

# Sun-Reporter



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**.30¢**  
BEST BUY IN THE WEST

## Cohen, Thurmond And Weber Win Big State Races

Joe W. Bowers Jr.  
California Black Media

**A**wave of Black candidates in California are expected to win after this week's General Election. Among them are three candidates leading in their races to be elected to statewide constitutional offices.

Two African American candidates running for seats in the State Legislature are expected to win and become the two newest members of the California Legislative Black Caucus.

In Los Angeles, Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA-13), who is running for mayor of California's largest city, is still in a too-close-to-call, dead-heat race with billionaire developer Rick Caruso as the ballot count continues.

Three Candidates -- Dr. Shirley Weber for Secretary of State, Tony Thurmond for State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) and Malia Cohen for State Controller -- are running for statewide office.

Weber and Thurmond have already been projected to win their races.

For the first time in California history, there is a chance that three Black State Constitutional Officers will be elected to serve in office at the same time.

In the legislative races, Assembly District 60 (Moreno Valley), Corey A Jackson is leading Republican Small Business Owner

Hector Diaz-Nava. And in the Senate race for Senate District 28 (Los Angeles) to replace Sydney Kamlager, two Black candidates are running for the same seat. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D) is in the lead over Cheryl C. Turner (D).

There are 40 State Senate seats. Twenty are being contested in this election.

While regular updates are being provided for the 165 California



Malia Cohen



Rep. Karen Bass

elections held to fill state and federal offices, as with every statewide election, no final ballot counts are available on election night. Election results are updated at 5 p.m. each day throughout the canvass as counties count the remaining ballots.

Vote-by-mail ballots postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before Nov. 8 and received no later than Nov. 15 have to be counted.

The official certified results of the election will be posted by Dec. 16, 2022, at [sos.ca.gov/elections](https://sos.ca.gov/elections).

The candidates on the general election ballot were the top two finishers from the June Primary.

For some races, winners have been projected by the Associated Press (AP), which conducts a survey of the numbers posted by local election officials. AP projects winners using vote returns and other data.

California Black Media (CBM) is reporting that 27 African American candidates are running in 24 of the state or federal

races on the general election ballot. That's 14.5% of the races. Blacks make up 5.8% of California's population.

Four Black candidates are running statewide. Three are

Democrats and one is a Republican. The following are results available for statewide races.

Incumbent Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) is projected to defeat state Sen. Brian Dahle (R).

Incumbent Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis (D) is the projected winner over Black Republican candidate Angela Underwood Jacobs.

Incumbent Democratic Secretary of State Shirley Weber, a Newsom appointee, is the projected winner over her Republican opponent Rob Bernosky.

Incumbent State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond is the projected winner over Lance Ray Christensen. This is a non-partisan race.

For Controller, Democrat Malia Cohen leads Republican Lanhee Chen.

Incumbent Treasurer Fiona Ma (D) leads Jack Guerrero (R).

Incumbent Attorney General Rob Bonta (D), a Newsom appointee, leads Nathan Hochman (R).

Incumbent Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara (D) leads Robert Howell (R).

Continued on page 7

## No Red Wave But Election Night Results Could Still Leave Democrats Feeling Blue

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent  
@StacyBrownMedia

**A**s Election Night turned slowly into Wednesday morning, the U.S. House and Senate balance of power remained a tossup after tens of millions of votes were counted nationwide.

And while crucial races like the Georgia Senate race between Republican Herschel Walker and Democratic Incumbent Sen. Raphael Warnock remained too close to call, the red wave many political watchers and several mainstream media outlets predicted hadn't developed.

In the House, where power is likely to change hands, one Democrat, Virginia Rep. Elaine Luria, lost her seat. However, Ohio GOP Rep. Steve Chabot also lost his House seat.

Some House seats that most

predicted as easy Republican prey like Democratic Reps. Abigail Spanberger of Virginia, and Chris Pappas in New Hampshire, were retained.

On Wednesday morning, Republicans were assured of 207 House seats to 188 for Democrats. A party needs 218 seats to control the chamber.

With Democratic Lt. Gov. John Fetterman defeating Republican Mehmet Oz for the Pennsylvania Senate seat, Democrats currently hold a 48-47 seat advantage in their efforts to retain control.

As it's been the past two years, Democrats need 50 seats to control that chamber because Vice President Kamala Harris acts as the tiebreaker.

However, the race to represent Georgia in the Senate remains surprisingly close. Warnock awakened on Wednesday in a statistical dead heat with Walker, each at 49% of the vote with 96% of precincts counted.

Approximately 18,000 votes separate the candidates. If neither candidate wins 50% of the vote, they will square off on Dec. 6 in a runoff.

The Wisconsin Senate race between Republican Incumbent Ron Johnson and Democrat Mandela Barnes, a Black man, was too close to call. Johnson held a slight advantage Wednesday morning with about 32,000 more votes or 50.6% to 49.4%.

However, most of the remaining ballots are GOP strongholds.

Meanwhile, Senate races in Arizona and Nevada will determine the Senate majority, and both outcomes aren't expected for several days.

Senator Mark Kelly, a Democrat, held a 52% to 45.8% lead over Blake Masters, a Republican, Wednesday morning with 66% of the votes counted.

Republican Adam Laxalt

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## Covered California Enrollment Launched - Healthcare Help Available for All Californians

Maxim Elramisy | California Black Media

**C**alifornia's health insurance marketplace, known as the Covered California Health Exchange, launched its 10th open enrollment period on Nov. 1.

Covered California is the government agency that offers subsidized Obamacare plans for Californians. Those who qualify receive financial assistance on a sliding scale for their health coverage in compliance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Depending on income, some consumers may qualify for another state-provided health insurance option, Medi-Cal, at a lower or no cost.

U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra joined Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA-37), Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and other Covered California leaders at Union Station in Los Angeles to kick off open enrollment.

"We saw from COVID how many gaps there are in our health public health care system. First and foremost, we've got to get people covered. They know they have that peace of mind if they can walk into any doctor's door, into any hospital. It gives them the confidence to do it the right way," said Becerra. "That's why we're going to continue to expand. When you can offer an American



(Left to right) Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Covered California Executive Director Jessica Altman, Covered California Consumer Zhang Yue, Secretary of United States Department of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra, Congresswoman Karen Bass, and Secretary of California Health and Human Services Agency Dr. Mark Ghaly launch the 10th open enrollment period for Covered California at Union Station in Los Angeles on Tuesday, November 1, 2022. (Maxim Elramisy | California Black Media)

health insurance plan for 10 dollars or less a month; you can't go see a movie today, not in L.A., for 10 dollars... 10 dollars or less a month for peace of mind. That's what we're selling."

Since Covered California's first open enrollment campaign in 2013, federal data shows that California's uninsured rate fell from 17.2% to a record low of 7.0%, the greatest percentage decrease for any state in that period, and below the national average of 8.6%.

Publicly funded Certified Enrollment Counselors, or "navigators," provide consumers with free, unbiased advice as they look for health insurance options available on the marketplace. They help complete eligibility and enrollment forms and they assist with outreach, education, and renewal support services.

"We just came out with a report that showed that in the past year, because we went out to where you

Continued on page 7

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PRESIDENT SHAMANN WALTON RE-ELECTED

Walton Will Return To City Hall For A Second Term

San Francisco, Ca

**S**an Francisco Board of Supervisors President Shamann Walton has declared his victory tonight in his re-election campaign for District 10. As votes continue being counted, Walton's insurmountable lead has stayed solid, giving him the votes he need for victory.

"Serving as your District 10 Supervisor and as President of the Board of Supervisors has been one of the highest honors in my life." Walton said in a

statement, "When I launched



Shamann Walton

my re-election campaign, I vowed to advocate for the

most vulnerable, the most overlooked among us, and fight to make San Francisco a better, more livable place for every one of us."

"San Francisco is a city that believes in the highest progressive values. We know that everyone in our city deserves a stable income, a clean and safe neighborhood, and an affordable place to live, no matter what part of the city they may call home."

For more information about Supervisor Shamann Walton, please visit: <https://shamannwalton.com>

# Sacramento Civil Rights Group Accepts Benevolent Boon From Billionaire

McKenzie Jackson  
California Black Media

**I**n October, the Greater Sacramento Urban League (GSUL) received its biggest donation in the civil rights organization's 54-year history.

Philanthropist, author and the ex-wife of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, MacKenzie Scott, donated \$2.4 million to the local chapter of the National Urban League (NUL) based in central California.

GSUL President and CEO Dwayne Crenshaw said in an Oct. 31 announcement that the Urban League is grateful to the billionaire for the donation and appreciates Scott and her team's recognition of the group's impact and value to the Sacramento area.

"By placing racial equity and

social justice at the forefront of her philanthropic mission, Ms. Scott is shining a much-needed spotlight on the nation's structural and institutional limitations and helping to build a stronger, more resilient society for everyone," Crenshaw said.

According to the NUL, the Sacramento chapter was one of 25 Urban League affiliates that received over \$100 million in contributions from Scott.

NUL President and CEO Marc H. Morial expressed gratitude for the gift in a Nov. 1 statement.

"As the nation's economic first responders, Urban League affiliates are the most effective and impactful engines of empowerment for eliminating racial gaps in our economic and justice systems," Morial said.

The donated funds will go toward

GSUL's mission of empowering, educating, and employing youth and families from Black and other marginalized people to build thriving communities.

In particular, the monies will aid in the development of a mixed-use housing and community-serving building project on GSUL-owned land in Del Paso Heights, a neighborhood in North Sacramento.

The group hopes to break ground on the development, a community and economic revitalization project, late next spring, said GSUL spokesperson Laura Murrell. Murrell said Scott's financial contribution will jumpstart the development.

Although it was the lone Urban League branch in the Golden State to receive a boon from Scott, GSUL wasn't the only

California organization to receive a donation from the well-heeled benefactress last month.

The Girl Scouts of the USA announced Scott gave \$4.9 million to the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. The gift was part of an overall \$84.5 million donation to the Girl Scouts of the USA.

The Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, headquartered in Inglewood, serves more than 46,000 girls in partnership with 25,000 adult members and volunteers throughout the

communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties.

Sofia Chang, the Girl Scouts of the USA CEO, said in a statement that the charity is a great accelerator of efforts to give girls the tools to become the next generation of powerful leaders.

"We're excited to prove how Ms. Scott's investment in girls will change the world -- because when one girl succeeds, we all succeed," Chang said.

Several other groups across the nation also announced they had received monetary aid from Scott last month.

However, no indication of the donations came from Scott, who has a net worth of \$27 billion and has given away around \$12.7 billion to more than 1,200 nonprofits since July 2020, according to Forbes. Scott does not give media interviews or make public appearances.

Since she supercharged her charitable giving after her divorce from Bezos in 2019, Scott has at times acknowledged her gifts on the blogging site Medium. As of press time, her last post on the

website was in March.

In the post titled, "Helping Any of Us Can Help Us All," Scott acknowledged 465 nonprofits she had given funds to since last June and typed, "as always, our aim has been to support the needs of underrepresented people from groups of all kinds. The cause of equity has no sides."

Murrell, the GSUL spokesperson, said the organization was shocked by Scott's charitable gift.

**"She has a reputation of giving very generous donations to countless organizations across the U.S. that do incredible work. So, to have her recognize the Urban League and our Sacramento affiliate in particular was astounding," Murrell recalled.**

## No Red Cptinued from page 1

holds a 49.9% to 47.2% lead over Democratic Incumbent Catherine Cortez Masto in the Nevada Senate race.

Wes Moore counted among the 21 Democrats to win gubernatorial elections, making history as the first African American to win election to governor in Maryland.

Stacey Abrams conceded the Georgia governor's race to incumbent Republican Brian Kemp in a rematch of their controversial and bitter 2018 contest.

"Tonight, I am doing clearly what is the responsible thing. I am suspending my campaign for governor," Abrams said following her loss. "I may no longer be seeking the office of governor, but I will never stop doing everything in my power to make sure the people in Georgia have a voice."

"While I may not have crossed the finish line, that doesn't mean I won't stop running for a better Georgia," she added. "Even though my fight -- our fight -- for the governor's mansion came up short, I'm pretty tall."

Two of the nation's most controversial governors, Greg Abbot (R-Texas), and Ron DeSantis (R-Florida), easily won re-election. Abbot defeated Beto O'Rourke, while DeSantis beat Charlie Crist.

Democratic Rep. Val Demings lost her bid for the U.S. Senate against GOP Incumbent Marco Rubio.

However, Florida voters made history by electing Maxwell Frost in the race to represent Florida's 10th Congressional District.

The 25-year-old Afro-Cuban becomes the first member of Generation Z elected to serve in the U.S. House.

"History was made tonight," Frost tweeted. "We made history for Floridians, Gen Z, and everyone who believes we deserve a better future."

In Pennsylvania, Austin Davis, a 32-year-old state lawyer, became the first African American elected to lieutenant governor in the Keystone State. It's the highest position any African American has held in Pennsylvania.

"I am deeply mindful that this is my opportunity, but it's not an opportunity I paid for," Davis said.

"It was paid by the sweat equity and work of people who came before me. It is my responsibility to view it as while I may be the first, I'm not the last and that I blaze a trail for other minority candidates to follow in my footsteps."

Also, Summer Lee won the race in the 12th Congressional district, becoming the first African American woman elected to Congress from Pennsylvania.

In Los Angeles, former

Congressional Black Caucus Chair Karen Bass remains hopeful in her quest for mayor.

At press time, Bass trailed billionaire developer Rick Caruso by less than 1,500 votes -- a 50.19% to 49.81% margin.

Bass hopes to become the first Black woman to hold that job.

**Voters in California, Michigan, and Vermont codified abortion rights in those states. A ballot measure to do the same in Kentucky proved too close to call as of Wednesday morning.**



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**Amelia Ashley-Ward** Editor/Publisher

# NCRC Files HUD Complaints Against Appraisers Who Discriminated Against Black Homeowners In Recent Investigation

By Stacy M. Brown  
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**F**ederal housing officials should sanction two appraisal firms in Baltimore over their discriminatory treatment of Black homeowners who participated in a recent "mystery shopper" investigation of appraisal bias, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) wrote in a pair of complaints filed with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Authors of the extensive report noted that "the severity and subtlety of racial bias captured in our findings suggest that it will take sweeping and aggressive action from both policymakers and the industry itself to rid the appraisal marketplace of discrimination."

Representatives from NRC and HUD wrote that the way that homeowners, lenders, and policymakers use the term "property values" often implies that there is one organic, objective, correct definition of what someone's home is worth.

"But that is not the case," they concluded.

"Our cultural conception of property values obscures the fact that human beings often determine those values," the investigators determined.



**An undervaluation of a home is rarely corrected. Discriminatory treatment is harmful (and should be prevented) in any setting; in the context of home appraisals, it often comes with severe economic consequences.**

They said professional appraisers make mistakes like anyone else.

However, they also carry biases, conscious or unconscious, into their workplace, and the consequences of an appraiser's mistakes are much more severe than most people's workday errors.

For instance, investigators said a store clerk who rings something up wrong could charge it back.

Likewise, a bartender who pours the wrong beer can turn around and serve the right one. But an appraiser's mistakes, misjudgments, or prejudices can derail generations of work to build wealth within a family.

The treatment a homeowner

receives while selling their home can have severe impacts, especially if outright discrimination is involved, the investigators asserted.

And an undervaluation of a home is rarely corrected. Discriminatory treatment is harmful (and should be prevented) in any setting; in the context of home appraisals, it often comes with severe economic consequences.

"There is no excuse for discrimination anywhere in the housing market, but the long-overlooked role that biased appraisers play in undermining Black wealth is an especially insidious problem," NCRC President and CEO Jesse Van Tol

said in a news release.

"We are asking federal officials to intervene in these two instances because we believe they are representative of widespread discrimination in the appraisal industry that costs Black homeowners both time and money.

"No one should be subjected to the sort of treatment these two appraisers visited upon these two families – and regulators have the power to do something about it."

Both cases arise from an investigation NCRC conducted in Baltimore over the past year. NCRC recruited interracial couples who own their own homes to act as "mystery shoppers" and discovered differential treatment by appraisers when the couples presented their homes with only the Black or the White partner present.

The investigation report confirmed that Black homeowners were treated worse than their White partners in terms of customer service and valuation of their homes.

In one of the complaints, NCRC and a Black homeowner detailed how an appraiser made the homeowner wait 11 weeks for a report, ignored follow-up communication, and did not explain why the information took so long.

The same appraiser, a few weeks later, timely delivered a report to a White homeowner and even sent the homeowner a courtesy

email in advance with an expected timeline for delivery.

The appraiser showed differential treatment and a lack of professionalism when interest rates were highly volatile – meaning that the appraiser's discriminatory conduct could have cost the Black client a chance at an affordable mortgage.

In the second complaint, NCRC and a second Black homeowner alleged that an appraiser undervalued a home presented by the homeowner, then overvalued a separate house presented by a White homeowner.

The appraiser valued the first home at \$310,000 when it was shown by the Black partner in the interracial couple who owned it, while three other appraisers valued the same house at \$350,000 or more.

This appraiser then appraised a home shown by a White homeowner and valued it \$43,000 higher than any other appraiser did in the tests conducted by NCRC.

The appraiser's pattern of bias in valuing homes in Baltimore warranted an enforcement action by NCRC and the homeowner, who was the victim of discrimination.

"Creating a truly equitable environment for homeownership is a broad and important societal undertaking that will go far beyond the confines of the appraisal industry," investigators concluded.

## Dusty Baker Relishes First World Series Title With Houston Astros

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior  
National Correspondent  
@StacyBrownMedia

**O**ne week after lamenting that there were no Black American players on either the Philadelphia Phillies or his Houston Astros in the World Series, Dusty Baker became only the third African American manager to lead a Major League Baseball team to a World Series title.

Cito Gaston of the Toronto Blue Jays, who won back-to-back World Series titles in 1992 and 1993, and Dave Roberts, who led the Los Angeles Dodgers to the championship in 2020, are the only other Black managers to capture the Fall Classic.

Baker's Astros dispatched the Philadelphia Phillies in six games, sending the city of Houston into a frenzy just five years after the team's tainted World Series victory in 2017 under manager A.J. Hinch.

"I'm tired of hearing it," Baker proclaimed after the Astros series clinching a 4-1 victory in Houston on November 5.

"[Critics said] 'He doesn't do this; he doesn't do that.' All I heard about what I can't do," Baker stated. "But my mom and dad taught me perseverance. And you gotta persevere, you gotta believe in yourself."

Born in 1949, Baker broke into the big leagues as a 19-year-old when he joined the Atlanta Braves in 1968.

In a stellar career that spanned three decades, Baker was as feared



Dusty Baker

a hitter as anyone. He earned two All-Star nods, won the Silver Slugger Award for best hitter at his position twice, and finished in the top 10 in the MVP race twice.

Baker also won a Gold Glove and was part of the 1981 Dodgers team that defeated the New York Yankees in six games to win the World Series.

He managed the San Francisco Giants, Cincinnati Reds, Chicago Cubs, and Washington Nationals.

Each team improved under his leadership.

Before winning the World Series, Baker noticed that the 2022 Fall Classic stood out as the first since 1950 that didn't have an African American on either team.

"Nah, don't tell me that," Baker lamented.

"That's terrible for the state of the game. Wow! Terrible. I'm ashamed of the game. Quote me. I am ashamed of the game," reaffirmed Baker, an African American.

While Black players made up

about 18 percent of all MLB rosters when researchers from TIDES first began assessing the league's demographic data in 1991, Black players represented only 7.2 percent of all MLB players at the start of the 2022 season.

Researchers at TIDES – The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports – reported that the percentage of Black players "has been a serious concern for many years."

TIDES reported that 38 percent of all players on Opening Day 2022 were players of color – approximately 28.5 percent Hispanic or Latino, 1.9 percent Asian, and less than 1 percent Hawaiian/Pacific Islander or Native American.

"Well, I don't think that's something that baseball should really be proud of," Baker said. "It looks bad. It lets people know that it didn't take a year, or even a decade, to get to this point."

A baseball lifer, Baker has done all he could to make the sport look good.

Now enjoying his first World Series victory as a manager, Baker, 73, said he'd not only like to win a second before he retires, but he'll continue to work to ensure more diversity in future Fall Classic games.

"I'm just grateful, really, for the trials and tribulations you go through to get to this and just grateful for my mom and dad for being tough on me," Baker said.

"Also grateful for some of the enemies that helped motivate me to get to this point, you know what I mean? But, you know, with no malice or anything because that doesn't do any good."

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# Tell The Supreme Court: We Still Need Affirmative Action

By Ben Jealous

One of the great joys of my life is teaching. I'm fortunate to teach classes on social justice at the University of Pennsylvania, one of the most respected schools in the country. Penn has a longstanding commitment to affirmative action, and I have seen first-hand how diversity in the classroom benefits all my students. There's just no question that diversity is a core piece of a vibrant academic community and a critical part of the learning experience – for all of us. Bringing together students with different lived



Ben Jealous

experiences forces students to think critically about their assumptions, which is an essential goal of a university education.

That's why I, like so many of us, am deeply concerned about two affirmative action

cases argued at the Supreme Court just a few days ago. Opponents of affirmative action have been trying to destroy it for years. And now it looks like they just might get their chance.

Two universities, Harvard and the University of North Carolina (UNC), are defending their admissions programs against opponents who want them declared unconstitutional. (The university where I teach, Penn, and the organization I lead, People For the American Way, have both joined briefs supporting the universities' positions.) Considering race as one of many factors in

admissions has been upheld by the Supreme Court for decades. The Court has said repeatedly that diversity in higher education is a "compelling interest."

But today's Supreme Court is different. It's dominated by far-right justices who have made it clear they don't share this view. Chief Justice John Roberts's famous quote, "The way to stop discrimination on the basis of race is to stop discriminating on the basis of race," sums it up: conservatives believe affirmative action is at best unnecessary and at worst just another type of discrimination. Some conservatives would like to retire affirmative action because they claim it's accomplished everything it set out to do. But it hasn't. Not even close.

In Texas and Michigan, applications and enrollments of Black and Latino students plunged after state politicians banned the consideration of race in admission to their public universities. That's a huge red flag. Nationally, there's a big gap between the percentage of White and Black students who earn a bachelor's degree. And that perpetuates all kinds of harm and inequities in income, health, family wealth, and more. We still have a long

way to go in building a fair society in which all our children can thrive.

And here's an important point that often gets lost. All students—no matter their race or color or creed—benefit from affirmative action. Having diverse classmates promotes a stimulating exchange of ideas and viewpoints. It prepares all students for living and working in our increasingly diverse society. The Supreme Court as a whole used to understand that. Today, I worry that only a minority of the justices do.

One of those justices is Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first Black woman on the Court and a person of profound insight and wisdom. Her questions in oral arguments got to the heart of the matter. Imagine two qualified students applying to UNC, Justice Jackson suggested: a White North Carolinian

student whose family members had attended the school for generations, and a Black North Carolinian whose family had historically been shut out. The White applicant might make the case that attending UNC is deeply meaningful to her because it is a family tradition. The Black applicant might make the case that it is deeply

meaningful because her family was so long denied.

Jackson's question made it clear what would happen if the Court adopts the Far Right's position: the White student's appeal to family history would be allowed to help their chance of acceptance, while the Black student's would not. It would further institutionalize discrimination and the harm it has caused generations of Black Americans.

I am so grateful for Justice Jackson's voice on the Court. I also know that the six right-wing justices expressed skepticism of affirmative action at oral arguments. Many reporters are already writing its obituary. I hope for the sake of our education system and our next generation, that they will be wrong. The "compelling interest" that led the Court to uphold affirmative action in the past still exists – in fact, it may be stronger than ever.

Ben Jealous serves as president of People For the American Way and Professor of the Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. A New York Times best-selling author, his next book "Never Forget Our People Were Always Free" will be published by Harper Collins in January 2023.

# State, Local Officials Take Actions To Tackle Homelessness Crisis

Aldon Thomas Stiles | California Black Media

California state and local officials are serious about tackling the state's growing homelessness crisis head on as it continues to rise.

Last month, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation related to solving this issue.

Over \$15.3 billion has been budgeted in housing programs aimed at curtailing California's homelessness.

"State and federal resources have certainly made a difference in our communities," said Bakersfield's Mayor Karen K. Goh. "You know, going back to 2020 and 2021 with the Cares Act and then followed by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the dollars are making their way to our citizens."

Goh also pointed to Project Homekey as a program that has helped alleviate homelessness.

"Project Homekey resources are being used to transform underutilized motels and hotels, into safe shelter, and in our communities," said Goh.

The COVID-19 pandemic has played a significant role in the rise of homelessness, from 150,000 in 2019 to 161,000 in 2020,

according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The African American population in California has suffered disproportionately from this phenomenon.

The California Budget and Policy Center reports that Black people are roughly 25% of the state's homeless although they make up about 5.5 % of California's population.

Some of the funding the state provided went to the Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment Court — or Care Court, a program that diverts homeless people with severe mental

health problems away from the criminal justice system and into mandatory treatment.

Signed into law on Sept. 14, Senate Bill 1338 (Care Court Act) by Sen. Thomas Umberg (D-Santa Ana) and Sen. Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton) focuses on untreated individuals suffering from psychotic disorders, such as schizophrenia.

Bills Newsom signed on affordable housing include Senate Bill 561 by State Sen. Bill Dodd (D-Napa), Assembly Bill (AB) 2233 by Assembly member Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton), and AB 2592 by Assembly member Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento).

"This historical package will go a long way towards increasing affordable production in California," Assembly member Quirk-Silva tweeted.

Together, these bills require the California Department of Housing and Community

Development (HCD) and the California Department of General Services (DGS) to codify and expand the Excess Land for Affordable Housing program, a state initiative born from the governor's first executive order.

"California's housing affordability crisis has been more than a half century in the making and the state is tackling this foundational challenge with an innovative 'all of the above' approach," Newsom said. "We've made unprecedented investments and progress to create more housing in California over the past four years, including using state-owned land to build homes – one of my first actions in 2019. I'm thankful to Senator Dodd, Assembly member Quirk-Silva, and Assembly member McCarty for their efforts in helping us fast-track our progress and bring more affordable housing statewide."

Goh spoke about

funding transparency.

"We're seeing new innovation in our cities with these resources going to fund new city departments that help ensure that the city is accountable with the dollars they receive for addressing homelessness, and to better enable the city to show the public,

how they're using these resources and the difference that they are making," said Goh.

Mayor Todd Gloria of San Diego speaking about work that is being done on the local level to fight homelessness said, "Our housing commission has put out over \$200 million of assistance, helping roughly about 80,000 families at this point avoid homelessness, many of them seniors."

Gloria states that working against this crisis sometimes "feels like you're swimming upstream" due to the federal government raising and lowering interest rates.

He claimed that tackling minimum wage or advocating in the state capitol or DC are ways that local governments can have control over solving homelessness.

"You know, these are never satisfying answers because yes, there are a bunch of things at work. But we get up every day, and come here to try and make a difference on those matters," said Gloria.

On Oct. 3, Newsom signed AB 408 authored by Assembly member Quirk-Silva that requires local educational agencies to have a liaison for homeless youths in order to train the agencies in how to best support them.

Newsom recently announced that he will convene local leaders in mid-November to review the state's collective approach to

homelessness and identify new strategies to better address the growing homelessness crisis.



# THE SUN-REPORTER

# RELIGIOUS SECTION

THE BAY AREA'S CHURCH NEWS & ACTIVITIES



## Sunday School Lesson

By Shunda Criswell

## Christ Is Wisdom

Lesson Text: Ephesians 1:15-23  
Time of Action: 60 A.D.

Place of Action: Paul writes to the Ephesians from Rome

**Golden Text:** "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that we may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints" (Ephesians 1:18).

The Ephesian believers were on Paul's heart, and he prayed regularly for them. He wanted them to have a better understanding of God and His great work of salvation on their behalf. They needed assurance too, so Paul prayed earnestly that they might have it. The apostle showed God's glorious program that believers must perceive in order to lead a godly life. But before we as believers can lead an appropriate life, we must understand the work God has done for us. Therefore, Paul described God's work for believers and then prayed for them to have wisdom and understanding. In Ephesians 1:15, the word "wherefore" looks back to the great truths Paul previously spoke about in

Ephesians 1:1-14. Now he applied those truths to the experience of all "saints." The statement "after I heard of your faith in the LORD Jesus, and love unto all the saints," means that word had reached Paul concerning the Ephesians' "faith" in Christ and their "love" for "all the saints," meaning everyone who had been saved and made holy by God's gracious work. The Ephesian believers were faithful in their commitment to "the LORD Jesus," so Paul was encouraged to hear that these believers had an active "faith" that caused them to express "love" and kindness to others. And in Ephesians 1:16, Paul practiced what he preached. To the Thessalonians he wrote: "Pray without ceasing" (see I Thessalonians 5:17). As evidence to show that he did practice what he preached, here, he said to the Ephesians "I) Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers." Continually he held these believers up before the throne of grace. His praying for them was constant and consistent. There is some disagreement among Bible scholars as to whether this letter was meant especially for the Ephesians or was meant

to be circulated among other churches. But while many may not be altogether sure of the recipients of the Ephesian letter, we are sure that Paul knew to whom he wrote. For he was constantly "making mention" of the Ephesian believers in his "prayers."

Paul's prayer for the believers' maturity (Ephesians 1:17-19). In verse 17, this was the first request Paul made in his prayers. He addressed his prayer to "the God of our LORD Jesus Christ, the Father of glory." It may appear from the reading of this verse that the apostle was identifying "Jesus Christ" as "the Father of glory," but that phrase refers back to "the God of our LORD Jesus Christ." Paul prayed that his readers would be given "the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him." Only the Holy Spirit of God is able to "give" these essentials to spiritual maturity. He is the One who makes us wise, and He is the One who makes known God's truth (see John 14:26). People don't receive the qualities of "wisdom and revelation" simply as a result of man's own reasoning and powers. Instead, they are acquired only by one's personal "knowledge" of "God" Himself. Also, in Ephesians 1:18, Paul continued to further describe "the knowledge of him" in the previous verse as "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened." Strictly speaking, this phrase probably is better read as "the eyes of your heart" since the Greek word for heart appears in it and not the word for "understanding." In Scripture, "heart" refers to the seat of the emotions. Sometimes it is used for the seat of the intellect, too, and is made the equivalent of the mind. There are times too, when the word "heart" conveys the idea of the entire person (see I Kings 14:8; Jeremiah 24:7). In response to God's gifts of "wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him" (see verse 17), Paul declared that one's "understanding is

enlightened." He prayed that this would be true so that his readers would experience three things. Two of the three things are listed here. First, he prayed that they might "know what is the hope of his calling." Christianity is our "calling." God had called these believers and all saints to Himself. All who have ever come to Him in faith have been called first by Him. This calling can be spoken of as having taken place in the past for He has called men to Himself (see II Timothy 1:9; I Thessalonians 5:24). Accepting God's calling involves a lifelong vocation of service and sanctification (see Ephesians 4:1; Philippians 3:14; Hebrews 3:1). It's not one and done! "Hope" as used by Paul here involves certainty. We often use the word when speaking of something uncertain or what we wish would happen. But the "hope" that Paul speaks of and the "hope" that believers share in is the reality already possessed by believers. Life in the present ought to be different for believers because of this "hope," the certainty that what God has said will happen (see Colossians 1:5; I Thessalonians 4:13-14; II Thessalonians 2:16; I Timothy 1:11; Titus 1:2; 2:13; 3:7; Hebrews 6:19; I Peter 1:3-13; 21:1; John 3:2-3). Second, Paul prayed that his readers would know by experience "the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints." In other words, the more God's people are enlightened by the Holy Spirit, the more we come to understand everything we have in Jesus Christ (see Romans 8:17).

In Ephesians 1:19, the third thing that Paul wanted his readers to experience as their "understanding is enlightened" (see verse 18) was "what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe." He wanted them to know God's incomparable "mighty power" by experiencing and observing it "working" in those who had already been saved by it. As a further description of the

power which he prayed for in the previous verse, Paul pointed to the power it took to raise Jesus "from the dead." Proof of the "working of his mighty power" (see verse 19) was "wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead." This work of the power of God confirmed that the Father accepted the finished work of His Son (see Acts 2:24, 32). Through the resurrection, Christ was acknowledged as LORD of all (see Acts 2:36). A second manifestation of God's "mighty power" is related to the ascension of Jesus when God "set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places." After Jesus was "raised ... from the dead," He was seated "at his (God's) own right hand in the heavenly places." Let us think that this was when Jesus received His exalted position, we must remember that as God's Son, Jesus was always exalted. But He humbled Himself and emptied Himself of the visible manifestation of His glory when He became Man (see Philippians 2:5-8).

In Ephesians 1:21, The position at the "right hand" of God (see verse 20) is further described and explained here. After His work on the cross was finished, Jesus was exalted again, this time as the God-Man, the Redeemer. Not only is Christ the Creator of every spiritual power (see Colossians 1:16), He is LORD over them all. Jesus' exalted position in "heavenly places" (see verse 20) was far above every rule and authority and "power" and "dominion," whether angelic or human, and far above "every name" that is named meaning above every title that can be conferred, not only in this age and world but also in the one to come. Finally, In Ephesians 1:22, Paul describes the single act of God's exaltation of Jesus from two viewpoints. First, he said that God "hath put all things under his feet." The Greek word translated "put" here means "made subject to." Just as God made the original earth and its animals subject to the

dominion of Adam (see Genesis 1:28), He has made Jesus dominant in "all things." He said "all things" which could be expanded to include the solar system, the galaxy, all possible visible and unseen galaxies and stars, the angels, and yes, even the demons, and whatever else exists except the Father Himself (see I Corinthians 15:27-28). The phrase "under his feet" indicates the subservient position the word "all" includes in the dominion of Christ. In other words, "the church" is not under the feet of Christ but under His headship for He is "the head" of "the church." The "Head" exists in close relationship to the body. In humans, when "the head" is severed from the body, both "the head" and the body perish. But with Christ and "the church," it is theoretically true that Christ would live without "the church;" but in actuality, He demonstrates His living power through the believers organized into "the church." The "church" didn't begin until after the death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus Christ. Through His glorious salvation He has become its "Head."

Our final verse says, Paul describes what the church was to Jesus Christ. He called the church "his body" (the body of Christ) to express the mutuality of the relationship along with the dependence of the church upon Jesus. Paul then added that Jesus "body," the church, is "the fulness of him that fill all in all." This means that the church is filled with and by Christ and He completes all things in all believers in every way. As we grow toward spiritual maturity or as Paul calls it "the fulness of Christ" (see Ephesians 4:13), a healthy "body" or church develops (see Ephesians 4:15-16), and we are able to both reveal Jesus to the world and act in His place while He is physically absent on earth. Be Blessed!

## THE SUN-REPORTER

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Little Zion Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1245 Divisadero Street San Francisco, CA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:00am Morning Worship 11:am Evening Worship 6pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Keva L. McNeill, Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1320 Golden Gate San Francisco, CA 921-4850, 921-0878</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church School 9:am Children's Church 10:am Morning Worship 10:45 am Bible Study 1:2pm &amp; 6:30- 7:30pm Prayer meeting Wednesday 12:00 Noon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Peter's Missionary Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1601 Newcomb Avenue San Francisco, CA. 94124 Rev. Dr. J.P. Alexander</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Church School 9:30 am Morning Worship 11: am Tuesday Bible meeting 7am Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm Tuesday Choir Rehearsal 7 am Prayer and Teacher meeting Wednesday 7:30pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Neighborhood Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">608 Hayes Street San Francisco, CA Rev. Lane Hawkins</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 11: am Evening Worship 6: pm Bible Class Monday 5: pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6190 3rd Street San Francisco, CA. 94124 Phone: (415) 822-4071 Fax: (415) 822-0156 Rev. Kenneth R. Reece Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:25 am Communion Every 1st Sunday Baptism Every 2nd Sunday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:30 pm Wednesday Abundant Life Recovery Ministry 6:30 pm Monday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Evergreen Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">6270 3rd Street San Francisco, CA.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Jackey Wilson Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:15 am Morning Worship 10:40 am Wednesday Teacher's Meeting 6: pm St. Mission 5: pm Children's Bible Study 5: pm Bible Study 6:45 pm Saturday Food Parity 10-11 am</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ascension Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1311 Quesada ave. San Francisco, CA. 94124 (415) 822-9488</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Anthony Anderson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Morning Worship 10:15 am Bible Study Tuesday 6:30 PM Church School Wednesday 7 pm Communion every 1st Sunday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shekinah Christian Fellowship</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">790 Tennessee St. San Francisco, CA. 94107 (415) 646-0747</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ella Henderson, Bishop &amp; Founder of SCF Tytone and Demetra Hillman Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School - 9:am Morning worship - 10:15 am Radio: Sunday 9:30 am KDNA TV: Tuesday and Friday 8:30am KJLN Total Living Network</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ebenezer Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">275 Divisadero Street San Francisco, CA.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:15 am Morning Worship 10:45 am Evening Worship 7:30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mount Calvary Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">4000 Middlefield Rd. (Cubberly Community CTR) Palo Alto, CA. 94306 (650) 569-6944 Rev Roy Northington Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School - 10:am Morning worship - 11:00 am Wednesday Bible Discussion 7: pm Come and Listen to Rev. Roy Northington, a gifted speaker, as he delivers the most powerful and timely message of our day and age. Prayers to be changed. Expect to be changed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Providence Baptist Church</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1601 McKinnun Ave San Francisco, CA. 94124 Rev. Calvin Jones Jr. Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday Bible Study Women 5pm General 7pm Sunday School - 9:30 am Mom Worship 8am &amp; 10:45 am Morning worship - 10:45 am Bible Study 6:30 am Evening Worship 7:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Living Word Church of God in Christ</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">12 Westlake Ave Daly City CA. 94014 Rev. Derrick Lomax Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School - 10:00 am Morning worship - 11:30 am West Side Class 8:00 pm Friday Prayer Service 8:00 pm</p>

# Sun Reporter

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**Cohen**

**Continued from page 1**

For U.S. Senate (both full and partial term): incumbent Sen. Alex Padilla (D), a Newsom appointee, is the projected winner over Mark Meuser (D).

California has 52 Congressional seats. Nine African American candidates are running for 8 House seats.

To represent the 3rd Congressional District, which covers the Eastern Sierra from Death Valley National Park to parts of Sacramento and Placer counties, Democratic candidate Kermit Jones is trailing Republican Kevin Kiley. This district leans Republican.

To represent the 12th Congressional District that includes Oakland, Berkeley and part of San Leandro, incumbent Democrat Barbara

Lee (D-CA-13) is projected to defeat Republican Electrical Engineer Stephen Slauson.

To represent the 25th Congressional District that covers Imperial County and parts of San Bernardino and Riverside

counties including Calexico, Banning and the Salton Sea

incumbent Rep. Raul Ruiz (D) is leading Black Republican Pastor and San Jacinto City Council member Brian E. Hawkins.

To represent the 36th Congressional District that spans Beverly

Hills and Santa Monica through coastal areas down to Rancho

Palos Verdes in Los Angeles County, incumbent Rep. Ted Lieu (D) is projected to defeat Black

Republican Navy Veteran and business owner Joe E. Collins III.

To represent the 37th Congressional District located in Los Angeles County including Culver City, Leimert Park, Crenshaw and South L.A., Democratic California State Senator Sydney Kamlager is leading Black Democrat former L.A. City Councilmember Jan C. Perry. Rep. Karen Bass (D) currently represents this district.

To represent 39th Congressional District located in Riverside County including Moreno Valley and Perris, incumbent Rep.

Mark Takano (D) is leading Black Republican Aja Smith, a Civilian information technology specialist at March Air

Reserve Base.

To represent the 43rd Congressional District that includes Compton, Inglewood, Gardena, parts of Torrance and Los

Angeles International Airport, Democratic incumbent Rep.

Maxine Waters is projected to defeat Republican Business owner Omar Navarro.

There are 80 Assembly seats on the ballot. 12 Black candidates are running for 11 State Assembly seats. All of the Black candidates are Democrats and 10 are incumbents.

In addition to Jackson (mentioned earlier), the other Black candidates running for Assembly seats are:

Assembly District 6 (Sacramento) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Kevin McCarty is the vote leader over Republican retired airline pilot Cathy Cook.

Assembly District 11 (Vallejo) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson is the vote leader over

Veterans Affairs Consultant Jenny Leilani Callison.

Assembly District 18 (Oakland) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Mia Bonta is leading Republican Mindy Pechenuk.

Assembly District 41 (Pasadena) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Chris Holden is leading Republican Michael McMahon.

Assembly District 55 (Los Angeles) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Isaac G. Bryan is in the leading Republican Software Developer Keith Girolamo Cascio.

Assembly District 57 (Los Angeles) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer ran unopposed for re-election.

Assembly District 61

(Inglewood) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember

Tina Simone McKinnor is leading Democratic Mayor of Lawndale Robert Pullen-Miles, who is also Black.

Assembly District 65 (Compton) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Mike Anthony Gipson is leading Democratic public-school teacher Fatima Iqbal-Zubair, who is also Black.

Assembly District 69 (Long Beach) – Democratic Councilmember/Worker Advocate Al Austin II is running

behind Democratic Small Business owner Josh Lowenthal. No incumbent was on the ballot.

Assembly District 79 (La Mesa) – incumbent Democratic Assemblymember Akilah Weber is leading Republican Project Manager Corbin Sabol.

**Covered CA**

**Continued from page 1**

were to try to get to you, especially with our navigators, we saw a rise in the number of African American enrollees by 49%. And we saw a rise in the number of Latino enrollees by 53%," said Becerra.

Still, according to estimates from Covered California, 1 million people are uninsured and eligible to get insured with low-cost or no-cost plans.

"Regardless of your income, if you need health insurance or if

you're covered directly through a health insurance company, come to Covered California to see if you can get financial help to make your insurance more affordable," said Jessica Altman, Executive Director of Covered California.

"The increased and expanded help that was extended by the Inflation Reduction Act is changing lives by helping more Californians get covered and stay covered."

Getting and maintaining coverage is a critical first step that

cannot be overstated, some health advocates say, but the healthcare system still has opportunities to better serve Black Californians. A recent California Healthcare Foundation (CHCF) survey found that 90% of Black Californians have health insurance coverage, but nearly one in three reported being treated unfairly by a healthcare provider because of their race or ethnicity.

"Just because Black folks are covered, doesn't mean they

are getting quality care," said Congresswoman Bass, a former physician's assistant. "That has nothing to do with Covered California per se. It has to do with the inequities in the healthcare system. And having worked in the healthcare for a long time, I know that those inequities exist, and its across class. So, when Beyoncé and Serena Williams almost lose their life after a normal childbirth, it's indicative of problems that are related specifically to race."

The best remedy at this time is engagement. According to the CHCF survey, two thirds of Black Californians report researching a health condition or concern before meeting with a healthcare provider to mitigate potential negative experiences, an observation Congresswoman Bass agrees with.

"The main thing that people can do is make sure that they are well educated. In other words, when you go to a doctor, don't just leave it 100% up to the doctor, study up on

what they are saying," Bass said. "We need to have advocates inside of healthcare who are trained - sometimes there are medical social workers who do that."

Californians can explore their options at CoveredCA.com or by calling Covered California at (800)300-1506. They can easily find out if they qualify for financial help and see what coverage options are available.

The open enrollment period will continue until Jan. 31, 2023.



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# HOW THE COMMUNITY WILDFIRE SAFETY PROGRAM IS HELPING TO PREVENT WILDFIRES IN 2022



PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program (CWSP) will continue to use Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings following the success of its pilot program. Enhanced safety settings allow PG&E to be more surgical in its approach to preventing wildfires. These settings will automatically turn off power within one-tenth of a second if an object comes in contact with a powerline. This approach is just one part of a multifaceted wildfire strategy which includes:

- **Undergrounding 175 miles of powerlines** in high fire-threat areas as part of our multi-year goal of 10,000 miles.
- **Strengthening the electric grid** with stronger poles and covered lines to reduce wildfire risks.
- **Installing microgrids** that use generators to keep the electricity on during wildfire safety outages.

While these safety settings prevent wildfires, they also may result in additional outages for customers.

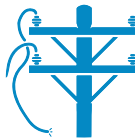
**These enhanced safety settings will automatically turn off power within one-tenth of a second if an object such as a tree comes in contact with a powerline.**

## Public Safety Power Shutoffs



During extreme weather or wildfire conditions, PG&E may proactively turn off power to prevent wildfires.

VS.



## Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings

Advanced settings on powerlines to quickly and automatically turn off power if a threat is detected.



Learn how to prepare for EPSS and find additional resources to reduce the impact of these safety outages at [pge.com/epss](https://pge.com/epss).