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Sentence marks a shameful coda to his influential career in Los Angeles politics.

BY MATT HAMILTON AND JULIA WICK

latimes.com

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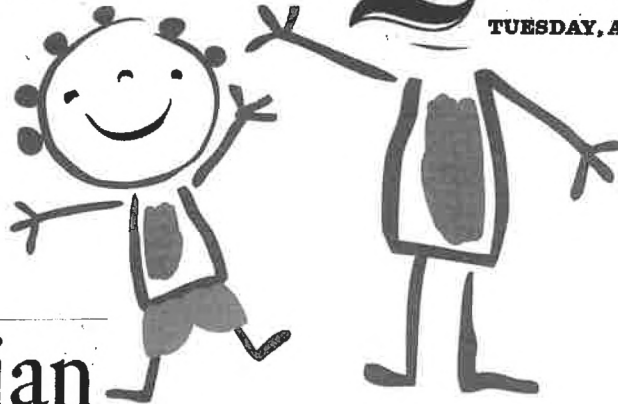
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AUG 29 2023

# Los Angeles

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2023



for politician

## SMARTY PANTS Storytime

### It's 'a sad day,' not just for politician

**ERIKA D. SMITH**

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## California failed

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# POLITICAL ARENA is often Abusive!

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Reversed.

1. The significant portions that could be understood were:

How far is the nigger going to -- yeah.

This is what we are going to do to the niggers.

A dirty nigger.

Send the Jews back to Israel.

Let's give them back to the dark garden.

Save America.

Let's go back to constitutional betterment.

Bury the niggers.

We intend to do our part.

Give us our state rights.

Freedom for the whites.

Nigger will have to fight for every inch he gets from now on.

PUBLIC ISSUES should be UNINHIBITED, Robust, & wide open & include vehement, caustic & sometimes very UNpleasant sharp attacks on gov.



2. It was on the theory that the Smith Act, 54 Stat. 670, 18 U.S.C. § 35 embodied such a principle and that it had been applied only in conformity with it that this Court sustained the Act's constitutionality. *Dennis v. United States*, 341 U.S. 494 (1951). That this was the basis for *Dennis* was emphasized in 341 U.S. 494 (1951). That this was the basis for *Dennis* was emphasized in *Yates v. United States*, 354 U.S. 298, 320-324 (1957), in which the Court overturned convictions for advocacy of the forcible overthrow of the Government under the Smith Act, because the trial judge's instructions had allowed conviction for mere advocacy, unrelated to its tendency to produce forcible action.

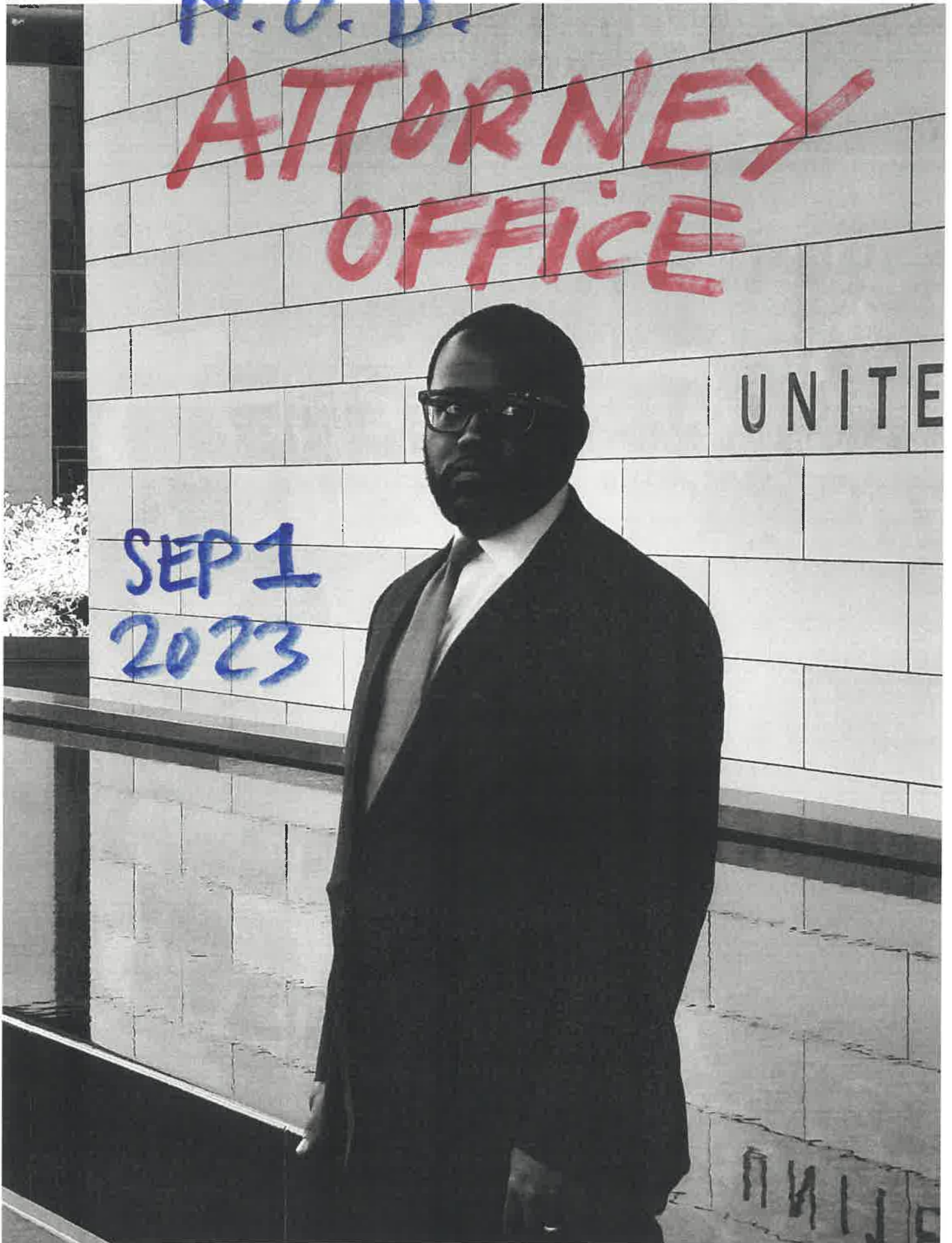
3. The first count of the indictment charged that appellant

did unlawfully by word of mouth advocate the necessity, or propriety of crime, violence, or unlawful methods of terrorism as a means of accomplishing political reform. . . .

The second count charged that appellant "did unlawfully voluntarily assemble with a group or assemblage of persons formed to advocate the doctrines of criminal syndicalism. . . ." The trial judge's charge merely followed the language of the indictment. No construction of the statute by the Ohio courts has brought it within constitutionally permissible limits. The Ohio Supreme Court has considered the statute in only one previous case, *State v. Kassay*, 126 Ohio St. 177, 184 N.E. 521 (1932), where the constitutionality of the statute was sustained.

4. Statutes affecting the right of assembly, like those touching on freedom of speech, must observe the established distinctions between mere advocacy and incitement to imminent lawless action, for, as Chief Justice Hughes wrote in *De Jonge v. Oregon, supra*, at 364: "The right of peaceable assembly is a right cognate to those of free speech and free

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not just

JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

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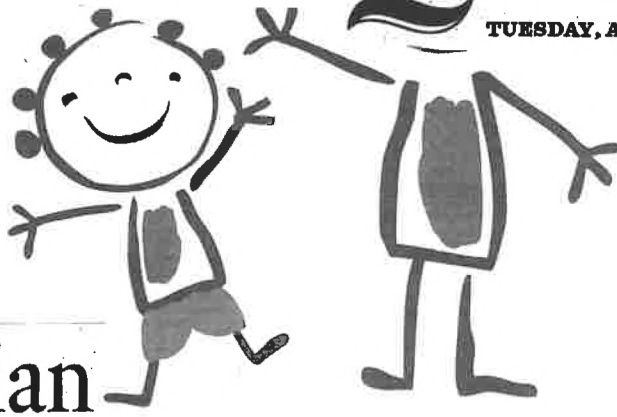


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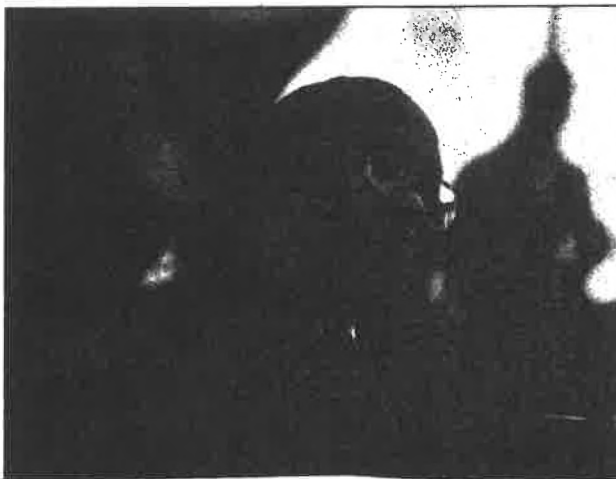
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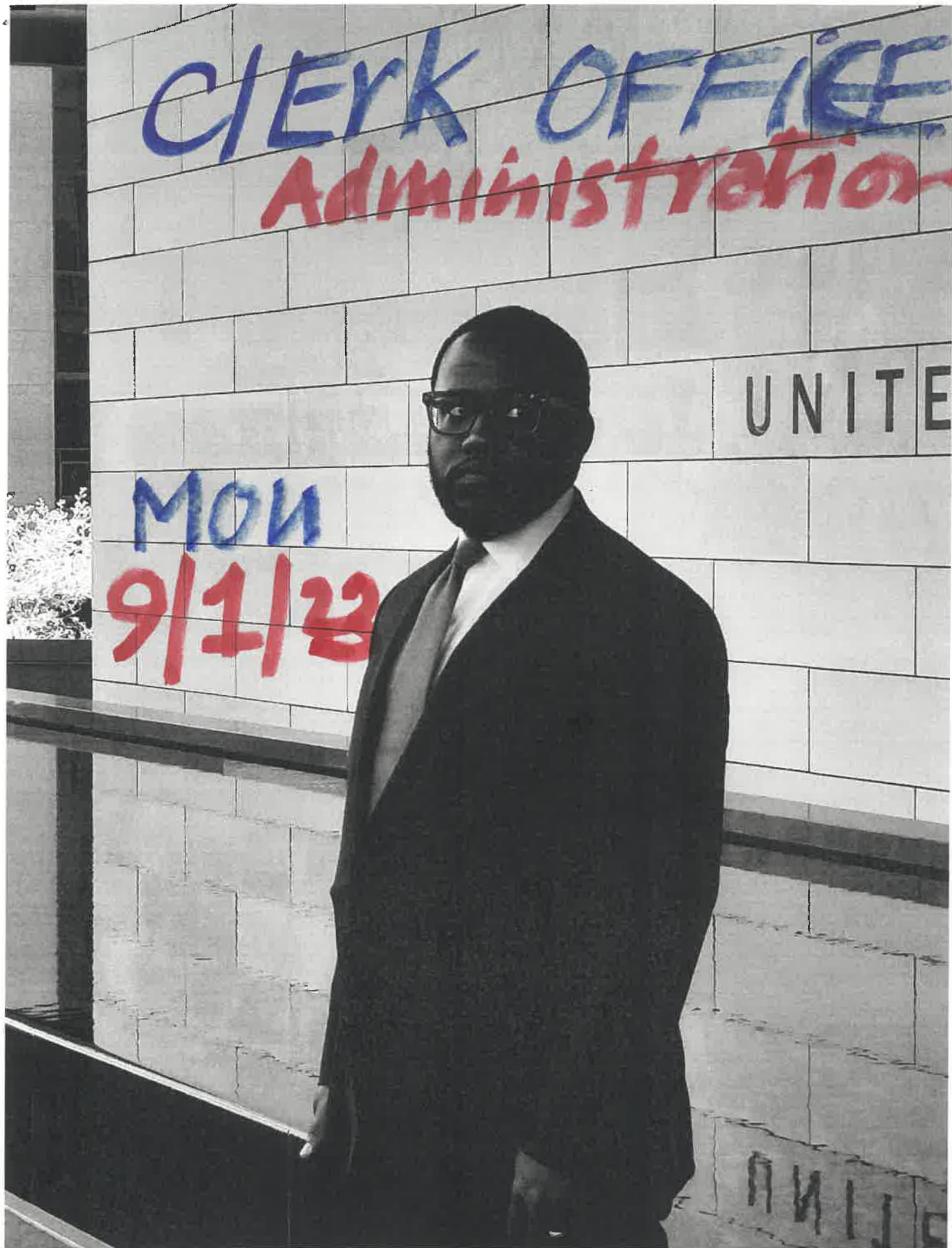
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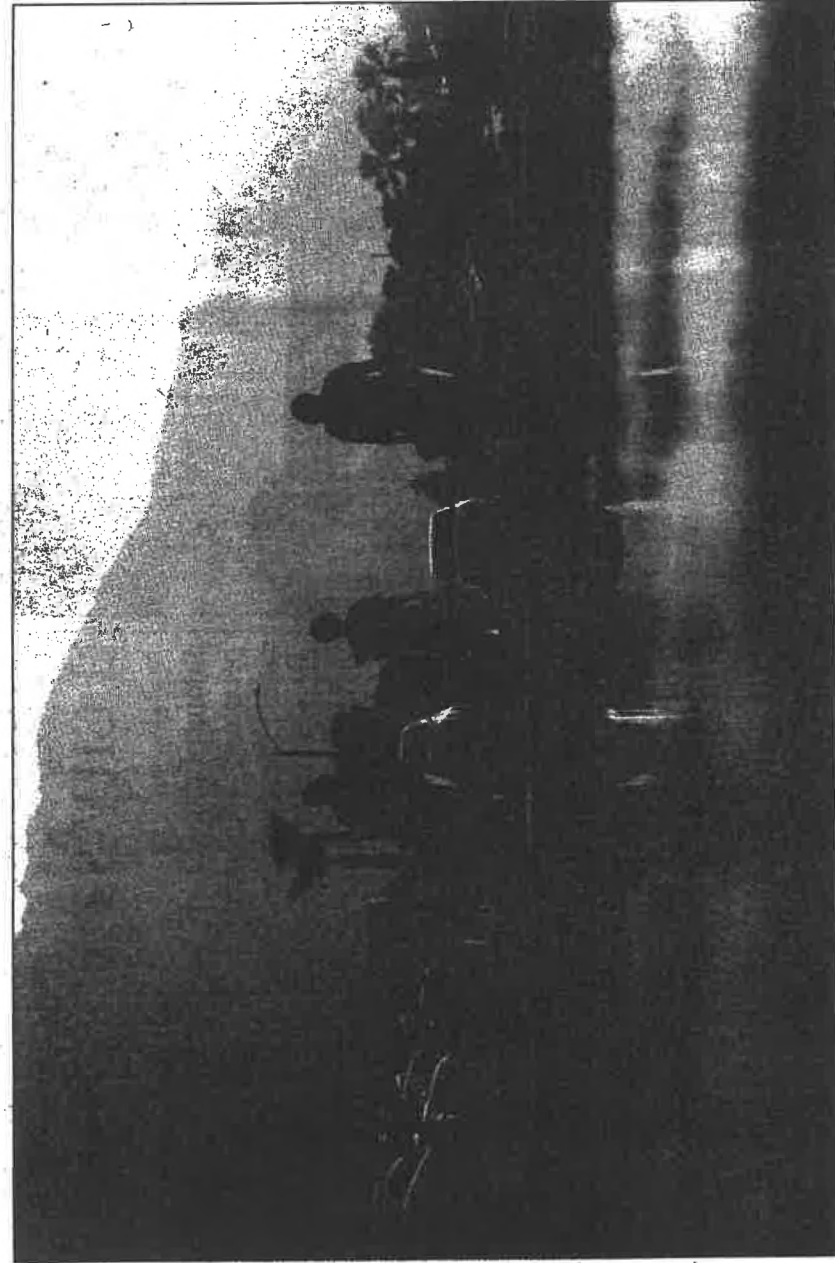
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**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS** push wheelbarrows on their way to clean up after Tropical Storm Hilary floodwaters inundated parts of Cathedral City. Many areas in Southern California were flooded by the storm.

## California failed to collect

### most water from Hilary

## Ridley-Thomas gets 42-month prison term in corruption case

Sentence marks a shameful coda to his influential career in Los Angeles politics.

BY MATT HAMILTON  
AND JULIA WICK

A federal judge has sentenced Mark Ridley-Thomas, once a towering figure in Los Angeles politics, to 42 months in prison, marking a devastating coda to his long career as a local power broker and advocate for civil rights and racial equity.

The sentence was issued Monday morning by U.S. District Judge Dale Fischer, who presided over Ridley-Thomas' criminal trial in

Fischer and the prosecutors said the length of Ridley-Thomas' sentence should send an unequivocal message that public corruption has serious consequences, with the judge remarking, "The entire community has been victimized by the defendant's crimes."

Jurors had convicted Ridley-Thomas of seven felonies — bribery, conspiracy, four counts of honest serv-

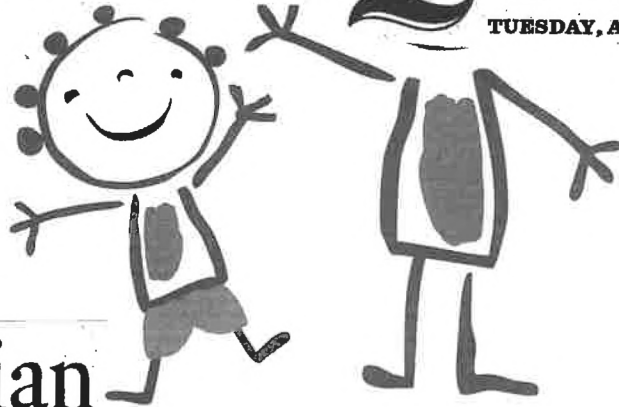
[See Politician, A6]

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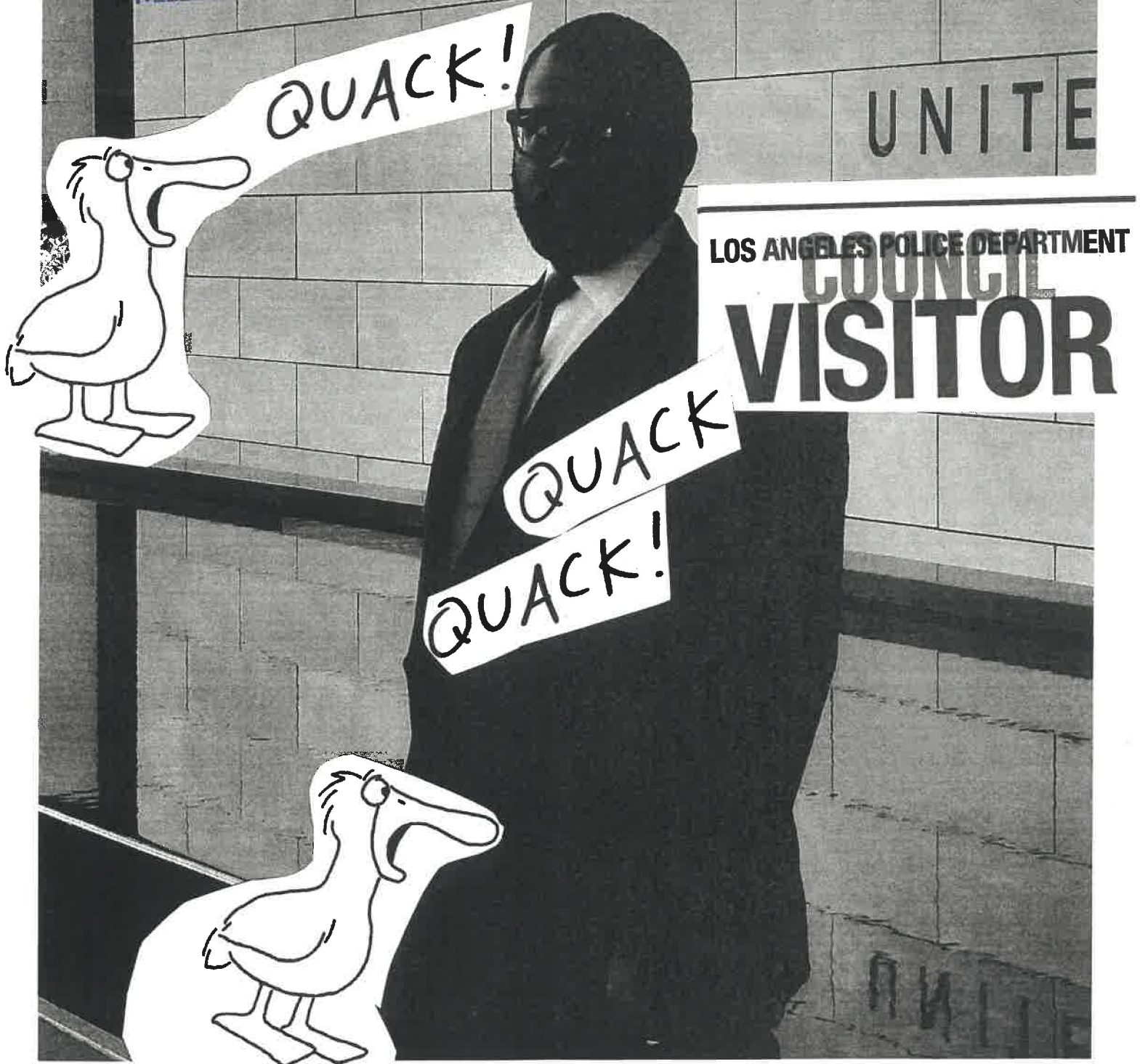
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therefore overruled.

Armando Herman  
13635 Dempster Ave.  
Downey, CA 90242

Reversed.

[Footnote 1]

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"This is what we are going to do to the niggers."

"A dirty nigger." *Enjoy these Correspondence*

"Send the Jews back to Israel."

"Let's give them back to the dark garden."

"Save America."

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"Bury the niggers."

"We intend to do our part."

"Give us our state rights."

"Freedom for the whites."

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in a meeting agenda and given the public adequate opportunity to provide input.

"You are violating the public's trust," he told city

Lawmakers. "We expect these things to be brought out into the daylight so we can all weigh in."

Once Preven's public comment period had expired, Councilwoman Nury Martinez declared that he was disrupting the meeting. Preven was approached by officers, who asked him to leave and warned he could be put in handcuffs, according to Preven. Preven said he left the chamber voluntarily and should not have been or-



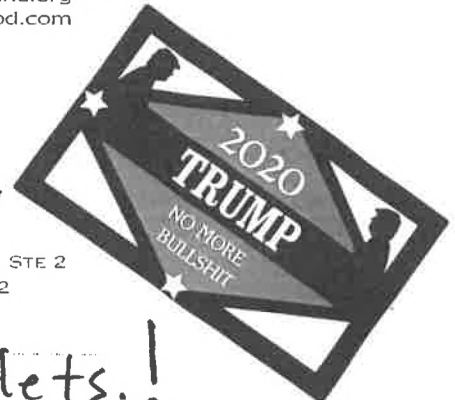
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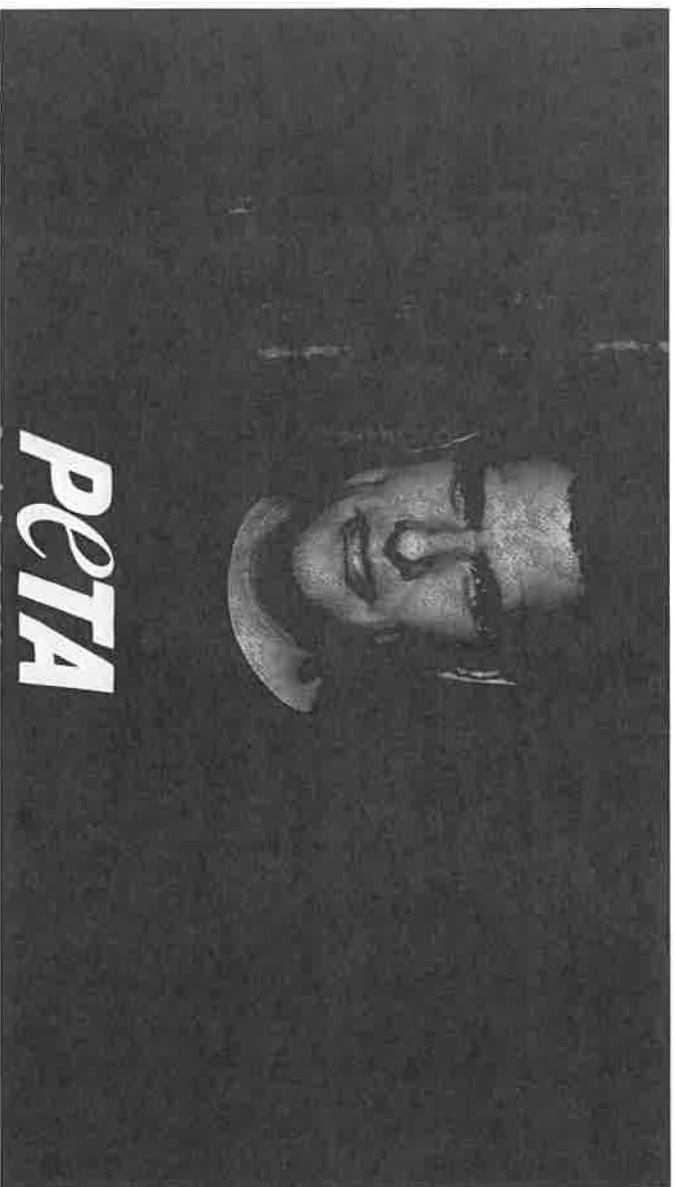
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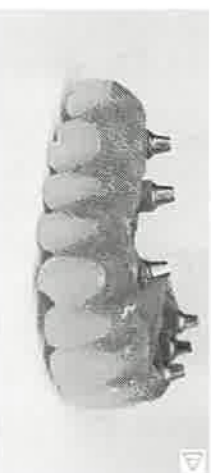
## Compassionate Latinos Condemn Charreada Cruelty

By Marco Antonio Regil Feb 2, 2023



Marco Antonio Regil is a longtime animal advocate and member of PETA's honorary board of directors. (Photo credit: Juan Carlos ...)

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Over the course of my career as a television host, I've seen a lot of tough competitions on game shows and I've witnessed a lot of heartbreaking losses—but the contestants were always humans who chose to compete for prizes in order to entertain people.

Animals used in rodeos and charreadas (Mexican-style rodeos) have no such choice. They're forced to "perform," including through pain inflicted by barbaric devices such as flank straps, spurs and electric prods. Having lived and worked in Los Angeles for many years, I took a keen interest in learning that the Los Angeles City Council is considering an ordinance that would ban such cruel devices, and I urge the council members to support the proposal.

Both American-style rodeos and charreadas are egregiously cruel. Animals used in these spectacles often sustain horrific and sometimes fatal injuries, such as punctured lungs and broken ribs, backs and necks, as well as suffering heart attacks and aneurysms. When calves are roped while running, their necks are routinely snapped back by the lasso or can be twisted as they're violently slammed to the ground.

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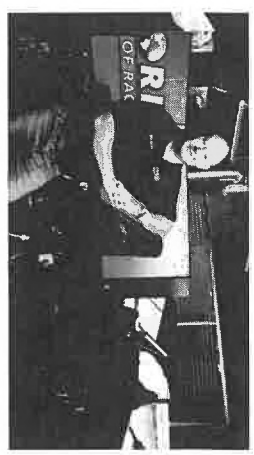
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Charreadas even include an event called el paso de la muerte ("the passage of death"), which involves leaping from the back of a trained horse onto the back of a wild horse and riding until the animal becomes exhausted from trying to buck the rider off. During the terra en el ruedo ("team of three"), which is a team-roping event, two riders must rope a bull as quickly as possible, one by the neck and the other by the hind legs, and a third binds his hooves together.

Perhaps the most grisly event in a charreada is the coleadero ("steer tailing"), in which a rider on

*horse back grabs the tail of a running's steer wraps it around*

Car racing is an expensive sport. Understanding that, race fan Donovan Janus wanted to give everyone a more affordable way to experience the rush of real racing. He opened World of Racing, LA's "premier sim racing center," in Pasadena in May.



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*his stimp or leg + takes off at full speed*  
slamming the terrorized animal to the ground. There have been instances in which the steer's tail has been degloved, or stripped to the bone.

The horses, calves, steers and bulls on the rodeo circuit, who are generally gentle by nature, are subjected to abuse in order to guarantee that they'll perform as expected by the paying public. Electric prods, spurs and flank straps are used to irritate and provoke them into bucking. The flank, or "bucking," strap is tightly cinched around the animals' abdomens, which causes them to "buck" as they try to break free from it. When paired with spurring, it causes them to buck even more desperately, often resulting in serious injuries. The flank strap can even cause open wounds and burns from chafing. Cows and horses are often prodded with an electric "hotshot" while in the chute to rile them up, causing them intense pain.

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DAY 25	DAY 26	DAY 27	DAY 28	DAY 29	DAY 30	DAY 31	DAY 32

Yoga 101

Animals used in rodeos are specifically excluded from the protections afforded by the federal Animal Welfare Act. And there's no law requiring a veterinarian to be present at these events—one just has to be "on call." For an animal with a shattered leg or gaping wound, every minute waiting for a vet to show up must feel like an eternity.

Animals who manage to make it through an event unharmed are given little time to rest or recover. They're loaded onto trucks, hauled to the next event and forced to participate over and over again. During transport, they may be tightly confined and denied adequate food and water for extended periods of time. When they're too old or worn out to continue, "retirement" is often a one-way trip to the slaughterhouse.

Most Latinos today don't want to see animals tormented for entertainment. In fact, according to one survey, only 1% of Mexicans who attended a traditional festivity attended a charreada. Another survey showed that only 1.2% of Mexicans think that charrearía is the most important sport in Mexico. No one I

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know attends charreadas. As one critic quoted in the Los Angeles Times put it, "I am not against tradition, just against cruelty."

The opinions of a small minority of rodeo and charreada enthusiasts should not outweigh those of the overwhelming majority of people who condemn cruelty to animals. Los Angeles City Council members must refrain from assuming that all Latinos support charreadas, because everyone who cares about animals condemns cruelty. By banning devices designed to inflict pain and discomfort, as the city of Pittsburgh has already done, the city council can take a stand for animals and fulfill the wishes of its kind constituents.

*Marco Antonio Regil is a radio, television, and podcast host originally from Tijuana, Mexico. He is a longtime animal advocate and member of PETA's honorary board of directors. He lives in California with his adopted dog Luna.*

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