



County of San Diego Grand Jury

Citizen Complaint Form

San Diego County Grand Jury
550 Corporate Center
550 W C Street, Suite 860
San Diego, CA 92101-3518
619-236-2020 Fax 619-338-8127
Email: sdgrandjury@sdcounty.ca.gov

**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 12/19/2023

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Darryl Cotton
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone 619.954.4447

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

The City of San Diego adult-use cannabis applications and licenses have not been treated fairly and equitably. When I tried to investigate what I saw as preferential treatment of an application for the 6220 Federal Blvd. dispensary I reached out to my community planning group chair, Mr. Ken Malbrough, through an email. Within two days, Mr. Malbrough had spoken to someone in the Development Services Department or City Council and he responded to me that he would no longer accept any emails from me. I believe the City's behind the scenes handling of these applications are done on a pay-to-play basis, with significant input from attorneys Gina Austin, Jessica McElfresh, Cynthia Morgan-Reed and lobbyist James Bartell. Among othe things, such as violations of the Brown Act, the result of this scheme has been the construction and operation of a marijuana outlet that does not meet SDMC requirements for traffic flow safety as there was **never an engineered traffic analysis performed** based on the proposed use and high impact accidents on Federal Blvd @ Winnett Street are up over 3,000% since it's opening.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 04/05/2018 to current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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06/11/2018 emails between myself and Ken Malbrough after having spoken to DSD he ceases all communications with me.
07/26/2018 my multi-party email to DSD requesting information on the 6220 Federal CUP application.
12/06/2018 Planning Commission Appeal Hearing @ page 31 Malbrough submits a blank Planning Group Distribution Form as proof there was a community planning group presentation, vote and approval.
12/06/2018 Planning Commission Hearing Item 4 @ 2:17:09 where Robert Robinson speaks on behalf of the approval of 6220. Robert's Broadway Heights Community Planning Group does not even encompass the project at this location.
12/06/2018 Planning Commission Hearing Item 4 @ 2:19:01 Ken Malbrough speaks on behalf of Encanto Neighborhood Planning Group's support of 6220 citing "when we approved that" does not support that with his signed vote Distribution Form.
07/31/2019 My Story of Setbacks shows, among other things, not one but two licensed child care facilities being located within 1,000 feet of the proposed dispensary.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Darryl Cotton

It is a crime to report to the Grand Jury that a crime has been committed knowing the report to be false. Penal Code §148.5(d).

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Since the passage of adult-use cannabis licensing the City of San Diego Development Services Department and Planning Commission have engaged in preferential treatment of certain applicants in a pay-to-play scheme that relies on certain lobbyists, attorneys and applicants who are often times not disclosed and rely on strawman applicants to acquire these licenses. This method of awarding licenses is unlawful and unfair to those competing for these limited number of licenses (4 per council district) when the process is rigged from the start. I have done a **DSD Steering Document** which is a deep dive review and analysis of all the licenses having been heard on appeal whereby key search words, often by the Planning Commissioners themselves, bemoan this exact situation.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident December 6, 2018

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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On 12/06/2018, Planning Commission Minutes, Item No. 4, Commissioner Peerson recuses herself from voting on the 6220 Federal Blvd. CUP due to a "financial conflict of interest." Her exact statement can be heard at **2:00:17 in the archived video** of that Hearing, Item No. 4.

There should be NO financial conflict of interest opportunity when it comes to awarding one of these licenses! Since this entire license application is clouded in pay-play-corruption by attorneys quite familiar and comfortable with these licensing agencies it should come as no surprise that they manipulate the system to have these CUPS awarded while making it appear the process is fair and transparent. Just one of the horrific end results of their slight of hand approvals can be seen by the **increased number** of major traffic accidents which have occurred since this license was granted.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

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County revenues from licensed cannabis sales are falling. While there are a number of factors that can legitimately support this **reduction in revenue**, what the government, and media, has failed to realize is that are certain licensees are reporting their sales through the use of a cloud based point of sale software, which allows back-door manipulation of the sales and inventory data that, in a cash based industry, fails to accurately report the actual sales whereby the correct tax amount is paid to the licensing agencies.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2023/2024

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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POS Tax Fraud: In consideration of these reported **1st QTR 23/24 Cannabis Tax Revenues**, I would like to submit the information I have under seal for further consideration.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

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Date 12/18/2023

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Andrew Flores, Esq. SBN 272958
Address 427 C Street, Ste 220
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92101
Telephone 619.256.1556

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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I have been representing Ms. Amy Sherlock since 2020. The essence of her civil case revolves around her rights to her deceased husband, Michael "Biker" Sherlock's adult-use cannabis licenses which he acquired just months before his death. There should be no doubt that when licensing authorities are met with a legal authority that commands them to undertake a mandatory action by virtue of a "shall" directive, they do so. To assure myself that I was not somehow misinterpreting the law, I sent a letter to the Department of Cannabis ("DCC") seeking clarification on that language. Anyone reading this exchange can appreciate, there was no substantive response to my inquiry and I was ignored. As this goes to the application process, I find it critical that the actual owners are disclosed and those who don't qualify are not given licenses as it creates a threat to public health and welfare, if criminals are allowed to own these licenses.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2020 to current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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01/10/2023 Flores letter to DCC and other parties regarding the illegal acquisition of adult-use cannabis licenses.
01/17/2023, DCC response
01/18/2023 Flores's reply letter

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Andrew Flores

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1. **Who:** (Your Name) Amy Sherlock
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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With the death of my husband, Michael "Biker" Sherlock on December 2, 2015 the adult-use cannabis permits at 8863-E Balboa Ave., Suite E San Diego, CA 92123, he had acquired in his name, was reappointed by Development Services Department staff, by Edith Gutierrez, Firouzeh Tirandazi and Travis Cleveland, in a strange and curious fashion (5 exchanges as shown below) to ultimately exclude me from any interest I had inherited as a result of Bikers death. However, in a **November 13, 2023 email** with Travis Cleveland, and cc'd to Lara Gates, City of San Diego Director of Cannabis, Travis acknowledges that the permit was indeed transferred to me, and there was no record of my ever having undergone a background check. Why? Because I not only didn't know the Permit had been transferred in my name, I was never advised I had to take a background check either!

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2015-2017

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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On 06/17/2015, Project No. 368347, at Page 18, DSD approves Mr. Michael "Biker" Sherlock, as original licensee.
On 03/17/2016, Project No. 467963, Edith Gutierrez, DSD Project Manager creates a permit in my name.
On 03/17/2016, Project No. 368347, Edith Gutierrez, DSD Project Manager transfers the permit to Brad Harcourt.
On 01/30/2017, Project No. 368347, Firouzeh Tirandazi, DSD Project Manager transfers to permit to Ninus Malan.
On 02/27/2017, Project No. 538985, Firouzeh Tirandazi, DSD Project Manager issues a 2nd year background check to Harcourt.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Amy Sherlock

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Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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As a result of a divorce I'm currently involved in with my soon to be ex-husband Adam Knopf, I have discovered some things that warrant a look at, specifically for their illegality in the adult-use cannabis industry to which Adam is a licensee. I bring these things forth because it is only a result of my having the benefit of hindsight, and through the divorce proceedings, that I have come to the realization that my case is far bigger than a simple separation of community assets. It is a fraud of monumental proportions that involves theft of federal (PPP and SBA Funds), state and local revenues as a result of improper bookkeeping in a largely cash business. To be clear, I was not aware of his activities as his MO was to tell me very little and what he did tell me, for the most part, I've discovered are lies. With the help of his corrupt attorneys, such as Gina Austin and Tamara Leetham, as well as an unethical accountant in Justus Henkes they have blocked me and my attorney from the information we request in discovery that would reveal both his disclosed and undisclosed interests. It is in the interest of broader justice that I set forth the following.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2012 to current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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The difficulty I have had in understanding just what I was entitled to from what interest I had in the Golden State Greens dispensary required lengthy and expensive battles which turned on not only what Adam and his counsel determined to having no interest, to what desperate financial straights GSG was in. The deposition of Justus Henkes, CFO/CPA was done with exhibits that served to provide us with a clear understanding that their books, their methods and the money that deemed due from a City of San Diego Tax Deficiency (-\$542K) audit, was based on non-existent numbers that, for whatever reason, the City decided put them in a position to define the shortfalls associated with their sales. Please consider my **Steering Document** dated 11/18/23, in response to this deposition as well as my sworn **Affidavit** ISO Amy Sherlock and the business relationship her deceased husband, Michael "Biker" Sherlock had with Adam and decide for yourself if there was criminality taking place.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Tiffany Knopf

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Telephone [REDACTED]

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Where my husband and licensee Adam Knopf would frequently make his cannabis industry business connections was through his relationship with Phil Rath, a lobbyist with PPR Solutions, Inc. As will be shown below, the relationships between Adam and all those parties listed on his lobbying form are at times involved in hiding Adam's interests in projects that should he be disclosed require those assets to be considered in our current divorce proceedings. Of note will be the questionable CUPs that have been issued where Golden State Greens (Our cannabis dispensary) is listed on the list of City licensed cannabis projects but in this case involves a property on 1215 Nutmeg Street where Aaron Magagna is the permittee. I would request that Rath Consulting be required to show his records under this Grand Jury subpoena authority since not only the clients list he represents begs those answers but his having donated sums to Councilmember Stephen Whitburn has to be cleared of any wrongdoing as had been found with his previous Chief of Staff Jesus Cardenas and his Grassroots lobbying group where preferential permitting exists.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2023

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2021 EC 601 City of San Diego Lobbying form showing @ page 5, representing United Medical Marijuana Coalition both Adam and Aaron Magagna having reached \$1,000 in contributions. Page 15 shows his fundraising for, among others, Councilmember Whitburn.
11/08/2018 San Diego Reader, Phil Rath sanctioned again for failing to reveal cash contributions.
04/19/2023, City of San Diego Hearing Officer Report No. HO23-019. We contend that this is an unbuildable project at this location and is used as an approved location, they can maintain the CUP for up to 3 years, tying up the 4 per district limit, until such time that Magagna and Knopf can submit at a different better location and dissolve that CUP without any competition.
11/23/2023 Highly Questionable CUPS-1215 Nutmeg-Adam Knopf and Aaron Magagna.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

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1. **Who:** (Your Name) Jacob P. Austin, Esq. SBN 290303
Address PO Box 231189
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92193-1189
Telephone 619.357.6850

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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In my capacity in representing Darryl Cotton, I have come to realize that there is a pervasive attempt, by certain rogue attorneys, to see that some of their clients who are applying for, or have acquired, adult-use cannabis licenses within the City of San Diego, have done so by having those clients, who would not qualify if their identities were disclosed, use strawman applicants on their behalf to apply for and gain undisclosed ownership interests in those licenses. In the case of Corina Young, her counsel, Natalie Nguyen under the command and control of attorneys Gina Austin and Matt Shapiro, actively engaged in a game of keep-away to ignore a lawful subpoena and not provide Young's case dispositive testimony which would have exposed these practices. Accordingly, I do hereby support a Grand Jury be convened to investigate a growing mountain of evidence that supports these allegations that would prove a fraud amongst the court is being committed in the furtherance of these schemes.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident June 13, 2018 forward

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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06/28/2019 Subpoena of Corina Young
01/16/2019 Emails between Young attorney Natalie Nguyen and Jacob Austin seeking Young's deposition.
10/28/2020 Young to Cotton email sharing Nguyen's confidential "bluffing" email communication that she no longer had to fear testifying and that her legal fees had been paid.
06/13/2018 Ex Parte Application with exhibit emails between attorneys Matt Shapiro and Jacob Austin.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Jacob Austin



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Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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During the June 12, 2015 City of San Diego Planning Commission Hearing on Item No. 8 it can be seen that two highly significant statements are being made as to the integrity of the CUP application process. The first statement comes from attorney David Demian and the second from Benjamin Zoback. What they are speaking about in general is how the process is being "gamed" and specifically how the 3452 Hancock Street MMCC was manipulated, by attorney Gina Austin, on behalf of her client, Adam Knopf, through the use of the CEQA process to put competing CUP applicants behind the 3452 CUP so that when considering both the maximum number of CUP's (4) in the council district and that some of the competing CUP's were within a 1,000 ft. radius which, once 3452 CUP was approved, their applications could not be considered. Considering that Adam benefited from this practice and Zoback literally apologizes during the Hearing for having filed a "frivolous" appeal, it MUST be determined who was behind this.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident June 6, 2015

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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11/21/2014: SD Union Tribune, New Strategy Mars Pot Shop Approvals-Citing Atty. Jessica McElfresh
03/12/2015: City of San Diego Planning Commission, Minutes, Item No. 8, 3452 Hancock Street CUP Appeal
03/12/2015: Planning Commission, Item 8, Testimony of Benjamin Zoback @ 2:27:55
03/12/2015: Planning Commission, Item 8, Transcript of Atty. David Demian and Benjamin Zoback

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Corina Young

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Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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Between January thru April 2017, I was the Director of Operations at a licensed cannabis dispensary located at 8863-E Balboa Avenue. I worked for the owners Mr. Ninus Malan and Mr. Salam Razuki. During that time I had numerous meetings with attorney Gina Austin, Razuki and Malan to discuss strategies that would contemplate the acquisition of more licenses both at the Balboa property and their property in Lemon Grove. It was represented to me that Austin, in her representation of some 5 wealthy parties, would create a monopoly enterprise in the adult-use cannabis market whereby there would be near zero competition to the enterprise. With that and what I know relative to the death of Michael "Biker" Sherlock not being a suicide, I do hereby support a Grand Jury be convened to investigate the growing evidence that supports the allegations being made against multiple parties, including attorney Gina Austin in furtherance of these licensing schemes.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident January thru April 2017

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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07/26/2022 Reporters Transcript of the Candid Chronicle Reporter Cara Anderson Interview of Phillip Zamora

10/01/2018 Voice of San Diego article regarding 8863 Balboa Avenue and how silent investors like Razuki subvert the system.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Phillip Zamora

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Telephone 619.954.4447

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

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Chris Williams is a black man and owner of the **Candid Chronicle**, a nationally recognized web-based cannabis **publication**, with a long standing affinity for cannabis, the law surrounding its use and regulation and the social-equity opportunities it presents when it comes to the advances that historically have suppressed those of color from entering into the legal, adult-use cannabis arena through proper licensing and vetting of those able and willing to enter into that arena. I am one of those candidates. Williams engaged noted cannabis attorney Gina Austin for what was to be her representation of him in the pursuit of certain cannabis licenses. What we have come to find out about Austin, while representing Williams she was also representing other, more financially preferential applicants to her scheme to have representation and undisclosed interests in certain licensed cannabis entities within San Diego County. We request that a Grand Jury perform a full investigation of these violent, racist, unethical, and unlawful violations for criminal prosecution of what we know Austin and her government accomplices engage in.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident From 2016 forward

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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01/28/2020 Declaration of Gina Austin ISO of Proposed Intervenor KIM INVESTMENTS-3515 Harris St. Lemon Grove
10/26/2017 Texts from Tiasha Brown, SD Democratic Party **Black Caucus Chair**, soliciting bribe payment from me
2022 City of Lemon Grove Year End Audit Report showing accounting errors. This is just the tip of the iceberg.
10/18/2020 SDUT: 8920 Broadway, Lemon Grove re CUP license Gina Austin's opposition to Williams application.
April 2023 East County Magazine reports an alleged bribe to Mayor Vasquez to approve an adult-use CUP.
May 2023 East County Magazine reports preferential adult-use licensing treatment at 6691 Federal Blvd., LG
02/16/2023 City of San Diego Social Equity Cannabis funds are NOT going to legitimate applicants.
05/11/18 WILLIAMS v ARAMBULA ET AL Where Lemon Grove City Councilman Arambula beats Williams.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Darryl Cotton



Chris Williams
619.847.8264



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Prior to Prop 64 being voted on in 2016, Americans for Safe Access would, during the course of their normal weekly meetings, allow special guest speakers to spend the better part of an hour, extolling the virtues of passing Prop 64 as progressive cannabis law and regulation. ASA National and their local Chapter Chair, Terrie Best refused to take a position on Prop 64 as they claimed they only opined on medical cannabis related matters and Prop 64 was Adult-Use Recreational. Of course this was nonsense as it was the biggest thing to happen to medical marijuana since Prop 215 passed but further absurdity was on display when cannabis attorney Jessica McElfresh would speak about the importance of passing 64 and when I would bring up the actual language in 64 she would respond that this was not the place to talk about that but instead would have lunch with me to discuss it. I called her the next day and she said she would do lunch but it would cost \$300/hour with a 2 hour minimum. McElfresh was using ASA to troll for new applicant clients and today, Terrie Best is attempting to rewrite history and deleting my reply in OB Rag would expose this for what it is. The height of hypocrisy and aiding and abetting crimes that McElfresh and Gina Austin are committing.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident From 2016 forward

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

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Americans for Safe Access website-about-501C3
ASA Local Chapters - San Diego, Terrie Best, Chapter Chair
12/21/2023 OB Rag, Roll Up for Cannabis Equity by Terrie Best re social equity licensing, PPP and monopolies.
12/23/2023 Cotton Reply to the Article. Of note the reply shows "Awaiting Moderation." As can be seen in the comments, my comment was not allowed to post. Terrie Best knows what she and ASA did in furthering the adult-use licensing and regulation in CA and certainly within SD. My comment was not offensive. For Best to continue to suppress my 1st amendment rights and attempt to now wrap herself in the cloak of medical cannabis advocacy, in light of what they have done to get us here, is astoundingly arrogant and deceitful.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Darryl Cotton

It is a crime to report to the Grand Jury that a crime has been committed knowing the report to be false. Penal Code §148.5(d).

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County of San Diego Grand Jury

Citizen Complaint Form

San Diego County Grand Jury
550 Corporate Center
550 W C Street, Suite 860
San Diego, CA 92101-3518
619-236-2020 Fax 619-338-8127
Email: sdgrandjury@sdcounty.ca.gov

**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 12/24/2023

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Darryl Cotton
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92124
Telephone 619.954.4447

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

Prior to Prop 64 being voted on in 2016, Americans for Safe Access would, during the course of their normal weekly meetings, allow special guest speakers to spend the better part of an hour, extolling the virtues of passing Prop 64 as progressive cannabis law and regulation. ASA National and their local Chapter Chair, Terrie Best refused to take a position on Prop 64 as they claimed they only opined on medical cannabis related matters and Prop 64 was Adult-Use Recreational. Of course this was nonsense as it was the biggest thing to happen to medical marijuana since Prop 215 passed but further absurdity was on display when cannabis attorney Jessica McElfresh would speak about the importance of passing 64 and when I would bring up the actual language in 64 she would respond that this was not the place to talk about that but instead would have lunch with me to discuss it. I called her the next day and she said she would do lunch but it would cost \$300/hour with a 2 hour minimum. McElfresh was using ASA to troll for new applicant clients and today, Terrie Best is attempting to rewrite history and deleting my reply in OB Rag would expose this for what it is. The height of hypocrisy and aiding and abetting crimes that McElfresh and Gina Austin are committing.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident From 2016 forward

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

Americans for Safe Access website-about-501C3
ASA Local Chapters - San Diego, Terrie Best, Chapter Chair
12/21/2023 OB Rag, Roll Up for Cannabis Equity by Terrie Best re social equity licensing, PPP and monopolies.
12/23/2023 Cotton Reply to the Article. Of note the reply shows "Awaiting Moderation." As can be seen in the comments, my comment was not allowed to post. Terrie Best knows what she and ASA did in furthering the adult-use licensing and regulation in CA and certainly within SD. My comment was not offensive. For Best to continue to suppress my 1st amendment rights and attempt to now wrap herself in the cloak of medical cannabis advocacy, in light of what they have done to get us here, is astoundingly arrogant and deceitful.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Darryl Cotton

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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 12/28/2023

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Amy Sherlock

Address 6176 Federal Blvd.

City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

My husband, Michael "Biker" Sherlock, died on December 2, 2015. The medical examiner determined his cause of death to be a suicide. I was devastated by his death but felt that those professionals who would make this determination relied on the evidence they had before them to arrive at this determination. In 2020, I received information that suggested I might want to look into the cause of death because there would have been a motive to eliminate Biker from being the permittee on not one but two adult-use cannabis licenses he had successfully acquired just months before his death. I have since come to find, through 2 different 3rd party investigators, one of which, Scott Roder of the **Evidence-Room** a nationally recognized shooting scene team of experts, prepared a report with animations depicting what the physical evidence at the scene would have made it "100% inconsistent with a suicide." Mr. Roder is prepared to testify on behalf of his report and those actions or inactions that should have made the original cause of death murder as he has described it as a "staged scene."

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident December 2015 thru current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

January 2020: Darryl Cotton and Amy Sherlock's private messages re Biker's death may not be a suicide.
November 30, 2022: The Armorous Report with Exhibits finds that the COD, should have been ruled undetermined.
December 27, 2023: The Evidence-Room Michael "Biker" Sherlock Video death scene reconstruction animation.
December 28, 2023: The Evidence-Room Michael "Biker" Sherlock COD Written Analysis and Report finds, based strictly on physical evidence, the reported COD was 100% not consistent with suicide.
Based on the evidence provided herein, I support a Grand Jury being convened to investigate my husbands, murder and the pay-to-play corruption in adult-use cannabis licensing that exists in the City of San Diego and provided motive to those who directly benefited from his death.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Amy Sherlock

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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 1/11/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Tiffany Knopf

Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

Where my husband and licensee Adam Knopf applied for a cannabis license in the City of Pasadena, he represented that he had and ownership interest in the 8863-E Balboa dispensary which is currently in litigation with Amy Sherlock, the widow of Michael "Biker" Sherlock. Biker was the original permittee of 8863-E Balboa and Adam has, for the purposes of our divorce settlement denied having any interests in that entity but in CUP applications represents that he does have an ownership interest.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident March 27, 2019

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

March 27, 2019 Knopf/GSG Pasadena CUP Application stating ownership interests in the Balboa dispensary.

See pages 1 and 20

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Tiffany Knopf



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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 1/11/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Amy Sherlock
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

I have been involved in civil litigation since April 2020 in both Federal and State court complaints that go to certain individuals engaged in unlawful activities in cannabis licensing, regulation and control. I have been consistently been set back by the courts with antiSLAPP judgments. These judgments infringe upon my 1st Amendment rights to file these complaints and in the case of attorney Jessica McElfresh are supported with a criminal indictment, filed by then District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis against McElfresh, which specifically cited these activities. This was eventually settled under a Deferred Prosecution Agreement offered under the subsequent District Attorney, Summer Stephan and Deputy District Attorney Jorge Del Portillo, where McElfresh's criminal conduct continued during her 1 year probation period and continues to this day. I would like to present the evidence I have that supports my allegations, see the DPA set aside and the full complaint and list of charges pursued as not only was the DPA too lenient. McElfresh failed to abide by its terms and the courts are punishing me for having alleged these acts.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident May 23, 2017 thru current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

May 23, 2017, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA v. JESSICA CLAIRE MCELFRISH ET AL
July 23, 2018, McElfresh Deferred Prosecution Agreement

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Amy Sherlock



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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 2/08/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Tiffany Knopf

Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

I am undergoing discovery in a divorce proceedings with my husband, Adam Knopf and have reason to believe that Adam Knopf is not disclosing and has endeavored to discover those undisclosed interests within the City of San Diego. What I have come to discover is that there are over 30 months of missing minutes that would point to the licensing approval or denials by the city, some of which I believe would include Mr. Knopf's undisclosed assets.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident March 2022 through current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

I do not have the requisite experience to flush out the myriad denials and shell companies that Mr. Knopf, his business partners and certain attorneys have banded together to withhold from our review those ownership documents. I am in support of a Grand Jury being convened to investigate what looks to be a situation where the City of San Diego has failed to keep those relevant records up to date and available on their website for all to see. I rely on this statement supported by a report I've created with coauthor Darryl Cotton that, through email communications contained within that [Hearing Officer Report](#), have the city acknowledging the missing Hearing Officer Minutes, Hearing Officer Reports and Planning Commission Minutes that should not be missing, and would greatly aid in our identifying those assets.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Tiffany Knopf

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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 2/16/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Amy Sherlock
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

On February 6, 2024, I received a report from my Private Investigator what had met with defendant Duane Alexander. Mr. Alexander had requested this meeting in an attempt to share case dispositive information which would clearly show that, in addition to those defendants named in my civil complaint, there are other parties who actively and knowingly engaged in a conspiracy to defraud me of rights to property and licenses that my deceased husband, Biker, would have been rightfully mine had these acts not taken place. Within the PI Report it can be seen where a Conflict of Interest Waiver ("Waiver") was executed in the on May 9, 2017 with the document having been created by attorney William L. Miltner of MILTNER & MENCK, APC. My signature on that page is not mine. It is a forgery and attempts (email and phone call) by my attorney, Andrew Flores, to recover all client files from Mr. Miltner have been unresponsive. Until Alexander turned over these documents I had never even heard of MILTNER & MENCK or attorney William L. Miltner.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident May 9, 2017 thru current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

2021/12/03: SHERLOCK ET AL v EULENTIAS DUANE ALEXANDER ET AL - Case No. 37-2021-00050889-CU-AT-CTL
2024/02/06 Private Investigator Report detailing meeting with Eulenthias Duane Alexander
2022: Form 1-A Stock Offering by Duane Alexander on behalf of Prime Harvest at \$42,000,000
2022: Amended Form 1-A Stock Offering by Duane Alexander on behalf of Prime Harvest at \$42,000,000
2023: Form 1-A Stock Offering by Duane Alexander on behalf of Prime Harvest at \$42,000,000

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Amy Sherlock



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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 2/19/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Dina Goldberg

Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

I had been married to Eric Goldberg for 21 years. I had been the loving, devoted life, raising our children and supporting him as he built our business empire in a variety of businesses that ranged from real estate to licensed adult-use cannabis in San Diego and surrounding areas. I come forth now because as my divorce was finalized in June 2023, it has only been through the testimony of others, I have come to learn that Eric has been engaged in a sophisticated level of fraud in acquiring these licenses that his "success" has come at the expense of many others. By that I mean his professional relationships with attorney Gina Austin, James Bartell, Adam Knopf and Justus H. Henkes, CPA amongst others have worked together to take vast amounts of unreported cash, supposedly per Eric, all having come from their licensed dispensaries to pay off government officials to acquire more of the Conditional Use Permits in furtherance of their schemes. I have evidence of these events and would be willing to disclose them but will not do so unless I know that I will be protected and a Grand Jury will investigate these charges.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2015 through current

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

In their flying high arrogance and belief they are all above the law, James Bartell would constantly pressure me to engage in sexual relations with him. He would send me pictures of his genitalia. When Eric was apprised of Bartell's actions he did nothing. I believe that was because he and his partners in Far West were too dependent on Bartell to assure CUPS were granted. Eric would come consistently come home with tens of thousands of dollars in cash. He would show it off to our sons and regale in his riches. He had so much cash he resorted to burying it in walls and the backyard of our house. He told me this was necessary because cannabis was an all cash business and cash was necessary to pay off those people in DSD who would assure the licenses were granted. I also heard him celebrating a CUP issuance with Adam Knopf in phone calls where they whooped it up about who would be the "next official they'd have to pay off." **12/15/2016 Item 1** Planning Commission Hearing and Video testimony of Planning Commission mishandling and **conflicts by Slayer, Chipman and atty Otilie from 12:40 - 21:06.**

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Dina Goldberg



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619-236-2020 Fax 619-338-8127
Email: sdgrandjury@sdcounty.ca.gov

**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 2/22/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Tiffany Knopf

Address [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip Code [REDACTED]

Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

I am undergoing discovery in divorce proceedings with my husband, Adam Knopf and have reason to believe that Adam is not disclosing certain assets and specifically adult-use cannabis CUP licenses that were acquired through preferential, pay-to-play relationships with government officials who control the award of such licenses within the City and County of San Diego as well as surrounding communities where these patterns can be established by those of us who had knowledge that contradicts the "official" narrative. What I will be addressing are the obvious errors in factual conclusion as it relates to those conflict of interest charges that existed with certain members of the SD Planning Commission, Santa Barbara, as well as applicants and attorneys for those applications as detailed in a **May 12, 2021 Investigative Report by the Sintra Group** on behalf of the City of Santa Barbara. This Report was done in response to a **March 12, 2021 article in the LA Magazine** which, no doubt as the threat of litigation loomed large, **caused the article to be retracted**. See also **SBPD Investigation** finding no evidence of wrongdoing.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2015 through current with the following items being addressed as my first hand knowledge of those events leading to the approval of GSG licenses and Anthony Wagners participation.

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

On or about March 2018 Adam flew to Santa Barbara with Micah Anderson on Micah's plane to have lunch in Santa Barbara with Anthony Wagner. Adam took a large amount of cash with him and returned later that same day. This was a few months before the 3516 CUP was awarded. I did not attend that trip. I did attend several other meetings with Adam in Santa Barbara re the CUP we were seeking in which Gina Austin and Abhay Schweitzer were there representing us. In the Sintra Report @ page 11, Anthony Wagner states that it's "purely coincidence" that Gina Austin represented GSG in Santa Barbara. That's not true. On **March 19, 2015, Item No 8**, Wagner was on the SD Planning Commission who approved our CUP application at 3452 Hancock Street. Gina Austin set up the Santa Barbara community meet and greet that **as this May 31, 2018 picture shows** those in attendance that upon information and belief included, among others, Adam Knopf, Gina Austin and Anthony Wagner. The Sintra Report downplayed Wagner's connections to Austin and Knopf to hide obvious conflict interests he actively had with GSG. The LA Magazine article had it right! It should never have been recanted and what was being reported revealed that. The Sintra Report had it wrong and was nothing more than a bought and paid for attempt to conceal these unlawful pay-to-play practices in plain sight.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Tiffany Knopf

- February 26, 2022 NEWSHAWK Story**
- March 29, 2021 EdHat.com Op-Ed**
- June 11, 2021 Wagner's \$4.6 MM Demand Letter**

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**Please Review Complaint
Guidelines on Reverse Side**

Date 04/06/2024

1. **Who:** (Your Name) Amy Sherlock
Address 6176 Federal Blvd.
City, State, Zip Code San Diego, CA 92114
Telephone [REDACTED]

2. **What:** Subject of Complaint: Briefly state the nature of complaint and the action of what San Diego County department, section agency or official(s) that you believe was illegal or improper.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

This Complaint builds upon the information provided in my Grand Jury Complaint (GJC) of 12/18/2023 regarding 8863-E Balboa Avenue. What has come to my attention since having filed that GJC is that on January 15, 2016, 6 weeks after my husband, Michael "Biker" Sherlock was murdered, the City of San Diego billed a \$7,066.42 invoice to my deceased husband to which it has been marked paid. Michael was the Responsible Financial Party (DA DS-3242) per the City of San Diego's Development Services Department (DSD) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application. Who is acting on his behalf, after his death, to make any payments to DSD? Michael was AWARDED the 8863-E CUP 06/17/2015. Why is a dead man being billed and someone paying that amount for a CUP (368447) that had been awarded 7 months prior to this DSD invoice for a **PLANNING SUBDIVISION** deposit? And let us also not forget that this CUP reverted to me on 03/17/2016 which that whole mess can be seen in my GJC dated 12/18/2023.

3. **When:** Date(s) of Incident 2015-2017

4. **Where:** Names and addresses of other departments, agencies or officials involved in this complaint. Include dates/types of contact, i.e. phone, letter, personal.

Check This Box if you are using additional sheets for this question

04/24/2014 DSD Project 368347 showing Michael Sherlock as DA-DS 3242 Financial Responsible Party.
01/15/2016 DSD Invoice 670106 Invoice Revenue for PLANNING SUBDIVISION in the amount of \$7,066.42. Status PAID.
12/18/2023 Amy Sherlock Grand Jury Complaint citing DSD irregularities in the 8863-E CUP processing.

5. **Why/How:** Attach pertinent documents and correspondence with dates.

Print Name: Amy Sherlock

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