

City of Garden Grove
WEEKLY CITY MANAGER'S MEMO
September 17, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council FROM: Scott Stiles, City Manager
Members

I. PRIORITY AND COUNCIL AGENDA ISSUES

None.

II. DEPARTMENT ITEMS

A. ALERTOC REGIONAL TEST PARTICIPATION

Chief Elgin informs you of the City's participation in a regional test exercise of the AlertOC public mass notification system on Tuesday, September 24, 2015 at 10:00am.

• **OTHER ITEMS**

– NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Copies of the local newspaper articles are attached for your information_

– MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Items of interest are included.



SCOTT C. STILES
City Manager

ALERTOC REGIONAL
TEST PARTICIPATION
September 17, 2015
Page 2

In addition to testing AlertOC's capabilities it is also hoped that the test call will generate a greater awareness of the program and will encourage self-registration via the County portal (www.alertoc.com) of cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses which will be used in conjunction with the e9-1-1 database (Data used by the 9-1-1 system to identify the address associated with a landline phone number) when making future emergency and test notifications. A fact sheet has also been provided for your convenience (attachment 2).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

None. For informational purposes only.



TODD D. ELGIN
Chief of Police



By: Rebecca Meeks
Police Communications Manager

Attachment 1: Phone, e-mail and SMS text script for the AlertOC test call
Attachment 2: E-mail and SMS text script for test call

Attachment 1

Phone Script:

This message is from the City of **[CITY NAME]**, conducting a test of the AlertOC emergency notification system as part of National Preparedness Month.

This call tests AlertOC's preparedness to deliver emergency notifications to **[CITY NAME]** residents during a disaster. During an actual emergency, important information and instructions will be sent to you through this system. You'll receive calls, texts or emails today on every device you've entered into the AlertOC system. If you don't receive a message on one of your phones or email accounts and would like to, please enter that information into www.alertoc.com.

If you have questions about the AlertOC System, please visit www.alertoc.com or contact **[CITY NAME]** at **[CITY PHONE #]**.

This concludes this test of the AlertOC emergency notification system. Thank you.

Email Script:

This is the City of **[CITY NAME]** conducting a test of the AlertOC emergency notification system.

Several cities throughout Orange County are conducting this test today September 24, 2015 as part of National Preparedness Month. The purpose of this e-mail is to test AlertOC's preparedness to deliver emergency notifications to **[CITY NAME]** residents and businesses during a disaster. During an actual emergency, important information and instructions will be sent to you through this system.

We encourage you to register your cell phones, text devices and e-mail addresses at www.alertoc.com **[or CITY WEBSITE]**. Please share this e-mail with any of your friends and family members living within Orange County.

You can receive and manage AlertOC notifications on an iOS or Android device. Please see below for app download links:

Apple iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/blackboard-myconnect/id575910789>

Android - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bbconnect.recipient>

For questions or inquiries about the AlertOC System, please visit www.alertoc.com or contact the city of **[CITY NAME]** at **[CITY PHONE #]**.

Thank you.

City of **[CITY NAME]**

SMS Text Script:

AlertOC - This is the City of **{Insert Name}** conducting a test of its emergency notification system. This is only a test. No action is required. Thank you.

Attachment 2

AlertOC Facts Sheet for Jurisdiction Call Handling Staff

The following information is taken from the AlertOC website and provides answers to basic questions which the public inquire about during AlertOC Test Exercises. Please add any additional city information desired and distribute to staff.

What is AlertOC?

AlertOC is a mass notification system used by the County of Orange and participating OC cities to issue government related messages to residents and businesses. The system has the capacity to send thousands of messages within minutes via phone, e-mail and text. Only authorized officials are allowed access to the system. Currently, all OC cities except Irvine use the AlertOC System.

Do I need to sign-up to receive notifications?

AlertOC contains residential and commercial landline phone numbers of Orange County's entire population. In accordance with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), landline numbers were acquired from AT&T and Verizon's 911 telephone database. The information contained in the 911 database is confidential, proprietary and shall not be disclosed or used except by authorized personnel for the purpose of emergency notifications.

It is also important to be able to receive notifications by cell phone, text message or email, because you may not have access to a landline when the notification occurs. Sign-up for these additional notifications online by going to the www.alertoc.com web site and selecting the city or area in which you live and/or work from the map. Sign-up through mail by downloading a registration form and mailing it to the County of Orange at the address listed on the form or to the city address.

How does the AlertOC service work?

Authorized officials record a voice, e-mail or text message that is then delivered quickly to individuals in the notification system.

What types of messages will be sent using the AlertOC service?

The system will be used only to disseminate messages pertaining to the health, safety or welfare of a community that is being affected by a perceived, imminent, or actual emergency event.

If I have provided more than one phone number, what number will be called?

If an emergency situation arises that requires a notification to be sent to multiple phone numbers, we will activate the system to place a simultaneous call to all of your numbers. For matters with less urgency, you may be notified at only one phone or by e-mail or text.

Will the AlertOC system call numbers outside of Orange County's area codes?

Yes. The area code does not impact whether or not a call is made.

Will the AlertOC system work if I have a call screening system on my phone?

There are several varieties of call screening devices which use differing protocols for screening. In general, the system has been found to work with these devices, however, some may require pre-programming to allow the County's or city's telephone number to pass through. We will be conducting periodic tests to assure that messages are being properly delivered to numbers in the notification database.

Who is the legal entity for AlertOC?

The County of Orange is the sponsor and lead entity responsible for the AlertOC program. Participating cities may also have a separate contract for non-emergency use with the AlertOC service provider, Blackboard Connect, Inc.

How do I change or delete the information I registered?

Registered information can be changed or deleted online from the AlertOC website. Once on the website, select the city in which you registered and then select the Edit/Delete Option. You must login into the System with the registered e-mail address to make changes. If you did not register an e-mail address, information can be changed or deleted by emailing alertoc@ocsd.org

Wireless Emergency Alerts

What are WEA messages?

Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) are emergency messages sent by authorized government alerting authorities through your mobile carrier. WEA messages in Orange County can be sent by Orange County Control One and the Orange County Sheriff's Department Emergency Management Division.

Is this the same service as AlertOC?

No, but they are complementary. We ask residents to sign up with AlertOC to receive telephone calls, text messages, or emails. Those messages often include specific details about a critical event. WEAs are very short messages designed to get your attention in a critical situation. They may not give all the details you receive from AlertOC.

Why are Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) important?

Alerts received at the right time can help keep you safe during an emergency. With WEA, warnings can be sent to your mobile device when you may be in harm's way, without need to download an app or subscribe to AlertOC.

What types of alerts will I receive?

- Extreme weather, and other threatening emergencies in your area
- AMBER Alerts
- Presidential Alerts during a national emergency

What types of WEA messages can the National Weather Service send?

- Tsunami Warnings
- Tornado and Flash Flood Warnings
- Hurricane, Typhoon, Dust Storm and Extreme Wind Warnings
- Blizzard and Ice Storm Warnings

What types of WEA messages can Orange County authorities send?

- Civil Danger and Law Enforcement Warnings
- Local Area Emergency and Civil Emergency Messages
- Earthquake, Fire, and Hazardous Material Warnings
- Nuclear Power Plant and Radiological Hazard Warnings
- Evacuation Immediate and Shelter in Place Warnings
- Child Abduction and Telephone Outage Emergency

What are AMBER Alerts?

AMBER Alerts are urgent bulletins issued in the most serious child-abduction cases. The America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) Alert Program is a voluntary partnership between law-enforcement agencies, broadcasters, transportation agencies, and the wireless industry.

What are the criteria for issuing AMBER Alerts?

Law enforcement agencies ensure these conditions are met before activating an AMBER Alert:

- The investigating law enforcement agency confirms an abduction has occurred.
- The victim is 17 years of age or younger, or has a proven mental or physical disability.
- The victim is in imminent danger of serious injury or death.
- There is information available that, if provided to the public, could assist in the child's safe recovery.

Who will issue AMBER Alerts through WEA?

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), in coordination with State and Local public safety officials, sends out AMBER Wireless Emergency Alerts through the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is responsible for statewide coordination of **AMBER Alert** and the other emergency response activities associated with a child abduction.

What does a WEA message look like?

WEA will look like a text message. The WEA message will show the type and time of the alert, any action you should take, and the agency issuing the alert. The message will be no more than 90 characters.

How will I know the difference between WEA and a regular text message?

WEA messages include a special tone and vibration, both repeated twice.

What should I do when I receive a WEA message?

Follow any action advised by the message. Seek more details from local media or authorities.

Will I receive a WEA message if I'm visiting an area where I don't live, or outside the area where my phone is registered?

Yes, if you have a WEA-capable phone and your wireless carrier participates in the program. (More than 100 carriers, including all of the largest carriers, do.)

Will a WEA message interrupt my phone conversations?

No, the alert will be delayed until you finish your call.

What if I travel into a threat area after a WEA message is already sent?

If you travel into a threat area after an alert is first sent, your WEA-capable device will receive the message when you enter the area.

When will I start receiving WEA messages?

It depends. WEA capabilities were available beginning in April 2012, but many mobile devices, especially older ones, are not WEA-capable. When you buy a new mobile device, it probably will be able to receive WEA messages.

Will I be charged for receiving WEA messages?

No. This service is offered for free by wireless carriers. WEA messages will not count towards texting limits on your wireless plan.

Does WEA know where I am? Is it tracking me?

No. Just like emergency weather alerts you see on local TV, WEAs are broadcast from area cell towers to mobile devices in the area. Every WEA-capable phone within range receives the message, just like TV that shows the emergency weather alert if it is turned on. But, the TV stations, like WEA, don't know exactly who is tuned in.

How often will I receive WEA messages?

You may get very few WEA messages, or you may receive frequent messages when conditions change during an emergency. The number of messages depends on the number of imminent threats to life or property in your area.

If, during an emergency, I can't make or receive calls or text messages due to network congestion, will I still be able to receive a WEA message?

Yes, WEA messages are not affected by network congestion.

What if I don't want to receive WEA messages?

You can opt-out of receiving WEA messages for imminent threats and AMBER alerts, but not for Presidential messages. To opt out, adjust settings on your mobile device.

How will I receive alerts if I don't have a WEA-capable device?

WEA is only one of the ways you receive emergency alerts. Other sources include AlertOC, NOAA Weather Radio, news broadcasts, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on radio and TV programs, outdoor sirens, and other alerting methods offered by local and state public safety agencies.

Weekly Memo 9/17/15

**NEWSPAPER
ARTICLES**

THE THINGS TO KNOW

BY CHRIS HAIRE | STAFF WRITER

Garden Grove Journal / Register
Sept. 17, 2015



FRANK D'AMATO; FILE PHOTO

Shannon Galipault, left, was Miss Garden Grove 2015 and Josie Pearce was Miss Garden Grove's Outstanding Teen 2015. Hopefuls for the 2016 pageant gather Wednesday.

MINGLING WITH THE FUTURE MISS GARDEN GROVE

Don't miss your chance to drink, eat and mingle with a future Miss Garden Grove.

The Sponsor Mixer for this year's Miss Garden

Grove Scholarship pageant will be 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Kiwanisland, 9840 Larson Ave.

The young women vying for the 2016 Miss Garden

Grove crown will be there, as will those who sponsor the pageant.

Information: Stacy Margolin at 714-741-5168.

Traffic commission has vacancy to fill

The city of Garden Grove will soon begin accepting applications to replace a member of the Traffic Commission.

There is a vacancy after one of the members failed to fulfill the duties, according to a staff report.

Under the law, the city can remove a commissioner without a City Council vote if three consecutive meetings are missed without being excused.

To find out more about applying for the vacancy, contact the City Clerk's Office at 714-741-5040.

Garden Grove teen wins service award

A Garden Grove teenager recently received a prestigious service award and was honored by the City Council last week.

Anh Tu Lu, who was recently accepted into Oxford Academy in Cypress, is one of the 2015 Alexander Hamilton

Foundation's Citizenship Achievement Award recipients.

Since immigrating to the United States from Vietnam in 2008, Lu has taken a proactive role in several organizations, including Youth Leadership of America; Project

Eliminate, which aims to stop maternal neonatal tetanus; and the Key Club.

Lu wants to attend an Ivy League university and eventually start his own nonprofit, city officials said in honoring him.



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
Anh Tu Lu holds a certificate from the Garden Grove City Council.

Garden Grove Journal / Register
Sept. 17, 2015

Georgia contestant named Miss America

Miss Georgia **Betty Cantrell** is the new Miss America.

Cantrell bested 51 other competitors in the nationally televised pageant from Atlantic City Sunday on night.

The pageant also marked the return of Miss America 1984 **Vanessa Williams**, who was back for the first time after resigning the crown following a nude photo scandal.

Pageant executive chairman **Sam Haskell** apologized to Williams during the pageant for the way his predecessors handled the controversy involving nude photos of Williams that were published in Penthouse several months after she became the first African American Miss America.

Williams resigned the title in 1984.

Haskell, who was not involved with the pageant at the time, said, "I want to apologize for anything that was said or done" during the photo scandal.

Williams, who went on to become a famous stage and TV actress, says she "did the best I could" during the scandal.

The pageant worked overtime this year to bring back parts of its storied history. It includes the return



MEL EVANS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Miss Georgia **Betty Cantrell**, left, reacts after being named Miss America on Sunday in Atlantic City, N.J.

of the pageant's theme song with the line "There she is, Miss America."

The "Miss America" song, made famous by long-time pageant host **Bert Parks**, returned to the pageant after a five-year absence due to legal wrangling over rights to its use. The Miss America Organization paid an undisclosed sum to the estate of songwriter **Bernie Wayne** to enable its use this year.

Sunday night's pageant, Miss America's 95th, featured contestants from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Among the contestants was Miss California **Bree Morse** of Garden Grove, who was not chosen for the top 15.

Register
Sept. 14, 2015

Woman injured trying to rescue pets from Seal Beach house fire

BY ERIKA I. RITCHIE
STAFF WRITER

SEAL BEACH • A woman was injured late Saturday in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue two dogs, three birds and a lizard from a burning house, Orange County Fire Authority officials said.

The animals were in a home in the 3800 block of Rose Street when the house and its garage caught fire.

The fire was reported at 10 p.m., and about 30 firefighters from OCCFA and the Garden Grove Fire Department responded. At that point, the fire had already filled the garage and was spreading into the home.

The three residents made it out but were unable to rescue the animals because there was too much smoke and heat inside the home, Concialdi said.

The woman sustained

burns on her arms, hands and back trying to save the animals, Concialdi said.

OCCFA Capt. Steve Concialdi said the fire likely was caused by a faulty heating lamp in the lizard's cage in the garage. Fire officials estimate damage at \$500,000 to the home and \$200,000 to the contents.

Concialdi suggested that people get smoke alarms and heat detectors for their garages.

Apartment fire displaces 12 people

BY ALMA FAUSTO
STAFF WRITER

A fire tore through two apartments and left 12 people without homes Wednesday afternoon in Garden Grove, authorities said.

Firefighters were called to an apartment complex in the 12100 block of Magnolia

Street just before 3:30 p.m., said Capt. Thanh Nguyen of the Garden Grove Fire Department.

One woman, who was home alone at the time of the fire, was trapped in an upstairs apartment, Nguyen said, but a fast-thinking neighbor helped get her to safety.

When the woman's neighbor noticed she was stranded upstairs, he moved into action.

"He had pulled out a mattress in the driveway for her to jump on and she jumped from the second floor," Nguyen said.

The woman was not injured, he said.

Register
Sept. 11, 2015

Hammerheads are in town too

An expert says the warm waters off the Orange County coast that drew great whites are attracting other species.

There's a new shark in town – the hammerhead.



LAYLAN CONNELLY
STAFF WRITER

You've heard by now that great whites have been unexpectedly living in the waters off Orange County and that about a dozen are living in the surf near Sunset Beach.

But another species, the hammerhead, also is making headlines.

Late last month, lifeguards shut down some beaches in La Jolla after a kayaker filmed an 8- to 10-foot hammerhead circling

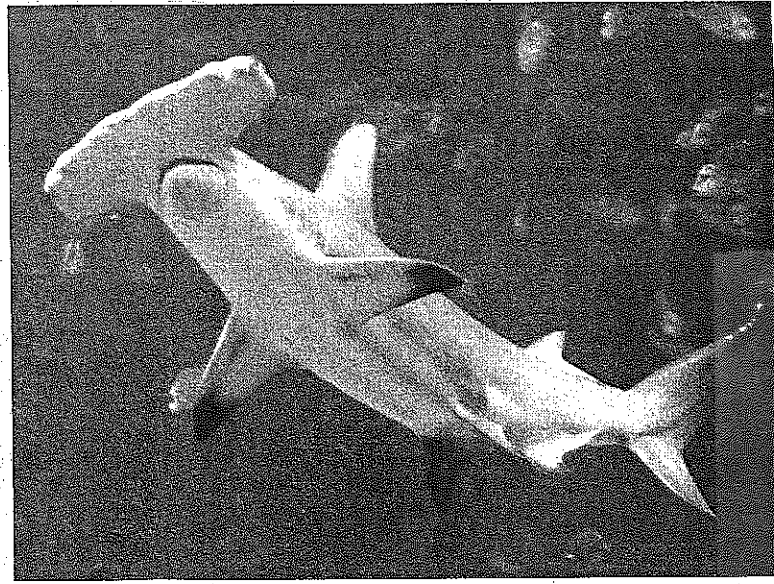
his skinny vessel.

On Sept. 5, a Malibu man also in a kayak was bitten on the foot by a hammerhead. Photos of the bloody gash and his description of the event (he was fishing for sharks and chose to keep his legs in the water) spurred considerable interest and commentary on

social media.

Then, on Sept. 6, a Garden Grove man and his daughter hooked a 10-foot-long hammerhead while fishing for yellowtail

SEE SHARKS • PAGE 7



JOHN BAZEMORE, AP FILE PHOTO

A hammerhead shark swims in a large tank at the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta. More hammerheads have been spotted in local waters, and recent bitings have drawn media attention.



People are doing crazier things now than we did 20 years ago. ... People are fishing for big sharks out of little kayaks."

CHRIS LOWE, DIRECTOR OF SHARK LAB AT CAL STATE LONG BEACH

Register

Sept. 14, 2015

1 of 2

SHARKS

FROM PAGE 1

off Huntington Beach, though the hammerhead eventually got off their line.

Shark expert Chris Lowe, director of Shark Lab at Cal State Long Beach, said he's had 30 reports of hammerheads this summer.

The typical number during a non-El Niño year? Zero.

They usually don't live in local waters, but the warm water we've had the past two years – thanks to a warm water system dubbed "the Blob" by climate scientists – has brought many tropical species to the area, Lowe said.

In June, that meant local beaches inundated with red crabs. And off the coast all summer, fishermen have been catching big numbers of yellowtail and bluefin tuna, species that typically are more common farther south.

Along with the yellowtail and bluefin have come their natural predators, hammerhead sharks.

"I've been telling people, it's a different ocean right now," Lowe said. "It's one we don't typically see unless it's an El Niño year."

What's also different is the number of people bitten by hammerheads. Unprovoked attacks typically are very rare, Lowe said.

About three weeks ago, a spearfisherman hunting off Tanner Bank, about 100 miles west of San Diego, was bitten on the hand. Lowe said the man speared a yellowtail, but was about to lose the fish to a sea lion. As he reached out to grab the fish, a hammerhead shark bit his hand.

"Those areas are like Jurassic Park," Lowe said. "It's crazy out there."

As in the Malibu case, Lowe wouldn't qualify the Tanner Bank incident as an "attack," as it was portrayed in the media.

"In my book, these are provoked because they are caught," said Lowe, who has run Shark Lab at Cal State Long Beach since 1993, about the sharks.

"If you have your limbs dangling in the water, the shark will try and get away and thrash about, and will



YVES LEFEBRE, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chris Lowe of the Shark Lab at Cal State Long Beach says hammerhead sharks, such as these shown near the Pacific islet of Malpelo, are rarely aggressive toward humans.

bite at anything that will prevent it from getting it away.

"Sportspeople accept the risk of that," Lowe added. "When people hear about people getting bitten by sharks, they don't see it that way."

He said hammerheads are rarely aggressive toward humans and won't approach unless there's a struggling fish nearby.

"People are doing crazier things now than we did 20 years ago. Humans are using the water for a much wider variety of things, further offshore, or considered more risky," Lowe said.

"People are fishing for big sharks out of little kayaks."

Todd Mansur, who has been a captain for Dana Wharf Sportfishing and Whale Watching for 30 years, said hammerheads are more common this year but that the species isn't foreign to the area.

While he's seeing about four hammerheads a day while fishing this year, he sees at least a few every summer.

Just the other day, Mansur said, one of his deckhands jumped in the water to untangle a line with a yellowtail at the end of it even as a hammerhead lingered nearby.

"They're not people eaters. Their mouths point down. They are not aggressive," Mansur said.

"They aren't going to come over and start biting you."

A few days ago, a 7-footer about 12 miles off San Onofre came up to a 65-foot boat Mansur was chartering, and one of the deckhands pet the shark as it grabbed a fish near the boat. Mansur does not encourage inexperienced boaters and swimmers to do the same.

There are various types of hammerhead sharks, Lowe said. The scalloped hammerhead, common in Mexico, is an endangered species due to being overfished.

What's showing up in local waters is the smooth hammerhead, which doesn't have indentations on the nose. These sharks are typically 6-8 feet, but can get up to 15 feet. They are more coastal and can be

found in depths less than 200 feet.

"They are great scavengers," Lowe said. "They'll steal fish off lines."

Lowe said he's keeping his ears open for other sharks - tiger and bull.

"Those are two species that can come to Southern California and have been caught in past El Niño years," he said.

"We just don't know how they behave when they migrate this far up."

CONTACT THE WRITER:

iconnelly@ocregister.com

Vaping laws around Orange County

Buena Park, Garden Grove and Laguna Niguel have passed laws banning vaping in public places where California law bans tobacco smoking. Laguna Niguel also prohibits e-cigarette lounges because they are not listed in the city's zoning code.

Mission Viejo and Seal Beach have interpreted existing city laws banning tobacco smoking in parks to include e-cigarettes.

Costa Mesa is banning vaping in public facilities and parks.

San Clemente officials considered a ban on vaping in public places but decided to wait to learn more about whether secondhand vapor is as dangerous as secondhand smoke.

The OC Fair prohibits e-cigarettes in the amphitheater, grandstand and bleacher seating areas.

Sources: City staff, municipal code and American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation

- Jordan Graham

Register
Sept. 13, 2015

Promoting Anaheim

New TV spot, road show part of campaign to lure more tourists, business people to the city.

BY JOSEPH PIMENTEL
STAFF WRITER

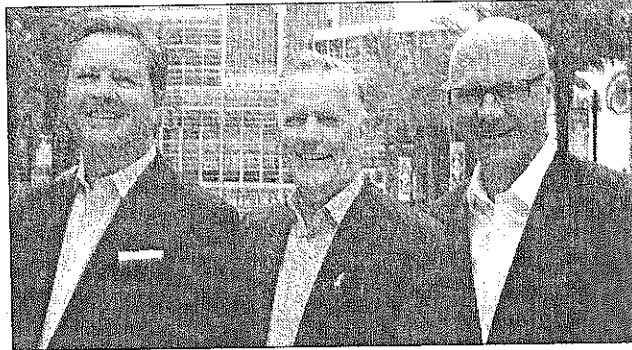
ANAHEIM • Fireworks exploding over Disneyland, Angel players and fans cheering a win, and a little kid jumping into a hotel pool.

These scenes play out in Visit Anaheim's first-ever national television commercial that was to premiere Friday on NBC Sports Network.

The 30-second spot, "Imagine what you can do in Anaheim," highlights nine aspects of the city including Disneyland, the city's pro sports franchises, the Packing District and the dining scene.

The commercial, part of a campaign to lure more tourists and business conventions, airs nationally until Oct. 6 during the "2015 National Grid League," a competition that involves co-ed teams performing a series of strength and conditioning races.

"Everyone knows about Disneyland, but it's not the only component here," said Charles Harris, a vice president at Visit Anaheim, which promotes tourism for Anaheim and Garden



COURTESY OF CLAUDIA SCHOU, HILTON ANAHEIM

Hilton Anaheim general manager Shaun Robinson, left, Anaheim Marriott general manager John Kalinski, center, and Visit Anaheim president Jay Burress are part of the Anaheim Campus Collective.

Grove. "We're pushing Disney and beyond."

The commercial will run five or six times. There will be digital and print advertisements too. Harris declined to say what it cost to make the commercial and to run it on TV.

Visit Anaheim's president, Jay Burress, along with the general managers of the Anaheim Marriott Hotel and the Hilton Anaheim, have been traveling around the nation and the world to promote the area as a world-class destination.

"I would argue nowhere else ... can deliver what Anaheim has - world-class

beaches 15 minutes away from meeting spaces and, of course, Disney right down the road," said the Marriott's general manager, John Kalinski.

"It's important for us to come together with a unified voice, and unified pitch," said Shaun Robinson, the Hilton's general manager.

Hotels under construction dot the resort swath of Anaheim and adjacent Garden Grove. The Convention Center is expanding, and Disneyland is getting a "Star Wars" land.

"This is not your father's Anaheim anymore," Kolinski said.

National ambitions

Garden Grove native is vying to be first from state since '82 to win the crown.

BY CHRIS HAIRE
STAFF WRITER

Bree Morse is trying to accomplish something tonight no Californian has done in 33 years: Win the title of Miss America.

"No pressure, right?" she joked recently while meandering along Historic Main Street in Garden Grove, her hometown. "I'm excited, but even if I don't win, I'm still Miss California and that's a great opportunity."

Morse, 23, has been competing in preliminary rounds in Atlantic City, N.J., this week leading up to tonight's Miss America Pageant broadcast. Debra Sue Maffett was the last Californian to win the title in 1982.

Morse and the other contestants will not find out who the semifinalists are going on to compete for the crown until after all state winners perform an opening musical number during the broadcast. As the show goes on the semifinalists get narrowed down to finalists before Miss America is crowned.

"I'm a little nervous, but mostly just excited," Morse said before she left for New Jersey. "All you can do is go out there and compete. Try your best."

She didn't win that first pageant in 2008, but she was hooked.

"It's completely different from what I thought," Morse said. "I thought it was just about your looks. But you have to be able to answer questions, have a cause and show you're a well-rounded person."

And that's how she came



JEFF GRITCHEN, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Miss California, Bree Morse, on Main Street in her hometown of Garden Grove.

to rack up seven pageant wins since 2009. But still, she has rarely won on her first try.

She won Miss Garden Grove's Outstanding Teen in 2009. But she failed in her first attempt at Miss Garden Grove and didn't win until 2012. Then she got on a roll, winning Miss North County in 2013, Miss Orange County in 2014 and Miss Orange Coast this year. But until this year, she continually fell short of the Miss California crown.

"I learned from my mistakes," she said. "I got better and better."

But there have been moments when Morse's confidence has been shaken.

A couple of years ago while in college, she noticed her hair was falling out in one section.

She went to the doctor and received a startling diagnosis for a pageant

contestant: She has alopecia areata, an autoimmune disorder that causes your hair to fall out. There is no known cure. Morse eventually got a steroid injection to stimulate hair growth on her scalp.

"It affected my confidence for sure," she said. "But I eventually realized this is who I am and to take it in stride. Maybe my hair will fall out tomorrow. We have to accept our differences."

And in the process, Morse said she discovered her platform for future pageants, including Miss America, by supporting the National Alopecia Areata Foundation.

A personal attachment to her platform and a self-confidence are among the things, Stacy Margolin, the Miss Garden Grove organizer, said she thinks will put Morse on top tonight.

Register
Sept. 13, 2015

Miss California, from O.C., is going for the big crown

Bree Morse of Garden Grove will vie for the Miss America title during Sunday's pageant.

BY KATHLEEN LUPPI

Bree Morse knows what it's like to represent her home state. As the reigning Miss California, the Garden Grove native has spent the past year celebrating all the Golden State has to offer, particularly her hometown and surrounding areas.

She remembers going to the Strawberry Festival, attending football games at Pacifica High School, eating at In-N-Out Burger and meeting friends at Seal Beach.

Morse, who competed as Miss Orange Coast, was crowned Miss California 2015 in

June, earning her a \$12,000 scholarship from the Miss California pageant and advancement to the Miss America pageant Sunday in Atlantic City, N.J.

"I'm really excited to be going to Miss America to represent California, especially Orange County," Morse said. "I'm really proud. I hope I can capture the essence of Orange County and relate that to the stage."

Morse, whose father is a truck driver and mother is a bus driver, ran for the Miss California title before, having been named Miss Garden Grove, Miss North County, Miss Orange County and Miss Orange Coast.

The first time she didn't place, the second time she was in the top 12, and the following year she was second runner-up.

MISS CALIFORNIA
Bree Morse is also Miss Garden Grove, Miss North County, Miss Orange County and Miss Orange Coast.

"Miss America has an extraordinary amount of possible opportunities to be a relatable role model to young women. It has been a life-changing experience for me."

Bree Morse

Register
Sept. 13, 2015

Courtesy
Bree Morse

See *Pageant*, page R5

PAGEANT

Continued from page R1

The fourth time was the charm.

"I was so excited, but I lost it when my sister came on stage and she was crying," Morse said. "My parents raised us to be very humble and have philanthropic values, so I'm very lucky to have such positive role models."

A graduate of Cal State Long Beach, Morse, 23, majored in marketing. She wants to one day obtain an MBA, teach English and become a school vice principal.

For the national competition, she will showcase her tap-dancing skills and speak about her support for the National Alopecia Areata Foundation, an organization that provides information about the hair loss disease and funds research.

Her involvement with the organization began last year, when Morse learned she had alopecia, a type of hair loss that occurs when the immune system mistakenly attacks hair follicles.

She noticed a chunk of her hair was missing and felt self-conscious and too ashamed to tell her friends and family.

"When you start losing your hair in the public eye, you start to realize how much you invest in your appearance," she said. "But I quickly learned that your personal beauty isn't definitive on what's on your head. It's about inner beauty."

Morse said that when her dermatologist told her there was no cure, she wrote a

letter in an attempt to persuade her local congressional representatives to fund research leading to potential treatments.

Sharing her story with fellow beauty pageant contestants from across the country during the competition helped her form friendships.

"You get really close with these girls because we're all going to school and have philanthropic interests," Morse said. "It's like being in a sorority and finding parallels in these common interests."

The judging panel for the 95th anniversary broadcast of the pageant will include pop star Zendaya, "Shark Tank" businessman Kevin O'Leary, country music singer Brett Eldredge, actress Danica McKellar, snowboarding bronze medalist Amy Purdy and Taya Kyle, author and wife of the late U.S. Navy Seal Chris Kyle.



And 32 years after being crowned the first African-American Miss America — a year later she was forced to resign after nude photos taken earlier surfaced — Vanessa Williams will return to the Miss America stage as head judge.

Williams will join host Chris Harrison and co-host Brooke Burke-Charvet. Nick Jonas will be a music curator.

Morse said she is honored to be a part of the Miss America organization and is proud to participate in a beauty pageant that supports women's personal and professional goals.

"Miss America has an extraordinary amount of possible opportunities to be a relatable role model to young women," Morse said. "It has been a life-changing experience for me."

ABC-7 will air this year's Miss America competition starting at 6 p.m. PDT.

Register
Sept. 13, 2015



O.C. joins Medicare, Medi-Cal program

Cal MediConnect provides extra benefits at no cost.

BY COURTNEY PERKES
STAFF WRITER

ABOUT CAL MEDICONNECT

Orange County is the last of seven California counties to begin automatically enrolling low-income seniors and disabled patients in a new health plan offering extra benefits, such as taxi rides to doctor's appointments, at no cost.

The three-year pilot program is for so-called "dual eligibles," who are covered by Medicare and Medi-Cal. They often have complex and costly health care needs, research has shown. The Cal MediConnect program was created to unify and simplify the coverage to avoid confusion, delays in care and unnecessary costs, according to the state.

Last month, CalOptima, the county's Medi-Cal insurer, began automatically enrolling eligible patients in the program, locally called OneCare Connect. That enrollment process will continue through July, with about 3,000 residents added per month.

On Wednesday, CalOptima officials joined local patient-care advocates to discuss the launch of the program at a media event in Ir-

To learn more about OneCare Connect, contact CalOptima at 855-705-8823.

For free counseling regarding the program and other Medicare benefits, contact the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program at 714-560-0424.

vine hosted by the nonprofit New America Media, a collaboration of ethnic news organizations.

The plan for dual eligibles offers enhanced benefits including vision care, transportation and meetings with personal care coordinators, said Javier Sanchez, chief network officer for CalOptima. The program, funded by Medi-Cal and Medicare, also pays participating doctors a higher rate than Medicare's standard reimbursement.

Sara Lee, an attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Orange County, said some residents have called with questions about how to opt out or proceed with ongoing care.

"I think a lot of education needs to go out regarding the continuity of care," Lee said. "These beneficiaries tend to have the most severe health conditions and they probably have treatment or surgeries coming up. It may overwhelm them when they start hearing

about the program and not knowing whether they can see their current provider."

Sanchez said the opt out rate so far has been 45 percent but that in Los Angeles County participation increased over time. So far, Orange County membership is roughly 1,700. The network for the program includes 4,800 doctors and 33 hospitals.

"We heard that especially in certain ethnic communities there's been a lot of misinformation that's been disseminated," Sanchez said. "For example, people are being told that they're going to lose benefits, they're going to lose their choice or their freedom, also that they're going to have higher costs - none of which are true."

Dao Nguyen, 78, of Garden Grove chose to stay in the program after she was enrolled this month. She said through a Vietnamese interpreter that she verified that she can continue to see her doctor of 15 years.

Woman found dead in vehicle near Mile Square

BY ALYSSA DURANTY
STAFF WRITER

FOUNTAIN VALLEY • A 46-year-old woman's body was found Thursday night after she apparently died two or three days earlier, police said.

People were walking around on Warner Avenue near Euclid Street 6:10 p.m., by Mile Square Park, when they noticed a woman's body in a parked vehicle, Fountain



Hodge

Valley police Sgt. Kham Vang said.

The woman, later identified by the coroner's office as Natalie Hodge of Garden Grove, died and was in the car for two or three days before her body was discovered, Vang said.

It was not immediately clear how she died, and an autopsy is scheduled for early next week.

The coroner's office did not initially suspect her death was suspicious or malicious.

Register
Sept. 13, 2015

RESTAURANT CLOSURES

Permits can be suspended for major violations. Suspensions are lifted when violations are corrected.

Deli at Farm Direct Market, 5331 University Drive, Irvine; insufficient hot water; permit downgraded to prepackaged foods only; permit suspended Sept. 10.

Bardot Bars & Coffee, 5331 University Drive, Irvine; insufficient hot water;

permit suspended Sept. 10.

Tebo Tea Express, 13916 Brookhurst St., Garden Grove; failure to comply with notice of violation; permit suspended Sept. 9, reinstated Sept. 9.

Bleu Restaurant & Dancing, 14160 Beach Blvd., Westminster; rodent infestation; permit suspended Sept. 8, reinstated Sept. 8.

Class 302 Cafe, 13252

Jamboree Road, Irvine; cockroach infestation; permit suspended Sept. 4, reinstated Sept. 5.

118 Degrees, 2981 Bristol St., Costa Mesa; cockroach

infestation; permit suspended Sept. 4, reinstated Sept. 6.

Permit status on OC Health Care Agency website.

GARDEN GROVE

Child screening: The Magnolia Park Family Resource Center, 11402 Magnolia St., will offer free screenings to assess how children are progressing cognitively, developmentally and socially from 9 to 11 a.m. today. The first 65 Orange County children up to 5 years old to arrive will be screened. Information: 714-447-3301.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

GARDEN GROVE

Drug disposal: Residents can dispose of their pills from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Department, at 11301 Acacia Parkway, as part of the National Drug Take Back Initiative. Police and Drug Enforcement Administration officials will dispose of the pills for free and anonymously with no questions asked.

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

GARDEN GROVE

Library closed: The Garden Grove Tibor Rubin Library, 11962 Bailey St., is closed for renovations and is not expected to reopen until January. The city has two other libraries: the Chapman Library, 9182 Chapman Ave., and the Garden Grove Library, 11200 Stanford Ave.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

GARDEN GROVE

Survey results: Nearly 95 percent of parents were proud of their child's school, according to a Garden Grove Unified School District survey of 20,000 district families. Almost 90 percent of the 33,631 students in third through eleventh grade who were interviewed agreed that their school was a "supportive place to learn."

Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

Register
Sept. 11, 2015

Register
Sept. 12, 2015

Register
Sept. 14, 2015

Register
Sept. 15, 2015

Garden Grove fire displaces 8

BY LOUIS CASIANO JR.
STAFF WRITER

A kitchen fire displaced eight people from a home in Garden Grove Friday night, authorities said.

Firefighters were called to a home in the 13200 block of Ramona Drive just before 6:15 p.m., said Capt. Thanh Nguyen of the Garden Grove Fire Department.

The fire was extinguished within a few minutes and was confined to the kitchen wall.

Four adults and four children live in the home, and were being assisted by the American Red Cross of Orange County.

The fire appeared to be accidental and caused an estimated \$28,000 in damage to the structure and its contents.

No residents or firefighters were injured.

Register
Sept. 13, 2015

Register
Sept. 17, 2015

GARDEN GROVE

Thoughtful luncheon: The Community Foundation's 17th annual Food for Thought luncheon will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Wyndham Resort, 12021 Harbor Blvd. Kyle Scheele, an inspirational speaker who tries to motivate teens to live better lives, is the guest speaker. Tickets are \$25. Info: 714-741-5168.
Chris Haire, 714-704-3707
chaire@ocregister.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



GROVE DISTRICT ANAHEIM RESORT LAUNCHES NEW TOURISM WEBSITE

The Expanding District's 10 hotels are showcased on GroveDistrictAnaheimResort.com

(Garden Grove, CA) September 17, 2015—The Grove District Anaheim Resort, encompassing 10 modern hotels along a beautiful one-mile stretch of Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove, is pleased to announce the launch of a new tourism website, grovedistrictanaheimresort.com. The site, which represents established hotel brands including Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton and Wyndham, provides detailed information for travelers, highlighting nearby restaurants, local attractions, as well as hotel features and amenities including meetings and event space.

"The City of Garden Grove is excited to welcome a new and improved tourism website that equally represents the Grove District Anaheim Resort hotels and provides an enhanced, user-friendly experience for visitors interested in learning more about the area and booking rooms at our world-class accommodations," says Greg Blodgett, Senior Project Manager, City of Garden Grove.

Showcasing the best of the Grove District Anaheim Resort, a new [YouTube channel](#) is populated with videos highlighting the hotels' family-friendly amenities, business and leisure features, and local shopping and dining. Visitors to the website can find more information about each hotel and [book rooms](#).

Improved functions include a detailed [map](#) pinpointing the location of each hotel in relation to one another and to main attractions, an [electronic press kit](#), [high res photos](#) available for download, and social media profiles including [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). The website will be updated to include newsworthy information such as the imminent opening of Great Wolf Lodge® Southern California, opening in early 2016.

About Grove District Anaheim Resort:

The Grove District Anaheim Resort, located just one mile from the original *Disneyland*® and the Anaheim Convention Center, is a collection of 10 modern hotels catering to families and business travelers alike. With more than 3,600 hotel rooms, 100,000 square feet of event space, and internationally acclaimed hotel brands such as Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton and Wyndham, the Grove District Anaheim Resort offers an array of services and overnight options for travelers exploring the best of southern California. The Resort is conveniently located just a 15-minute drive from John Wayne Airport and with easy access

to major freeways. The Anaheim Resort Transportation (ART) and hotel shuttle services provide door-to-door service to major attractions, like beaches, theme parks and the convention center. Expansion plans for the 520-acre, high-profile area along Harbor Boulevard include more than 1,000 new hotel rooms, several themed restaurants and entertainment venues, and the Great Wolf Lodge Southern California, a 603-room indoor water park hotel opening in 2016. For more information, visit grovedistrictanaheimresort.com.

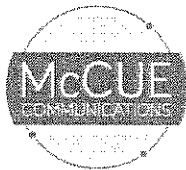
Media Contact:

McCue Communications

Celia Soudry

celia@mccuecommunications.com

(213) 985-1011



Contact: Kim Huy (714) 741-5280

Monday, September 14, 2015

GARDEN GROVE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HOSTS 17TH ANNUAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT LUNCHEON

The 17th annual Garden Grove Community Foundation "Food for Thought" Luncheon takes place on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Wyndham Resort, 12021 Harbor Boulevard. This year's guest speaker, Kyle Scheele, will show students each of them has the power to make their story one in a million...or one of a million.

The annual luncheon brings together more than 200 juniors and seniors from the Garden Grove Unified School District, to gain insight from motivational speakers, and discuss career goals with business and community members in attendance.

Scheele is an inspiring speaker, writer, and youth expert who has challenged tens of thousands of teens across the nation to live better stories. He lives in Springfield, Missouri with his wife and children.

The GGCF encourages participation from the local business community as well as sponsoring students to attend the program. Admission to the event, or student sponsorships, is \$25 per person.

The event is sponsored by the City of Garden Grove, Republic Services, GKN Aerospace, and Southern CA Gas Company.

For information and reservations, please call (714) 741-5168.

#

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

September 17, 2015

1. Calendar of Events
2. Notice of Cancellation for the September 24, 2015 Zoning Administrator meeting.
3. League of California Cities, "CA Cities Advocates" dated September 11, and 15, 2015.



GARDEN GROVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 17, 2015 – October 8, 2015

Thursday	September 17		Casual Day – Western Dress
		7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
Thursday-Saturday	September 17-19	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Friday	September 18		City Hall Closed
Tuesday	September 22	5:30 p.m.	Closed Session, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Housing Authority Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Sanitary District Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Successor Agency Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	City Council Meeting, Courtyard Center
		6:30 p.m.	Public Financing Authority Meeting, Courtyard Center
Wednesday	September 23	2:00 p.m.	Oversight Board Meeting, Courtyard Center
Thursday	September 24	9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room CANCELLED
Thursday-Saturday	September 24-26	7:30 p.m.	Shakespeare Orange County presents "Pirates of Penzance", Festival Amphitheater
Saturday	September 26	10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	National Drug Take Back Initiative Pill Disposal at the Garden Grove Police Department, 11301 Acacia Pkwy
Tuesday	September 29	8:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	San Manuel Casino Trip coordinated by the H. Louis Lake Senior Center
Thursday	October 1	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Courtyard Center
Friday	October 2		City Hall Closed
Thursday	October 8	7:30 a.m.- 1:45 p.m.	American Red Cross Blood Drive, Courtyard Center
		9:00 a.m.	Zoning Administrator Meeting City Hall, 3 rd Floor Training Room
		6:00 p.m.	Parks, Recreation and Arts Commission Meeting Courtyard Center



GARDEN GROVE

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION
OF THE
GARDEN GROVE
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Regular Meeting of the Garden Grove Zoning Administrator scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall, 11222 Acacia Parkway, Third Floor Training Room, Garden Grove, is hereby cancelled pursuant to the attached Cancellation Notice.

DATED: September 14, 2015

KARL HILL
ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Sept. 11, 2015
Issue #86

Cities' Final Day of 2015 Legislative Session Begins with Major Legislation Still in Play, RDA Proposal Goes to Floor without Public Scrutiny

Agreement on Medical Marijuana Legislation Reached, Drone Bill Set for Hearing

As the temperatures in Sacramento promised to reach well into the triple digits on Friday, the Capitol was abuzz with the usual late-breaking legislative maneuvers that are de rigeur in the Legislature. Top on that list was the introduction of SB 107, the newest version of the redevelopment dissolution proposal, a 104 page bill that went straight to the Assembly Floor at 11 a.m. after only being in print for hours and without any committee hearings.

Cities up and down the state took to the phone and Twitter starting late Thursday afternoon to voice their strong opposition when it was confirmed that legislators would try to jam through the redevelopment proposal in the waning hours of the session. First put forward by the Department of Finance (DOF) back in January, the proposal has struggled through the legislative process as legislators questioned the harmful effects to cities that had been faithfully operating under the laws (AB 1484 of 2012) governing the dissolution of redevelopment agencies. DOF is seeking to change the definition of loans, carve outs and the definition of interest rates.

The League quickly analyzed the bill and delivered a strong opposition letter.

Assembly Member Mike Gatto (D-Glendale) is one of a number of Assembly members who spoke in opposition, naming a long list of cities that would lose \$5,000 or more from the measure. "This isn't about taking money back. It's about keeping faith with local governments. When we make a promise we should keep it. I can't and will not do this to my constituents."

Others including Assembly Member Young Kim (R-Fullerton) objected to the fact that the bill emerged without review or input from the cities she represents. Assembly Member Matthew Harper (R-Huntington Beach) stated: "This is too soon with this language and we should let some daylight into this process."

In the end, the Assembly passed SB 107 with a vote of 41-24. It now heads to the Senate.

Medical Marijuana

Also late Thursday, word spread that lawmakers had come to an agreement on medical marijuana legislation. The League obtained bill language late Friday morning for the three bills, AB 266 (Bonta), AB 243 (Wood) and SB 643 (McGuire).

The League is currently reviewing the language and will update members on the legislation's provisions related to local control and public safety as well as vote results.

Drones

League co-sponsored SB 168 (Gaines and Jackson) had been held at the Assembly desk until late Thursday when it received a rule waiver and was referred to the Assembly Privacy Committee for a hearing on Friday. It passed out of committee this morning and heads to the floor for a vote. This measure has bipartisan support and would provide immunity for first responders who damage a civilian drone directly interfering with ambulance services, firefighting-related services and search and rescue operations.

SB 350

Senate President pro Tem Kevin De León's (D-Los Angeles) climate change legislation, SB 350, is still in motion. On Wednesday, provisions were removed that would have mandated a 50 percent reduction in petroleum consumption in California by the year 2030.

Final Analysis

The League will continue to report legislative developments as they occur throughout the day to members. A complete analysis and wrap up of major developments, including redevelopment dissolution and medical marijuana will be published as soon as possible.

Sept. 15, 2015
Issue #87

Summary of Medical Marijuana Package

In a historic move, the Legislature on Friday night sent Gov. Jerry Brown a comprehensive package of bills to erect a regulatory structure around the state's multi-billion dollar medical marijuana industry. For the first time since voters passed Proposition 215 in 1996, multiple stakeholders including local government, law enforcement, unions and portions of the industry, came to an agreement on what the regulatory structure should look like. This in turn empowered the Legislature to speak with a unified voice and approve the package of bills with bipartisan support.

Together, the three measures comprise the Medical Marijuana Regulation & Safety Act. In a rare move, the bills were triple-joined, which means that they must all be signed by the Governor, or all will fail. Since his staff was directly involved in, and in fact controlled the final drafting of each measure, Governor Brown is expected to sign each of these measures.

A summary of each of the three bills is below:

AB 243 (Wood) Medical Marijuana

- Places the Department of Food and Agriculture (DFA) in charge of licensing and regulation of indoor and outdoor cultivation sites. Creates a Medical Cannabis Cultivation Program within the department.
- Mandates the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to develop standards for pesticides in marijuana cultivation, and maximum tolerances for pesticides and other foreign object residue.
- Mandates the Department of Public Health (DPH) to develop standards for production and labelling of all edible medical cannabis products.
- Assigns joint responsibility to DFA, Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to prevent illegal water diversion associated with marijuana cultivation from adversely affecting California fish population.
- Specifies that DPR, in consultation with SWRCB, is to develop regulations for application of pesticides in all cultivation.
- Specifies various types of cultivation licenses.
- Directs the multi-agency task force headed by DFW and SWRCB to expand its existing enforcement efforts to a statewide level to reduce adverse impacts of marijuana cultivation, including environmental impacts such as illegal discharge into waterways and poisoning of marine life and habitats.

AB 266 (Bonta, Cooley, Jones-Sawyer, Lackey, Wood) Medical Marijuana

- Protects local control as it establishes a statewide regulatory scheme, headed by the Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation (BMMR) within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA).
- Provides for dual licensing: state will issue licenses, and local governments will issue permits or licenses to operate marijuana businesses, according to local ordinances. State licenses will be issued beginning in January 2018.
- Revocation of a local license or permit will unilaterally terminate the ability of the business to operate in that jurisdiction.
- Expressly protects local licensing practices, zoning ordinances, and local constitutional police power.

- Caps total cultivation for a single licensee at four acres statewide, subject to local ordinances.
- Requires local jurisdictions that wish to prevent delivery services from operating within their borders to enact an ordinance affirmatively banning this activity. No specific operative date for the ban is specified.
- Specifies that DCA will issue the following licenses: Dispensary, Distributor, Transport, and Special Dispensary Status for licensees who have a maximum of three dispensaries. Specifies various sub-categories of licensees (indoor cultivation, outdoor cultivation, etc.)
- Limits cross-licensing to holding a single state license in up to two separate license categories, as specified. Prohibits medical marijuana licensees from also holding licenses to sell alcohol.
- Grandfathers in vertically integrated businesses (i.e. businesses that operate and control their own cultivation, manufacturing, and dispensing operations) if a local ordinance allowed or required such a business model and was enacted on or before July 1, 2015. Also requires such businesses to have operated in compliance with local ordinances, and to have been engaged in all the covered activities on July 1, 2015.
- Requires establishment of uniform health and safety standards, testing standards, and security requirements at dispensaries and during transport of the product.
- Specifies a standard for certification of testing labs, and specified minimum testing requirements. Prohibits testing lab operators from being licensees in any other category, and from holding a financial or ownership interest in any other category of licensed business.
- Includes a labor peace agreement under which unions agree not to engage in strikes, work stoppages, etc. and employers agree to provide unions reasonable access to employees for the purpose of organizing them. Specifies that such an agreement does not mandate a particular method of election.
- Provides for civil penalties for unlicensed activity, and specifies that applicable criminal penalties under existing law will continue to apply.
- Specifies that patients and primary caregivers are exempt from the state licensing requirement, and provides that their information is not to be disclosed and is confidential under the California Public Records Act.
- Phases out the existing model of marijuana cooperatives and collectives one year after DCA announces that state licensing has begun.
- Preserves enforcement authority of the city of Los Angeles with respect to Measure D, the local regulatory structure for medical marijuana within the city limits.

SB 643 (McGuire) Medical Marijuana

- Directs the California Medical Board to prioritize investigation of excessive recommendations by physicians.
- Imposes fines (\$5000.00) against physicians for violating prohibition against having a financial interest in a marijuana business.
- Recommendation for cannabis without a prior examination constitutes unprofessional conduct.
- Imposes restrictions on advertising for physician recommendations.
- Places DFA in charge of cultivation regulations and licensing, and requires a track and trace program.
- Codifies dual licensing (state license and local license or permit), and itemizes disqualifying felonies for state licensure.
- Places DPR in charge of pesticide regulation; DPH in charge of production and labelling of edibles.
- Upholds local power to levy fees and taxes.

For questions, please contact Tim Cromartie.