose Of Incredulity

By Andy Caldwell

If you are not thoroughly confused and confounded about the state and county's vaccine distribution debacle, you must not be paying attention!

On January 26th, county supervisors received an update on covid, indicating that upwards of 44,000 people had received the vaccine. My question to the board was, is there a plan and supply in hand to administer the mandatory second dose? They gave no answer and now I know why.

I asked the question because, due to limited supplies, some jurisdictions are only planning on administering the first dose to as many people as possible, instead of two doses as recommended. Why is this important? Vaccine manufacturers have strongly insisted that both doses be administered for the vaccine to have maximum effect. That is because the first dose, on its own, is estimated to be only 50% effective. What is worse? Some scientists believe that if the coronavirus comes into contact with enough people who are not fully vaccinated, i.e., they have not received both doses, it could begin to mutate. If this happens enough times, current vaccines could become completely ineffective.

Two days after that hearing, on January 28th, local politicians and health officials hosted a townhall. The event included Assembly member Steve Bennett, State Senator Monique Limon, Congressman Salud Carbajal, Santa Barbara County Public Health Director Dr. Van Do-Reynoso, and Ventura County Health Care Chief Deputy Director Barry Zimmerman.

During this meeting, as reported in the News Press, Mr. Zimmerman, speaking for both counties said the following: "We did not receive a like-to-like allotment of first dose and second dose, nor do we have planning information to say the second doses are coming, so we're doing our best to balance that out." He added that it was "impractical" to try to set up a system that allows individuals receiving their first dose of COVID vaccine to simultaneously schedule their second dose at that appointment, due to lack of supply and information about future supply.

The very next day, Friday, January 29th, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Director stated it would halt administration of initial vaccine doses for the next four weeks due to low vaccine supplies from the state, while other providers will continue to offer both first and second doses. The Public Health department



would instead focus on completing second doses until the state's new vaccine distribution system launches. Come again?

The federal, state and county's management of the covid crisis, lock down, and vaccine distribution has been one Keystone Cop moment after another. If you recall, the Keystone Cops were famous for appearing extremely incompetent while exhibiting an uncommon amount of energy in the pursuit of failure. To wit, there has been no scientific data to support California's on-and-off again lock downs and constantly moving goal posts while other states opened up a long time ago without suffering harm.

The biggest problem the county has is that it is an extension of, and a partner with the State of California. Gavin Newsom's administration is nearly last, if not dead last in the nation with respect to an efficacious vaccine distribution plan. But, don't hold your breath for any of the aforementioned politicians and bureaucrats, including county supervisors, to place the blame where it belongs, because of their fealty to party politics, their fear of being cut off from state funds, and the desire to protect their own reputations.

My advice? If you are interested in getting the vaccine, which is not so much a vaccine as it is experimental technology, head to Dignity Health in Santa Maria for your shots. They will take appointments from any and all county residents and they are not daunted or hampered by the task of scheduling second appointments for second doses.

Community Issues Of Paramount Importance

By Andy Caldwell

Here are some issues the Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (COLAB), the non-profit, non-partisan organization I work for, is tracking on behalf of our community.

1. The redistricting of county supervisorial boundaries. This is for all the marbles, as drawing political boundaries is how politicians choose their voters. The recently formed commission in charge of redistricting is already facing an issue which serves to threaten the independence of the commission. That is, democratic party operatives have put intense public pressure, replete with a disinformation campaign and skullduggery, on the commission seeking to induce them to hire an attorney of their choosing to guide the process. This effort deleteriously affects the political and partisan independence of the commission. What's more, the attorney of their choosing is actually not qualified to serve via the provisions of the ordinance which governs the process.

2. Continued advocacy to reopen our economy vis a vis the covid lockdown. In my 30-year career as a government watchdog, this has been the single biggest government overreach and debacle we have ever witnessed. It affected our economy and well-being across the board, not to mention increasing our national debt by 25%, and it completely decimated the separation and balance of powers in government. Moreover, it is the dominant issue on the county supervisors' agenda every week, taking up one to two hours of their time and attention.

3. Known as the Regional Needs Housing Assessment, this state mandate, that has serious teeth, will require local jurisdictions to prove they have created the capacity, via planning/permit allocations, to build 24,000 housing units in SB County. The majority of these units are slated to be built in the south county due to the jobs/housing imbalance. The options we have are "sprawl" or extremely high-density, highrise, stack-and-pack housing.

We are trying to educate the community that a couple of master-planned communities can actually enhance our quality of life. That is, the vast majority of the land in this county is zoned agriculture, thereby it is off limits to development. The truth is, developing some of this land that is not truly suitable for agriculture due to water, soil and gradient restraints, would be a better option than living in an urban jungle.



I am not a fan of this mandate because the state dumps the requirements on local communities without lifting a finger to help them deal with the impacts of the same. Two of the biggest impacts have to do with traffic and water. That is, the state will neither send any money to accommodate the traffic on our streets and freeways, nor will it allocate more water to serve the development. This will put a tremendous strain on both urban and ag uses of water.

4. The war on oil and gas is manifold. First, as it pertains to domestic production, the many restrictions on permits for new oil and gas projects, as well as, existing operations. Second, as it pertains to consumption, there are several different ways the industry and its reliable and affordable supply chains are being undermined and eviscerated. This includes the greenhouse gas regs and carbon auction credits in this state that will make production and consumption less and less affordable over time. Additionally, there is the impending ban on gas and diesel engine vehicles. Finally, community choice energy programs serve to reject natural gas electricity generation for existing homes and businesses, and then there are the bans against natural gas hookups in new construction.

The problem here is that we simply don't have the electricity supplies to go all electric across the spectrum and we never will. Renewable energy, in the form of wind and solar, takes up inordinate amounts of land, and they do not reliably produce 24/7. Just ask a Texan.

Unions Fight Return To Schooling

By Steven Greenhut

The little-known Oakley Union Elementary School District, in the sprawling suburbs 50 miles east of San Francisco, isn't accustomed to national attention. The school board's hot mic moment, however, during a video call earlier this month created widespread and justifiable anger because it captured the arrogance, stupidity, and condescension that's typical on some school boards — especially as officials drag their feet on reopening.

The board members didn't realize that their discussion before the start of the public meeting was being broadcast live. Oops. In fact, the video of the moment when they realized as much is one of the most awkward and funniest things that you'll see on YouTube. As they joked and chatted before the start of the official session, trustees mocked parents whose children they presumably represent.

The Mercury News reported that board member Kim Beede, after referring to a parent who criticized her for attending a party during the pandemic, said: "B—, If you call me out, I'm going to f— you up." President Lisa Brizendine seemed frustrated at parents who complained about school closings and said, "It's unfortunate they want to pick on us because they want their babysitters back." Another board member, Richie Masadas, talked about parents who get high while their kids were at school.

After the fracas, the entire school board resigned and apologized — but the story had already spread nationally because it spoke volumes about the attitudes of state and local officials, who show little concern as the pandemic-induced shutdowns approach a full year. Even Gov. Gavin Newsom has become frustrated with the Legislature's reopening resistance and with the California Teachers Association's (CTA) antics.

That powerful teachers union is for reopening, of course, but only after the state navigates one obstacle after another. Before reopening, local unions and union-dominated school districts, such as Los Angeles Unified School District, made a variety of absurd financial demands and "reforms" that often had nothing to do with COVID-19.

Why should unions hurry to get back to work? Their members are paid while staying at home. Some public-sector workers are even getting raises. By the way,

the districts have failed mightily to implement effective technology-based at-home learning plans. As private and charter schools quickly adapted to the frustrating stay-at-home circumstances, the public schools often were wildly incompetent at the distance-learning basics.

"Unions were advocating for policies that might lower what was already a small risk to their members even though this effectively meant millions of children would fall even further behind in their schooling while parents struggled to work," wrote the Washington Post's Megan McArdle. "They were doing this not because they had irrational fears that could be explained away, but because they cared more about small risks to themselves than large risks to others,

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The Woke Ideology Of Soda Jerks

By Andy Caldwell

The World of Coca Cola museum invites visitors to “visit the vault where the legendary secret formula for Coca Cola is secured. Regarded as the most closely guarded and best-kept secret, the secret formula for Coca Cola represents over 125 years of history, special moments, memories and the timeless appeal associated with Coca Cola.”

America had an open secret, of what made America great. No, I am not talking about Donald Trump. I am talking about the concepts of American exceptionalism, the Protestant work ethic, e pluribus unum, the melting pot, our foundation of self-evident truths, belief and trust in God, the rule of law, the entrepreneurial spirit and patent laws (that which allowed Coca Cola to keep producing its patented secret!), the unalienable rights of each and every individual, and the quest for equality, to name just a few.

Unfortunately, everything that helped make America great is threatened by an campaign to destroy it from within by attributing its greatness to “acting white” and white culture, which are now supposedly euphemisms of institutionalized racism in our society, culture and economy.

Here are three examples of this stupidly woke phenomenon. First, the highly publicized poster published by the Smithsonian National Museum of African History titled “The Aspects and Assumptions of Whiteness and White Culture in the United States” which surmises that white traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been considered normal and standard practices because white people have and still hold institutional power in America. Second, in addition to the once infamous school subject matter known as “ebonics”, schools are now teaching “ethnomathematics” which purports that there is racism in mathematics. Third, the Coca Cola Company is now promoting a curriculum urging and teaching employees how to “be less white”.

The Smithsonian poster included various categories of subject matters including “Future Orientation” listing such no-no’s as “planning for the future” and “progress is always best”. Under the category of “Time” the chart decries “following rigid time schedules” and time “viewed as a commodity”. Under “Protestant Work Ethic” the chart lists as white values: “hard work is the key to success, work before play, and if you didn’t meet your goals, you didn’t work hard

enough”.

The ethnomathematics course teaches that White supremacy manifests itself in asserting that math is purely objective, as if objectivity is a function of

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SAVE THE DATE!

COLAB 30th Anniversary Dinner Come Hell or High Water Celebration

Oct 2, 2021

Location to be determined



How Sex And The Subprime Mortgage Crisis Of 2008 Led To Scapegoating A Little Guy

By Rachel Alexander

In the aftermath of the subprime mortgage crisis of 2008, the Obama administration decided someone must be punished. But instead of taking on the powerful financial institutions at the core of the scandal — which were given bailouts instead — they went after the easy targets like small real estate brokers. Tony Viola was one. Prosecutors sent him to prison for supposedly tricking banks into offering mortgages with no money down. But in reality, the banks were knowingly offering those loans. The prosecution withheld this evidence from him. The wrongdoing was so blatant that from prison, and without an attorney, Viola was able to establish his innocence during a second trial.

Now it's come out that there may have been even more wrongdoing by prosecutors. Viola, who served eight and a half years in prison and was released in May 2020 as a result of the new evidence, recently discovered that the married prosecutor in his case was allegedly having an affair with one of the government's witnesses, who was also married. Ohio Assistant County Prosecutor Dan Kasaris presented Kathryn Clover as a fact witness when in reality she was a paralegal for the prosecutors and allegedly in a romantic relationship with him. They reportedly shared the same attorney, Jaye Schlachet, who Kasaris hired for his separation from his wife and Clover's divorce.



Clover allegedly lied about Viola during the initial trial. But she felt so bad about it afterward that she asked Schlachet to be put back on the stand. The prosecutors refused, apparently, because they needed her false testimony in order to convict Viola. She was not able to recant her testimony until the second trial in state court. Then she took the Fifth Amendment, likely afraid of being prosecuted for perjury. However, Viola believes prosecutors continued using her in other grand jury proceedings and criminal cases — even though they knew she committed perjury — because she'd say whatever they needed.

Viola allegedly obtained thousands of emails exchanged between Kasaris and Clover from Kasaris's Yahoo email account, where Kasaris affixed his official signature as a prosecutor. Several witnesses submitted affidavits regarding their

knowledge of the affair between the couple. Kelly Patrick, a former sister-in-law of Kasaris, says she has "over 100 pages of Facebook Messenger messages with his wife Susan about this sexual relationship that went on for many years."

Patrick believes Kasaris had bad motives for prosecuting Viola. She thinks he was jealous of him. Kasaris and his wife also bought and sold houses with no money down and cash back, and Patrick believes

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How Sex And The Subprime Mortgage Crisis O 2008 Led To Scapegoating A Little Guy *cont.*

(Continued from page 9)

Kasaris saw Viola as a competitor. Kasaris is a Democrat. Patrick observed, "Around me he was an atheist; he disliked minorities, Republicans, and Catholicism." Viola is Catholic and Republican.

Kasaris at first denied the existence of the Yahoo emails but later admitted he used the account for emails regarding criminal prosecution. He claimed he fixed the problem by deleting the emails. Apparently, because Hillary Clinton got away with using a private email account to conduct confidential government business and deleted her emails, Kasaris thinks it's fine for him as well.

Other wrongdoing by the prosecution in Viola's case has still gone unpunished. For a decade, the FBI claimed it was unaware of almost 10,000 pages of records in its own records system on Viola's case that would have exonerated him. FBI Agent David M. Hardy twice made materially false statements asserting that the prosecution had turned over all the documents and evidence to Viola. The FBI finally admitted lying about those records. The DOJ withdrew Hardy's statements, and in a letter to the judge, Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Colville said he "regrets those inaccuracies and the resulting inconvenience." He asked the judge to vacate her previous rulings in their favor.

Former Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Bennett falsely stated there was no "FBI 302" interview summary with a banker who'd said the bank offered the same no money down mortgage loans that Viola supposedly duped them into making. Kasaris also made false statements under oath about the existence of the



same voice recordings and the FBI 302.

Bennett later admitted in writing that Clover had lied, but didn't bother retracting the testimony. He also lied about the existence of voice recordings made by the prosecutors' office manager Dawn Pasela, who recorded her conversations with Viola so prosecutors could obtain confidential defense trial strategy information. Pasela felt so horrible later on that she disclosed evidence the prosecution had been hiding and gave it to Viola.

Viola filed a complaint requesting that prosecutors follow the regulations and report misconduct, but so far it has fallen on deaf ears. Despite knowingly using Clover's perjured testimony to win a conviction, Bennett received an award in 2015 for prosecuting Viola and others. Nothing has happened to Kasaris. In fact, he appears to be raising money to run for office.

Viola filed a request to search Kasaris's Yahoo email account, but strangely, Republican Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost has fought those efforts. This is odd considering Yost wrote in the introduction to the

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**Howard Jarvis
Taxpayers Association**
established in 1978

How Sex And The Subprime Mortgage Crisis O 2008 Led To Scapegoating A Little Guy *Cont.*

(Continued from page 10)

2020 Edition of the Ohio Sunshine Manual (which lays out how public records laws are to be enforced), "I fully support government transparency and your right to know what goes on behind the scenes." Emails by government employees are considered public records, and while certain confidential information regarding cases may be redacted, the emails must still be released. Even many of Hillary Clinton's emails were eventually released by the State Department.

There are numerous blatant ethical violations in this case. If Donald Trump's election attorneys had been caught engaging in this type of behavior, they would have been disbarred. But because the deep state is involved and the legal system is dominated by the left, no one wants to turn on the corrupt people involved who used Viola as a scapegoat to further their political agenda.

Rachel Alexander is a political consultant (and editor and founder of Intellectual Conservative

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Gov. Newsom's Cruel, Indefinite Lockdown Of Californians 340 Days Later *Cont.*

(Continued from page 4)

but few in the media covered this, as the Globe did. In June, COVID patients were still being sent to skilled nursing facilities, the Globe reported. We wanted to know why the California Department of Public Health was directing skilled nursing facilities to take in COVID-19 patients, and at what cost and why with plenty of hospital beds throughout the state available? Our request to the CDPH received a response: CDPH acknowledges that the elderly patients already in skilled nursing facilities are "California's most vulnerable," but they never answered why would they send any COVID-19 patients to facilities with the most frail and vulnerable patients. To this day, the question remains unanswered.

Since the Globe reported this, hospital data no longer includes nursing home statistics.

Schools originally remained open, until the governor caved to the closure demands of the California Teachers Association labor union, sent students home for "distance learning" on computers via Zoom calls, despite the virus showing no scientific evidence of targeting young people.

School sports, shut down. School clubs, shut down. School bands, shut down. School graduations, shut down. School testing, shut down.

Then came the "essential" jobs and business orders: all government employees were deemed "essential,"

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and continued working remotely.

Home Depot, Walmart, COSTCO, and other big box stores were deemed "essential" by the governor.

Small businesses, small restaurants, hair and nail salons and barber shops, boutiques and clothing shops, all were shut down and deemed "non-essential..." except to the owners and employees of these businesses.

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The Woke Ideology Of Soda Jerks *Cont.*

(Continued from page 8)

racism, meaning there can be more than one right answer, and there should be no requirement to show your work. Teachers of the curriculum are encouraged to show how at least two different answers “might” solve the problem and to identify and challenge the ways that “math is used to uphold capitalist, imperialist, and racist views”.

I suppose what all this means is that Coca Cola employees will give up their famous white privilege formula advantage, while the company de-emphasizes and foregoes sales goals, on-time deliveries, accurate invoicing, and requiring their employees to show up to work on time.

How we have fallen! Consider the movie, “Hidden Figures”, about three black women who were instrumental in helping NASA launch John Glenn into space during the 1960’s space race. These three women broke multiple barriers in their capacity as black female mathematicians, computer experts and engineers. As one of the stars of the picture commented, “You can be mathematicians, scientists, engineers, you can be in technology, you can change the world. Genius has no color, gender. Brilliance has no color, gender and as long as you continue to just do the work, you end up on top, always.”

The woke stupidity and values of today’s soda jerks pale in comparison and are counter-productive to the achievements of the trailblazers whose lives are depicted in “Hidden Figures” and those who would aspire to emulate them.

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The COLAB Foundation is a public charity formed to procure funding for the Santa Barbara County Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business (COLAB) and other select non-profit entities to advance education and science, combat community deterioration and lessen the burden of government.

Of course, the donations to the COLAB Foundation can only be used to educate the public about the work that COLAB and others are doing in our community, but we have been educating people all along!

The COLAB Foundation!

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Gov. Newsom's Cruel, Indefinite Lockdown Of Californians 340 Days Later *Cont.*

(Continued from page 12)

Remember the near hysteria about the lack of ICU beds in the state? Strangely, Newsom is silent now about ICU beds, yet he continues to conflate positive COVID tests as "infections" and "cases."

All of this is because this isn't about a health crisis, otherwise every state in the country would be in lockdown (or not); this is about controlling the citizens, and our rights to move about freely as we did prior to the COVID crisis.

Gov. Newsom unconstitutionally restricted the right to worship in churches. He closed public schools while his children attended private school in person. He ordered hospitals, nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities locked down, and restricted family from visiting. He even ordered no travel.

And the media greatly assisted him in this endeavor.

Yet the number of positive tests, hospitalizations, and deaths due to COVID are dropping daily. But the state has drastically limited access to actual data.

California has conducted 47,043,348 COVID tests. Of those, 3,441,946 tested positive, leaving 43,601, 402 testing negative. The data available shows 36,177 or 74% of the 49,105 COVID deaths are over the age of 65.

However, California schools are still closed, as are most school sports. While some schools and teams are starting up again, many schools are choosing to keep sports closed down.

The governor's sports guidelines are just bizarre:

Inter-team competitions (i.e., between two teams) resumed in California beginning January 25, 2021. **The guidelines outlined in this document shall take effect on February 26, 2021.**

The status of return-to-competition is subject to change at any time given the level of COVID-19 transmission in California.

Sports Risk Profiles

In general, the more people from outside their household with whom a person interacts, the

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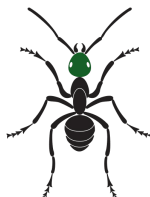
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Unions Fight Return To Schooling *cont.*

(Continued from page 7)

and had made a clear-eyed calculation that they could get away with it.”

McArdle argues that union foot-dragging might lead to a divide between affluent, progressive-minded parents and teachers unions, but I’m not so optimistic. California’s Legislature remains more attuned to the demands of the CTA than concerns of its largely progressive electorate. The latest “reopening” bill “keeps labor groups in the mix by requiring schools to reach collective bargaining agreements with unions by April 1,” as the Sacramento Bee reported.

By giving unions the final say, the Legislature is giving unions veto power over any plan to reinstate in-person schooling. “Private schools and parochial schools have largely stayed open throughout California while public schools shut down,” Bee columnist Marcos Bretón explained. “This is because teachers at private and parochial schools are overwhelmingly non-union. The rights of students in private schools — like the children of Gov. Gavin Newsom — are not subject to negotiation.” Exactly.

This situation highlights the Catch-22 whenever government provides a service. We must pay for it, but have no way to hold those agencies accountable, especially when special interests have insurmountable power. With the pandemic, we see the situation in its full absurdity. Public schools have every incentive to stay shut. Meanwhile, they are doing a poor job providing at-home education. The public needs to pay up and keep quiet. How dare they want their “babysitters” back!

The only answer is for people to vote with their feet, even if they are stuck paying (in California) more than 40 percent of their taxes to keep the system going. The current system harms the poor the most, given that poor parents can’t afford private-school tuition. The Wall Street Journal found that “students from low-income households are more likely to be learning remotely full time than students from upper-income brackets.”

Furthermore, the chronic absentee rates since the pandemic have soared among minority, poor, and special-needs students. It’s amazing that California lawmakers can still claim that they care about the poor. That is why the Oakley situation made national headlines and continues to ruffle feathers. The union-controlled public schools are failing their students, yet the system mocks its “customers” for showing deep frustration.

Steven Greenhut, Resident Senior Fellow and Western Region Director, State Affairs, R Street Institute



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Gov. Newsom's Cruel, Indefinite Lockdown Of Californians 340 Days Later *cont.*

(Continued from page 15)

closer the physical interaction is, the greater the physical exertion is, and the longer the interaction lasts, the higher the risk that a person with COVID-19 infection may spread it to others.

These are the governor's General Sports Requirements:

- Face coverings to be worn when not participating in the activity (e.g., on the sidelines).
- Face coverings to be worn by coaches, support staff and **observers** at all times, and in compliance with the CDPH Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings.
- Observers maintain at least 6 feet from non-household members.
- No sharing of drink bottles and other personal items and equipment.
- Mixing with other households prior to and post any practice or competition must strictly adhere to current gathering guidance.
- Limit indoor sports activities (practice, conditioning) to comply with capacity limits (which shall include all athletes, coaches, and observers) indicated in current CDPH Gym & Fitness Center Guidance Capacity.
- Associated indoor activities for the team (e.g., dinners, film study) are prohibited if engaged in competition given evidence that transmission is more likely to occur in these indoor higher risk settings.
- Teams must not participate in out-of-state games and tournaments; several multistate outbreaks have been reported around the nation, including California residents.

Shouldn't the general requirements be the responsibility of the coaches and parents?

These absurd guidelines demonstrate this is purely about Gov. Newsom controlling the state's citizens.

"Katy Grimes, the Editor of the California Globe, is a long-time Investigative Journalist covering the California State Capitol, and the co-author of California's War Against Donald Trump: Who Wins? Who Loses?"



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