



**DENNIS V. ALLEN
AND OTHER
TRAILBLAZERS
EXHIBIT DOCUMENTS
JUNE 2023**

National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People,

San Diego, Calif.

Jan. 17 - 1925,

To the Honorable
Mayor and City
Council of San
Diego;

Gentlemen:- As citizens
and tax-payers in
the city of San Diego;
as citizens of this, the
greatest Republic, and
as, in some measure,
ex-soldiers of the same,
and as members
of the National
Association for the
Advancement of
Colored People, we

wish to draw
your attention
to the display of
two very objectionable
signs ~~displayed~~
in ticket offices
of the Colonial Theatre.
These signs read
thus: "Colored patronage
not solicited."

We believe that it
is within the power
of the Honorable Mayor
and City Council, ^{to} relieve
the Colored Citizens
of San Diego of the
discrimination
implied by those signs

and any measure
taken by the Council
to ^{have} them removed
and any others,
which may from
time to time, show
up, contrary to the
laws of the state of
California.

Thanking you for
a favorable consideration
of our request. we
are,

Yours very truly,
W. J. Allen, Pres,
E. J. Gentry, Chairman
of Grievance Committee.

DOCUMENT No. 168301

FILED

Jan 19, 1925
Allen H. Wright
City Clerk.

BY

Deputy.

PETITION

OF

Natl. Assoc. Advancement
of Colored People
FOR
Regulation re
Discriminatory
Signal or Theatre
Box Offices

JAN 19 1925 (atly Police)
Referred to City Attorney

JAN 19 1925
Referred to Police Dept.

JAN 26 1925
Transmitted to Common Council and

under Seal
COVER FORD 10-5-20 3M



POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

REFERENCE No. 5190

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.,

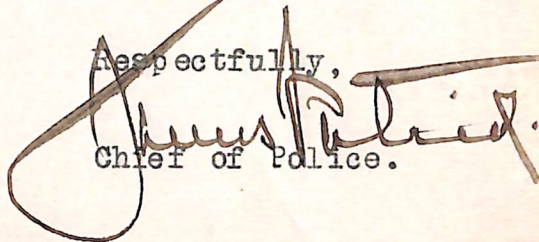
January
22nd
1925

The Hon. Mayor and Common Council,
City of San Diego,
California.

Gentlemen:-

In reference to the attached petition, same being complaint against a certain sign placed in the box office of the Colonial Theatre ("colored Patronage Not Solicited"), same being Document No. 168381, beg to advise you, Mr. Roy Thomas, Manager of the Colonial Theatre, was in my office this day, at which time he consented to remove the sign.

Respectfully,


Chief of Police.

Incl. 1.

JP:EHG

Document, No. 108883

FILED JAN 23 1935

ALLEN H. WRIGHT

City Clerk

By **CLARK M. FOOTE, JR.** Deputy

Communication from Chief of
Police re petition from
Colored People re signs in
theatre lobbies.

File

Presented to Common Council and

ordered filed JAN 23 1935

Chief of Police



REFERENCE NO. 5160

SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

JAN 23 1935

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

POLICE DEPARTMENT

THE SAN DIEGO RACE RELATIONS SOCIETY

DENNIS V. ALLEN, PRESIDENT
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

November 17, 1935

DENNIS V. ALLEN, President
JOHN BRUNO, 1st Vice-President
DR. MAX L. STERNE, 2nd Vice-President
A. M. ORDEN, 3rd Vice-President

Executive Committee

DENNIS V. ALLEN
ALBERT BERNARDINI
MARY SHELDON BROWN
JOSE MARIA CACHUELA
MISS BERNICE COSGROVE
REV. VIRGINIA FAHLEE
STANLEY M. GUE
GERTRUDE JAIR
MISS VIOLA I. JEFFERSON
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ARISTON M. ORDEN
MILDRED C. K. PRENDERGAST
THOS. V. PRENDERGAST
REV. J. C. RODRIGUEZ
A. B. SANTOS
MRS. MAUDE SCRITCHFIELD
JUDGE PHIL SMITH
LELAND G. STANFORD
MRS. JAMES P. TATE

Officers

J. P. MARTIKAS, Treasurer
MILDRED C. K. PRENDERGAST, Secretary
MRS. JAS. P. TATE, Assistant Secretary

The Honorable Mayor
And Councilmen,
City.

Gentlemen:

Attention of The San Diego Race Relations Society is called to the display of obnoxious signs conspicuously displayed on walls of several restaurants or kindred places reading like unto the following: "Colored Trade Not Desired," "Negro Patronage Not Solicited," "No Counter Service to Negroes." Countenance of this unwarranted practice seriously hampers the efforts of this Society in its program to improve relations of the several race-groups living in this fair city. Negroes and other colored groups interpret these displays as vicious attacks calculated to stir up racial feeling and play up the color question before the public as a bid for increased "white business." This dangerous practice has disturbed the peace of colored citizens of San Diego and definitely presents a serious, yet unnecessary problem. Negroes are not alone in expressing objection to this strange publicity in one of the most cosmopolitan centers of America-, objections are registered by representatives of several other race-groups including the white. We also

find that this new off-shot publicity is a direct slap against the 51st, and 52nd Amendments to our Constitution, known as our "Civil Rights Law." This Law guarantees service at these places to all citizens regardless of color. Since several other cities are on record prohibiting discriminatory advertisements against its citizens, and too, since the peace of a large number of citizens is disturbed because of this entirely unnecessary practice, The San Diego Race Relations Society respectfully request your honorable body to enact an Ordinance prohibiting display of such "signs" complained against of which serves only to play-up and increase bitter racial feeling of which is entirely out of place in this city, and certainly unnecessary.

Very respectfully yours,

Dennis V. Allen President
 Dennis V. Allen.

*Recommendation
 to prohibit
 to an ordinance
 prohibiting. Capital
 to be in force.*

FRED W. SICK

WILLEN H. WRIGHT

City Clerk

FILED

NOV 19 1932

Proclamation No.

502744

MON 19 1932

DEC 19 1932

Free

Alto Folio of 1A

295441

Document No. _____

FILED NOV 19 1935

ALLEN H. WRIGHT City Clerk

FRED W. SICK Deputy

Communication
from
The S. D. Race
Relations Society
Requesting adoption
of an ordinance
to prohibit
Discrimination

Wans. 1
Ben. 2 Atty. for
investigation & report
NOV 19 1935

File

DEC 10 1935

Very respectfully yours,

Dennis H. Allen
President

certainly unnecessary.

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list, and such Amendments to our Constitution, known as our "Civil
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Civic Activity Record of Dennis V. Allen
and the
San Diego Race Relations Society

- 1920: Successfully appealed to Mayor Louis J. Wilde of San Diego to appoint the first colored men as members of the San Diego Fire Department.
- 1924: Successfully appealed to Police Chief Keno Wilson, to remove obnoxious signs posted in public places objecting to the presence and service to colored people.
- 1925: In an extensive conference with Governor Abelardo Rodriquez, of the Northern District of Baja, California, Mexico, successfully appealed for the removal of racial-discriminatory signs in public places in Tijuana, Mexico.
- 1927: Successful in appeal to County Supervisors for the admittance of colored nurses for nurse's training and subsequent appointment as nurses at the San Diego County Hospital.
- 1928: Successful in request to accept colored children at the San Diego Children's Home.
- 1932: In an appeal to Hon. Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of State, requesting official action against the Mexican Immigration law, prohibiting entry of American colored citizens into Mexico, excepting those provided with passports, Secretary Stimson immediately appealed to the Mexican Government to cancel the order; and his request was forthwith granted.
- 1933: Ward O. Nelson (white) shot and killed Wade O. Davis (colored) to show the "boys" how they treat Negroes in Texas. This crime was committed in cold blood in front of a café operated by a colored man. A coroner's jury exonerated Nelson in this murder. Mr. Allen promptly appealed to District Attorney Thomas Whelan, who had Nelson re-arrested. He was tried before a superior court, convicted for murder, and sentenced to San Quentin Penitentiary.

- 1935: On September 10, 1935, Mr. Allen appeared before the San Diego City Council requesting the adoption of an Ordinance prohibiting the display of racial-discriminatory signs in public places of San Diego. Following this appeal, the City Council adopted such an Ordinance.
- 1935: In conference with representatives of our three daily newspapers requesting the capitalization of the word "Negro," the request was promptly granted.
- 1935: Appealed to Governor Frank Merriam against the barbarous treatment and even murder of Filipinos employed in agricultural fields at Salinas, California. The Governor personally investigated and brought to an abrupt stop this crime imposed upon Filipinos.
- 1940: Successful in an appeal to Major Reuben H. Fleet, President of the Consolidated Aircraft Company, for the employment of colored people. This appeal lasted eighteen months before employment was gained.
- 1942: Mrs. Marjorie Woolfolk, a typist-clerk in the office of Mr. Peterson, Personnel Director of San Diego County, was advised by Mr. Peterson that her services were to be terminated, even stating her work was satisfactory and registering no complaint against her, Mr. Allen and his committee called for, and was granted, a hearing before the County Civil Commission, which over-ruled Mr. Peterson's order, and Mrs. Woolfolk was retained in her position.
- 1943: A Mrs. Malinda Glinsmore (Colored) and patient at the San Diego County Hospital was subjected to ill-treatment by a nurse who objected to the bed of Mrs. Glinsmore situated beside that of Caucasian women. The nurse removed Mrs. Glinsmore and her bed behind a door in the hospital ward. This exclusion was reported to the San Diego Race Relations Society, which brought the case before Superintendent Adams, who promptly fired the nurse.

- 1943: Called to the Otay, California, School District for investigation of insults and abuses heaped upon colored children. A meeting was held at this school house which resulted in the abuses and insults brought to a stop.
- 1945: Prevented the removal of several colored women employed at the San Diego County Hospital. No reason was given for the attempted discharges of the colored women who had been notified they were to be released.
- 1945: Brought to the public's attention brutality imposed upon colored and Mexican citizens by certain members of the San Diego Police Department.
- 1945: Parents of two colored girls complained to the San Diego Race Relations Society that their daughters had been excluded from exercises in physical culture at a La Jolla, California, School. The private owner of a tennis court where exercises were held objected to the presence of the colored girls on her court, and the teacher of the class excluded the two colored girls from training. This rank exclusion was promptly stopped when this Society's president personally complained to the principal of the school.
- 1945: A book was in use at the Chula Vista High School where the word "nigger" was freely used. This book was removed from the school library on complaint by the San Diego Race Relations Society.
- 1946: Blocked efforts of the Golden Hill Improvement Association to prohibit others than persons of the Caucasian race renting, leasing, to sale, or occupying any homes or buildings located on what was called "Golden Hill."
- 1947: On complaint by this Society, the City Board of Education removed from the library of Dana High School a book of which colored Americans were grossly misrepresented in its pages.

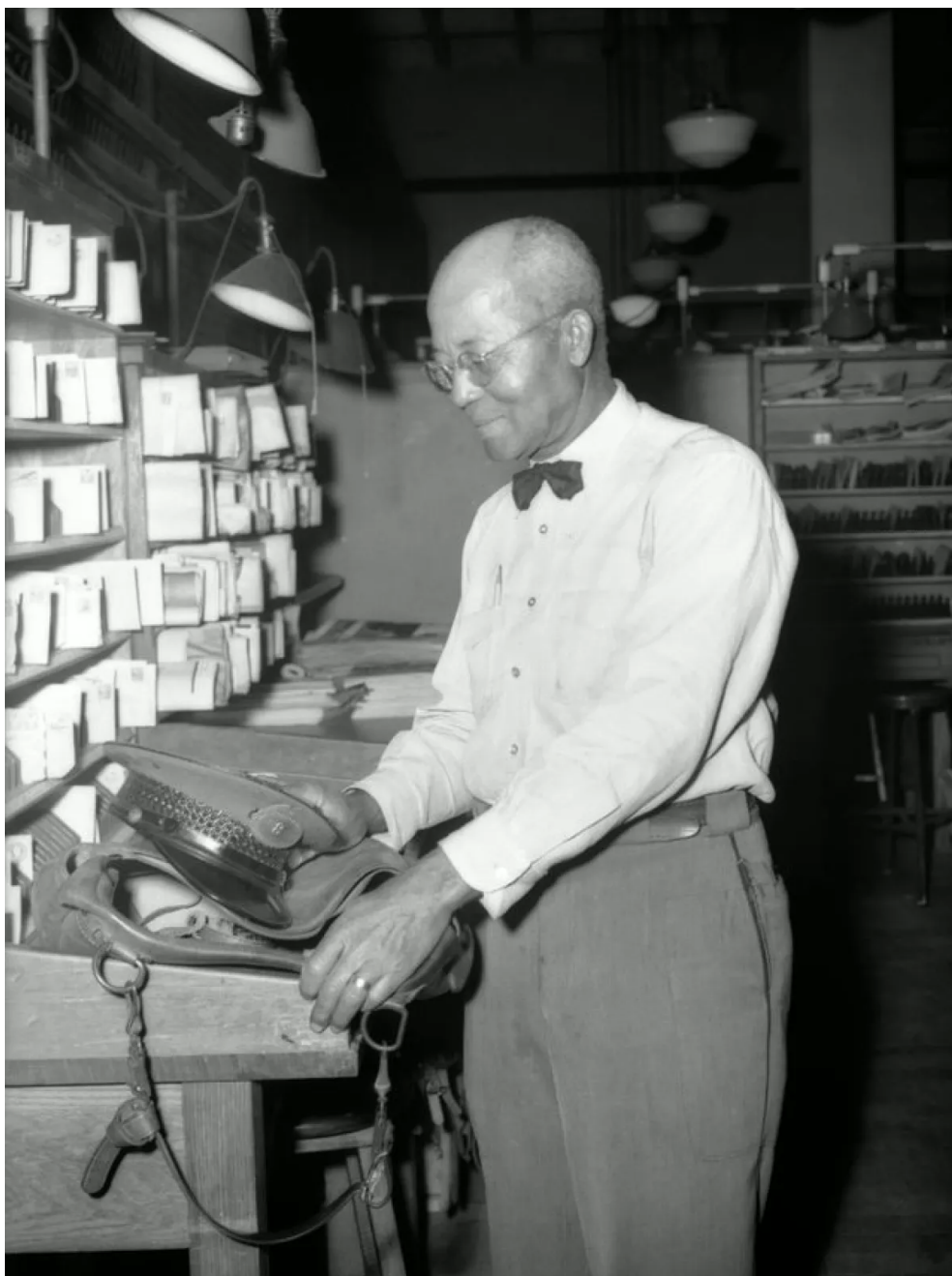
- 1947: In the notable case of The Golden Hill Improvement Association-cs-Marshal Lewis and Harry Dickens, the Association of Golden Hill, by its attorneys, contended the defendants in this case had violated covenants signed by property owners of this District in which was stipulated, "This property shall never at any time be rented, leased, or occupied by any other than a person or persons of the Caucasian race." The San Diego Race Relations Society supported the defendants in this case, and after several weeks of hearing and consideration Judge Turrentine handed down a decision that racial restrictive property covenants were in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of our Constitution and are therefore unlawful.
- 1951: Again appeared before the San Diego County Grand Jury in protest against false arrests and police brutality imposed upon colored and Mexican citizens by San Diego policemen.
- 1951: A party of several colored citizens were denied food service at Newberry's Department Store of El Centro, California. Objections were plainly stated to the colored party that the store policy was not to serve colored at the food restaurant. The party complained to the San Diego Race Relations Society, which had our attorney Bertram Brown go to El Centro where suit was filed. Following a hearing, a judgment of \$600.00 was won by the defendants.
- 1952: On appeal from citizens of the Chollas Valley District of San Diego, the Society protested to the city council, city manager, city engineer, public works department for relief to the people of this District by installing flood sewers and other necessary protection as safeguards against such storms and waters which at that time caused many of them to vacate their homes. Now the improvements requested are being worked on and sewer under construction.

1951: On pleas to the County Supervisors of San Diego County, the supervisors adopted an Ordinance prohibiting racial-discriminatory signs in public places in San Diego County.

1951: Appeared before the City Board of Education protesting against racial-discrimination in the cosmetology classes of our vocational training school, where colored models were not permitted for colored trainees to work on. This practice was promptly brought to a stop.

More than six thousand colored citizens have been given employment on recommendation of this Society, which is continually called upon to supply all kinds of colored help including white collar positions.

The first State Race Relations Commission appointed in America was on request of the San Diego Race Relations Society to Governor Frank Merriam in 1938. Dennis V. Allen, president of the San Diego Race Relations Society, was appointed its Chairman.



LOS ALAMOS
RANCH SCHOOL



OTOWI, NEW MEXICO

AUGUST
5
19 36

City Council
San Diego, California

Gentlemen:

I have recently returned from a trip, having spent about a month motoring in Southern California. I visited San Diego, finally spending a week at the Casa de Manana in La Jolla which I consider about the loveliest spot on the coast. I have been going there off and on for a number of years and never tire of it.

There is a situation there, however, which I feel that the city would be wise to handle, concerning the little beach in front of the hotel made possible by the break water built several years ago. This beach is not only well placed for the guests of the Casa de Manana, but for the people occupying the cottages and apartments in that neighborhood. I notice that some people come from the interior and spend the day there.

I do not believe that the present arrangement with the colored people bathing there is good for anyone concerned. Before going down to San Diego, I spent a week at the Del Mar Club at Santa Monica. Adjoining the Club beach to the south is a very fine municipal beach for colored people. They enjoy it thoroughly because they do not feel that they are in any way intruding, and that they have a perfect right to the place. The colored people bathing at the little beach at La Jolla do not really enjoy it. From the terrace at the Casa de Manana I have watched them come singly or in twos or threes and look over the wall, apparently to see if any of their own people were on the beach, and if not, they would go away disappointed; they never seemed to have the courage to go down and bath unless they had a comparatively large group. So you see that the arrangement is not only unsatisfactory for the white population, but it is not a happy arrangement for the colored people. Therefore, it would seem to me that the city of San Diego would be very wise and accomplish a real service if it provided a separate beach for the colored people at La Jolla where they could feel perfectly comfortable and at home.

The Casa de Manana is well known all over the country and I believe it has been a real asset to La Jolla and San Diego. I was interested to note how many of the people whom I met at the beach club now either owning or renting houses at La Jolla had originally been guests at the Casa de Manana. That little hotel has been a real factor in building up La Jolla by bringing the class of people who can afford to become permanent residents of that most attractive resort. I have spent about

City Council, San Diego - Page two

nine seasons there and I can think of no more attractive place to retire.

Trusting that you will take this suggestion as it is given, I am

Very sincerely yours,

A. J. Connell
A. J. CONNELL, Director

AJC: CW

526085

RECEIVED
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
CITY CLERK
JAN 10 1938

*Comm. on
A. J. Connell
Director
of
San Diego
County
Water
Supply
Board
San Diego
California
January 10 1938*

298982

Document No. _____

FILED AUG 10 1936

ALLEN H. WRIGHT City Clerk

FRED W. SICK

Communication
from
A. J. Connell
suggesting the setting
aside of some beach
for Colored people

Wans. 1 Ref. Atty.

Ben. 1
Wans. 2 File
AUG 11 1936

Allen H. Wright
City Clerk

August 13, 1936

Mr. A. J. Connell, Director,
Los Alamos Ranch School,
Otwi, New Mexico.

Dear Sir:

This is in reference to your letter of August 5, addressed to the City Council, relative to the use of the beach at La Jolla, by colored people.

The Council feels that inasmuch as there is a place at Pacific Beach (a short distance south of La Jolla) which is and has been used by the colored people for years, any steps for setting aside a beach space for their use should originate with the colored people themselves.

The Council thanks you for your interest in the matter, which is one which will undoubtedly be solved, since there is considerable local interest on the subject.

Yours very truly,

ALLEN H. FRIGHT, City Clerk

By

A. M. W.

Deputy.

THE SAN DIEGO RACE RELATIONS SOCIETY

DENNIS V. ALLEN, PRESIDENT
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

August 17, 1936.

DENNIS V. ALLEN, President
JOHN BRUNO, 1st Vice-President
DR. MAX L. STERNE, 2nd Vice-President
A. M. ORDEN, 3rd Vice-President

Executive Committee

DENNIS V. ALLEN
ALBERT BERNARDINI
MARY SHELDON BROWN
JOSE MARIA CACHUELA
MISS BERNICE COSGROVE
REV. VIRGINIA FAHLEE
STANLEY M. GUE
GERTRUDE JAIR
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THOS. V. PRENDERGAST
REV. J. C. RODRIGUEZ
A. B. SANTOS
MRS. MAUDE SCRITCHFIELD
JUDGE PHIL SMITH
LELAND G. STANFORD
MRS. JAMES P. TATE

Officers

J. P. MARTIKAS, Treasurer
MILDRED C. K. PRENDERGAST, Secretary
MRS. JAS. P. TATE, Assistant Secretary

The Honorable Mayor and Councilmen:
City.

Gentlemen:

The suggestion to the city council submitted by A. J. Connell, tourist from Otowi, New Mexico, Aug. 11, that a separate swimming beach be provided for Negroes at La Jolla, is as dangerous as it is unconstitutional. In realization of the cosmopolitan populace of California, our legislators wisely enacted a law providing equal privileges and opportunities for all race-groups as the only practical solution whereby all of us might justly share in opportunities offered by California. Our state laws specifically prohibit discrimination along race or color lines, including prohibition of separate public beaches for any particular group or color. The Pacific Ocean is capable of accommodating all of us. There is no more justification in setting aside a separate section of the Pacific for a particular race-group than designating an area for habitation of a certain kind of fish. As a tourist, Mr. Connell is exercising undue concern in our social affairs. We are not being troubled with racial differences here and such foreign suggestions are out of line with our peaceful living as well as applied civil laws. The gentleman doubtless would better appreciate

and enjoy life in Southern California by moving among our trees,
flowers and parks; also, enjoy our unexcelled climate, rather than
assuming the role as a social adjustor in the section of a country
where we are all happily enjoying ourselves without hedges or res-
trictions against any of our many racial-groups.

Dennis V. Allen
Dennis V. Allen.

for colored people
Society to separate
D. V. Race Relations
Communication from the

299076

Document No. _____
FILED AUG 17 1936
ALLEN H. WRIGHT City Clerk
FRED W. SICK (Seal)

and enjoy life in Southern California by moving among our trees,
flowers and parks; also, enjoy our unexcelled climate, restful
assuring the role as a social adjuster in the section of a country
where we are all happily enjoying ourselves without pedges or res-
trictions against any of our own racial-groups.

Dennis A. Allen
Dennis A. Allen

Communication from The
S. D. Race Relations
Society re separate beach
for colored people

Box 1
Ward 2

File

AUG 16 1936

COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

THE HOTEL ST. FRANCIS, SAN FRANCISCO

SECOND FLOOR

POSTAL ZONE 19

DOUGLAS 4903

OFFICERS
 President MONROE E. DEUTSCH
 Vice-President RICHARD R. PERKINS
 Secretary MAURICE E. HARRISON
 Treasurer J. K. MOFFITT
 Chmn. Executive Com. . . EDWARD L. PARSONS
 Executive Secretary . . . STUART R. WARD
 Asst. Executive Secretary . WM. L. HUDSON



FOUNDED 1903
February 5, 1944

GOVERNORS
 T. D. BOARDMAN
 ALBERT E. BOYNTON
 PAUL C. EDWARDS
 JAMES A. JOHNSTON
 FRANCIS V. KEESLING
 TULLY C. KNOLES
 EDWARD L. PARSONS
 EDGAR E. ROBINSON
 ALBERT A. ROSENSHINE
 JOHN F. SHELLEY
 HOMER R. SPENCE
 ROBERT E. SWAIN
 MAX THELEN
 E. T. THURSTON
 EARL WARREN
 C. C. YOUNG

Study of California Population Problems
American Trust Bldg., Berkeley, Calif. - TH 7244
DAVIS McENTIRE, Director

Clerk of the City Council
City Hall
San Diego, California

Dear Sir:

We have been informed that San Diego has an ordinance prohibiting the display of signs in restaurants and other facilities serving the public, which refuse service to any class of customers because of race or color. Could you kindly confirm our information and let us have a copy of the ordinance. Also, we should be greatly indebted for any information you can give us about the need for such an ordinance, the circumstances leading up to its adoption, and how well it has served the purpose intended.

Thanking you for any courtesy,

Sincerely,

Davis McEntire
Davis McEntire

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

FEB 7 9 29 AM 1944

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Study Groups
 ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE
Warren H. Pillsbury
 AGRICULTURE
Walter E. Packard
 AVIATION
Frank W. Hart
 CITY PLANNING
David D. Bohannon
 DELINQUENCY
Augustin C. Keane
 ECONOMICS
Walter Warren

EDUCATION
Frank N. Freeman
 FORESTS AND RECREATION
Ronald Lynn Campbell
 GOVT. EFFICIENCY
& FINANCE
Glenn E. Hoover
 HIGHWAYS
George D. Whittle
 IMMIGRATION &
AMERICANIZATION
 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
Luis A. Ireland

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
E. Guy Talbott
 LATIN AMERICA
Engel Sluiter
 LEGISLATION & ELECTIONS
Clarence E. Todd
 LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION &
COMPOSITION
Albert C. Wollenberg
 MINERAL INDUSTRIES
Dorsey A. Lyon
 MUNICIPAL & COUNTY GOVT.
Bert W. Levit

NATIONAL DEFENSE
Hilary H. Crawford
 PACIFIC OCEAN PROBLEMS
PROPAGANDA & CENSORSHIP
 PUBLIC HEALTH
Rufus H. Kimball
 PUBLIC UTILITIES
RADIO
 RE-EMPLOYMENT
 War Service Committees
 CIVILIAN DEFENSE
C. J. Goodell

CIVILIAN TRANSPORTATION
Irving H. Kahn
 FOOD
H. E. Erdman
 NATIONAL UNITY & MORALE
 RAW MATERIALS
Walter W. Bradley
 UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
Dr. D. C. Farnham
 LUNCHEON PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Richard R. Perkins



CITY OF SAN DIEGO

OFFICE OF
CITY CLERK

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

February 7, 1944

Mr. Davis McEntire
Commonwealth Club of California
American Trust Building
Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. McEntire:

In response to your request of February 5, a copy of the City of San Diego's Ordinance No. 793 (New Series), prohibiting the display of signs discriminating against any person because of race or color, is forwarded herewith.

The Ordinance was adopted in 1935 as a result of complaints being filed with the City Council by a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and by The San Diego Race Relations Society, that certain establishments were discriminating against Negroes through the use of signs.

In presenting the ordinance to the Council, the City Attorney said in part: "Therefore, if your Honorable Body finds and determines that the signs and notices intending to discourage colored trade have resulted in a tendency to stir up racial feeling and might cause riots, breaches of the peace or similar disturbances, you then probably have jurisdiction to curb or prohibit the use of such displays." The Council made no such formal finding, but adopted the ordinance.

I have no report to make on how well the ordinance has served the purpose intended, other than to say I believe there are no prohibitory signs of that nature displayed here. However, many establishments use this type of sign: "We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone".

You may be interested in knowing that attempts to persuade the Council to adopt legislation excluding colored people from certain districts of the city have failed.

Very truly yours,

FRED W. SICK

City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 793
(New Series)

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE DISPLAY OF CERTAIN SIGNS IN ANY RESTAURANT, HOTEL, EATING-HOUSE, PLACE WHERE ICE CREAM OR SOFT DRINKS ARE SOLD FOR CONSUMPTION ON THE PREMISES, BARBER SHOP, BATH HOUSE, THEATRE, SKATING RINK, PUBLIC CONVEYANCE, AND ALL OTHER PUBLIC PLACES OF ACCOMMODATION OR AMUSEMENT.

WHEREAS, certain signs and notices have been posted and displayed in various places of accommodation for the public of such a nature that they have resulted in a tendency to discriminate in service to members of the colored race; and

WHEREAS, the display of such signs would seem to result in a tendency to stir up racial feeling and precipitate quarrels and breaches of the peace and/or similar disturbances; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed for the best interests of the City of San Diego that such practice should be prohibited in order to eliminate the danger connected with racial troubles; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED By the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person to display in any restaurant, hotel, eating-house, place where ice cream or soft drinks are sold for consumption on the premises, barber shop, bath house, theatre, skating rink, public conveyance, and all other places of public accommodation or amusement, any sign, written or printed, or notice of any kind whatsoever, which attempts to discourage patronage of members of any certain race or color and/or which tends to discriminateⁱⁿ the public service offered against any person because of race or color.

Section 2. Any person violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed One Hundred

Dollars (\$100.00), or by imprisonment in the City Jail for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on the thirty-first day from and after its passage.

Presented by _____

Approved as
to form by

C. L. Byers
City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 175619

WHEREAS, the citizens of The City of San Diego are disturbed and concerned over the inhuman and violent treatment of U. S. citizens in Birmingham, Alabama, and other areas of the South; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of The City of San Diego recognizes the cause and justification for this concern by San Diego citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of The City of San Diego joins in and shares this concern as a City that regards the rights of its citizens on an equal basis and deplores discrimination and bigotry, whether in matters of employment, residential privilege, or human rights; and

WHEREAS, Federal, State and Municipal Laws are in harmony in guaranteeing the rights of citizens and the human dignity of the person; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

That this Council for themselves and on behalf of the citizens of this City do direct importunities to the President of the United States that he undertake intervention and restoration of order by every means of U. S. Government Agencies in Birmingham, Alabama, and any other area of the Nation where such outbreaks might occur.

Presented by _____

APPROVED: ALAN M. FIRESTONE, CITY ATTORNEY

By Alan M. Firestone
City Attorney

Passed and adopted by the Council of The City of San Diego on MAY 9 1963,
 by the following vote:

Councilmen	Yeas	Nays	Excused	Absent
Helen R. Cobb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ivor de Kirby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harry F. Scheidle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allen Hitch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Frank E. Curran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Justin C. Evenson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Charles C. Dail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AUTHENTICATED BY:

Charles C. Dail

Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

PHILLIP ACKER

City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By *Donna K. Dill*, Deputy.

(Seal)

RECEIVED
 CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
 1963 MAY -9 PM 4:37
 SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

Document Number 655564 Filed MAY 15 1963

Resolution Number 175619 Adopted MAY 9 1963

Recorded on microfilm roll number: _____

Presidents of the San Diego NAACP Chapter

~~~~~1924-1929~~~~~

## **Dennis Volyer Allen**

By Robert Fikes, Jr., Librarian San Diego State University



Without question the most controversial--but also one of the most effective and durable--leaders of the San Diego NAACP was Dennis V. Allen (1883-1967). Born in Eatonton, Georgia, he lived in Los Angeles before coming to San Diego in 1912 where he was a career mailman. His first significant gesture as a civil rights advocate was in 1920 when he asked Mayor Louis J. Wilde to hire blacks in the Fire Department. A founding member of the San Diego NAACP, he was branch president from 1924 to 1929. During his tenure the branch won its appeal to city leaders to have signs barring blacks removed for stores, theaters, and restaurants; lobbied Mexican officials to have such signs removed in Tijuana; won admission of black females into the nurse training program at San Diego County Hospital; and fought until homeless and abandoned black youths were allowed admission into the Children's Welfare Home. In addition to his leadership of the branch, Allen was on the Board of Directors of Bethel A.M.E. Church (1916); was manager of the Negro Harmony Singers (1929); president of the Citizens' Co-Operative Civic Club (1933); and chairman of the National Negro Day celebration (1935). Although his branch presidency ended in bitterness due to a protracted fight over the priorities of a youth auxiliary, he renewed his membership in the organization in the late 1930s.

From 1924 to 1957 Allen was president of the San Diego Race Relations Society (SDRRS), a low-key multiracial (mostly non-black) group which attracted many prominent citizens who worked behind the scene to insure "racial harmony." He also had the distinction of being first chairman of the state's Human Rights Commission, then the only one of its kind in the nation, created in 1938 at the suggestion of the SDRRS. However, in his declining years he became increasingly conservative and obstructionist, opposing the establishment of the San Diego Urban League in the early 1950s and arguing against the creation of a human rights commission for the city in the early 1960s. Oddly, in his obituary in the *San Diego Union* there was no mention of his affiliation with the NAACP. Part of the obituary read: "Allen, of 2844 Franklin Ave., said on the occasion of his official retirement from public life in 1962 that, 'gradually, slowly, finally, San Diego is one of the most perfect interracial cities.'" Today Dennis V. Allen Park, south of I- 94 at Boundary and F streets, honors his memory.

# HOTEL ROBINSON (1897-1921)



When you think of Julian's infamous apple pies and where this familiar tradition was started, remember the Robinson's. The establishment of the first hotel and known as the oldest operating in all of Southern California, we pay homage to the Robinson's.

Famously known for entertaining prominent guests such as our City's well-known Scripps and Whitneys, this hotel establishment remains as one of the longest standing businesses to date and a place where people gathered, where they were provided excellent services, and meals that were amazing.

The back story on this beautiful landmark is that it was originally owned and operated by the first African American couple, Albert and Margaret Robinson in Julian, California in 1887. When the couple married, they were given land in Julian as a wedding present by the bride's parents. Once they received the land, the couple subsequently built a restaurant and bakery. Mrs. Robinson creates a name for herself by making memorable delicious Sunday chicken dinners. Every single night, Mrs. Robinson ensures the dinners and pies are ready for guests and her cooking and baking quickly becomes the talk of the town! This place was an automatic success!

In 1897, after years of being a profitable restaurant and bakery the couple then begins construction on the well-known hotel. "It was completed and opened in the same year. The hotel was built with fourteen guest rooms, a full kitchen, dining room, and a parlor room."<sup>1</sup>

1. Cortes, D. (2017, July 15). *Hotel Robinson (1897-1921)*. BlackPast.org. <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/institutions-african-american-history/hotel-robinson-1897-1921/>



# Howard “Skippy” Smith

*Howard “Skippy” Smith (left) and Mac “Skip” Gravelle, ca. 1939*

*Photo credit: National Museum of African American History and Culture*

**H**oward Smith, or Skippy if you knew him. A professional skydiver, exhibition parachute jumper, and an expert in ariel acrobatics. Skippy’s father, an instructor at the Tuskegee Institute, perhaps that is how his love for the sky originated. Skippy is the first African American to be employed by a defense contractor, the “San Diego Parachute Company.” Skippy goes on to make history again in 1942 being the first to have both an African American owned, financed, and operated war plant factory that went by the name of “Pacific Parachute Company” located a few blocks down on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Skippy dedicated the opening to his beloved friend Mac “Skip” Gravelle that passed away two years prior to the opening. The factory produced pilot and bomb flare parachutes for other primary contractors.



*Photo credit: Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Gift of Herman Warren, Jr. in memory of Howard “Skippy” Smith and Herman Warren, Sr.*

1. National Museum of African American History and Culture, “The Pacific Parachute Company, Howard “Skippy” Smith” February 14, 2022, retrieved on May 10, 2023 from [The Pacific Parachute Company | National Museum of African American History & Culture. \(searchablemuseum.com\)](https://searchablemuseum.com).



# ALUMNA, HENRIETTA GOODWIN

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL OF SAN DIEGO

(SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY)

FOUNDED, MARCH 13, 1897

For a woman in the 1900s, going to school at the University level already had its traditional set of challenges but being a minority and a woman has its own special set of circumstances. In 1913 Henrietta made a legendary name for herself, recorded as the first African American to graduate during a time of racial inequities and deep-rooted social and political injustices. A true definition of a vanguard, “Henrietta first enrolled at the Normal School in 1908, but racial barriers hindered her progress. She often took time away from her studies so she could work to afford her education. Beverly (granddaughter of Henrietta’s brother, Lee Goodwin) said the only jobs available to Henrietta at the time were as a housekeeper. When Henrietta earned her degree in 1913, her name was conspicuously left off the official list of graduates.”<sup>1</sup>

Fifty-one years later, on May 29, 1964, from that very day that Henrietta graduated and walked across the auditorium to collect her degree, Dr. Martin Luther comes to speak at the same university to deliver a speech on peaceful resolution as the theatre buckled with great interest and curiosity. Henrietta Goodwin will forever be a significant part of our city’s lineage.

1. Klitzing, Michael. SDSU Newsletter, “Discovering a Trailblazer: Henrietta Goodwin, SDSU’s First Black Graduate.” February 24, 2022, [https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu\\_newscenter/news\\_story.aspx?sid=78679](https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=78679)

# SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

September 24th, 1919.

The Honorable Mayor and Council,  
City of San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:

I respectfully recommend that the following re-instatement and appointments be made in the San Diego Fire Department in accordance with Ordinance # 4979:

|               |                                                                      |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Walker, J.    | Be re-instated as Lineman in Dept. of Fire Alarm & Police Telegraph. |
| Kennedy, A.S. | From Substitute to Fireman 3rd Class.                                |
| Baker, S.     | Be appointed on Probation.                                           |
| Cross, A.     | Be appointed on Probation.                                           |
| Willaims, T.  | Be appointed on Probation.                                           |

Respectfully submitted.

S.

*Louis Almgren.*  
Chief Engineer S.D.F.D.

# SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

June 1st, 1920.

The Honorable Mayor and Council,  
City of San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:

I respectfully recommend that the following promotions and appointment be made in the San Diego Fire Department in accordance with Ordinance # 4979; and to take effect June 1st, 1920.

Allen, C.M. from Fireman 2nd Class to Auto Driver.  
Dutro, C.E. from Fireman 2nd Class to Auto Driver.  
Cross, A. from Fireman 4th Class to Auto Driver.

Mitchell, A.R. from Probation to Fireman 4th Class.

Bruner, O.A. be appointed on Probation.  
Smith, J.G. be appointed on Probation.

Respectfully submitted.

*Louis Almgren.*

Chief Engineer S.D.F.D.

LA/S.

Alfredo Salazar  
Timothy Augustus Williams  
Sandy Baker  
Joe Smith  
James Cross

One of several firsts for minorities in the San Diego Fire Department, in July of 1918, Alfredo Salazar became the first Mexican-American Fireman hired by the Department. One year later, history was made again by Timothy Augustus Williams, who became the first Black Fireman for the SDFD. In 1919, the first group of African Americans joined the SDFD, Sandy Baker, Joe Smith, and James Cross joining Timothy Augustus Williams at one station (fire station 3). Joe Smith joined them in 1920.

Ten years later, all four were transferred to Logan Heights, then a middle-class white neighborhood just south and east of downtown. During the Jim Crow era, the Black firefighters faced much discrimination and racism in San Diego. The residents openly complained about the presence of Black Firefighters and were fearful of the black men's potential to be role models for the white boys of the area.

The men were eventually sent to Station 19 on Oceanview Boulevard in Southeast San Diego. When more African-Americans were hired in the 1940s, they too were sent to station 19. It became San Diego's black fire station.

In 1951, San Diego fire chief George Courser decided it was time to integrate firefighting in San Diego. Armed services had already been integrated by this point. Some black firemen from station 19 were transferred to all-white stations. They handled the hostility and isolation by doing their work and doing it well.

# Alfredo N. Salazar, 84, Retired Fire Captain, Dies

Alfredo N. Salazar, 84, of 1109 Fifth Ave., Chula Vista, who served on the San Diego Fire Department for 28 years before retiring as a captain in 1947, died Sunday in his home.

Mr. Salazar, a native of Watrous, N.M., and a county resident for 60 years, served in the Army in World War I. A charter member of Local 145 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, he was a member of the Veteran Firemen and Policemen's Association of San Diego,

Inc., Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 244, The Club of Cuautemoc, Holy Name Society and The Club of Aguila Imperio Azteca. He was a former member of Musicians Union Local 325.

Surviving are his wife, Maria J.; two daughters, Mrs. Marcella Hagan and Mrs. Susan Larceval, both of San Diego; two sons, Samuel of El Cajon and Alfredo N. Jr. of Oklahoma; a brother, Lucian of San Diego; a sister, Mrs. Martha Lavato of San Jose; six grandchildren,

and eight great-grandchildren.

The Rosary will be recited at 7:30 tonight in Greenwood Mortuary. A Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 11 a.m. tomorrow, also in the mortuary, followed by burial in Greenwood Memorial Park.

To City of San Diego.

to.

San Diego the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 1858.  
Freeman  
Richard ~~King~~ Police man.

|                                                        |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Paid for digging a grave . . . . .                     | \$ 2. 00.  |
| His wages for half a month as police officer . . . . . | \$ 10. 00. |
| For guarding prisoner one night                        | \$ 2. 00.  |
| <hr/>                                                  |            |
| Cent copy by other that had bill is correct.           | \$ 14. 00. |

Agoston H. ~~Smith~~  
Marshal  
Richard Freeman  
mark.

Received by

Dr. [unclear] of [unclear]

This is to certify that [unclear] has been [unclear] for [unclear] months in [unclear] office.

Thomas P. [unclear]  
[unclear]

\$114

Richard [unclear]

[unclear]

[unclear]

# Richard Freeman & Allen Light



Photo Credit: David Cortes

Both Richard and Allen reportedly came to San Diego together between the reported years of 1839-40. Richard Freeman, it has been said to be a “former slave that arrived in California approximately 1839; Mr. Freeman had bought his freedom.”<sup>1</sup> Like most cowboys in the early days, Mr. Freeman was a cowboy as well.

Allen Light was a mariner, initially from the east coast, holding steadfast to his “sailor protection papers” that dated back to 1827 stating that he was a free man and a citizen of the U.S.

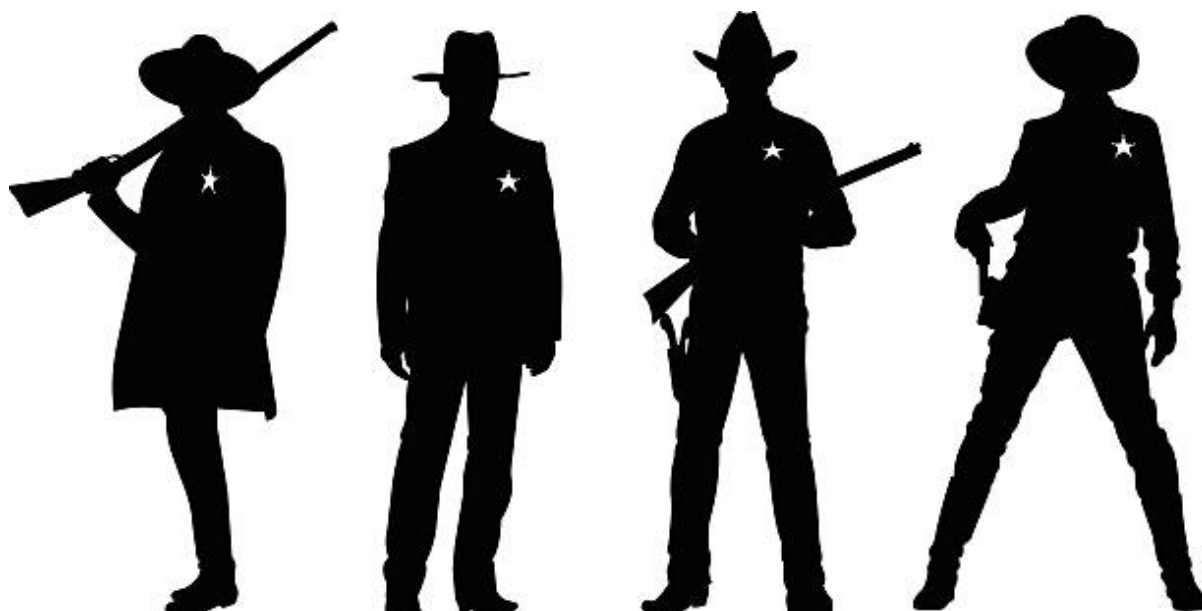
Cortes (2017) explains that Richard Freeman and Allen Light came to San Diego together in 1845 and they both purchased a saloon from Henry Fitch, a Massachusetts sea captain and trader for \$96.00 on February 10, 1847.

Allen and Light’s saloon, an adobe style building with an architectural style of Spanish Colonial continues to stand with both names of the gentlemen “Light and Freeman” illustrated outside the structure in Old Town State Park, now known as the “San Diego House.”

Richard and Allen were both first’s at becoming African American business entrepreneurs in our City.

Our City records also show that Mr. Freeman was an active police officer, from a document dated August 5, 1850.

Richard being the first African American police officer to protect and serve our City. When the Native American war commenced in 1851, Officer Freeman served as one of the two Deputy Marshal’s under the City appointed Marshall, Agoston Haraszthy.





Please see the image below from the City Clerk's Historical Official Resolutions, Ordinances, and Minutes of the Digital Archives. We have also made a digitized copy that will accompany the information.

1 Be it ordained &c.

That the sum of one Hundred and thirty-eight dollars and Twenty-five cents is hereby appropriated for the payment of the following bills approved by the Finance Committee, and the Treasurer is hereby authorized and required to pay the same out of any moneys now in his hands and not otherwise appropriated.

|                                                  |             |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| A. Haraszthy for services as Marshal pro tempore | \$119.      |
| Richd. Freeman for services as policeman         | 14.         |
| Hays & Noell                                     | <u>5.25</u> |
| Amounting to                                     | \$138.25    |

On motion adjourned to 5 P. M.

John Conger

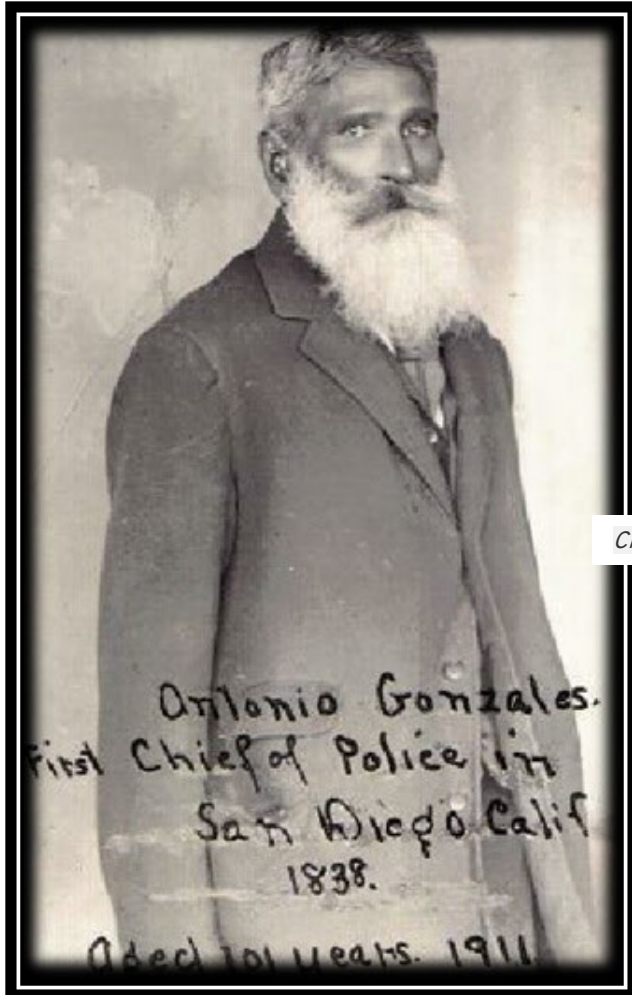
Clerk of Com. Council

Approved A. S. Wright,

President.

1850-1874 Minutes and Ordinances Date Range: (06/17/1850 - 11/04/1874)

1. Cortes, D. (2017, July 22). Richard Freeman (?-1851). BlackPast.org. <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/freeman-richard-1851/>
2. City of San Diego, Ordinances, retrieved on May 1, 2023 at <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/1850a.pdf>



## Chief Antonio Gonzales (1838-1845)

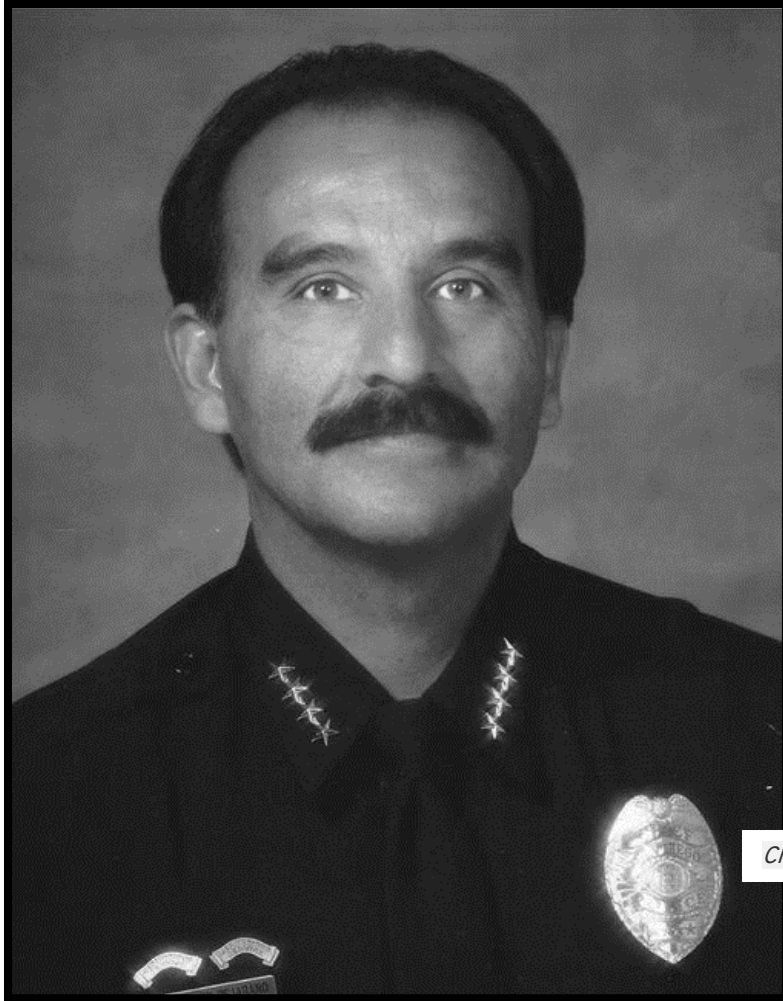
*Chief Antonio Gonzales in 1838<sup>1</sup>*

Antonio Gonzales born in Calcutta in 1810, arrived in San Diego in 1838. At twenty-eight years in age he embarked on an old sailing ship called "Maria." Once docked,

Antonio immediately fell in love with San Diego, California and decided to call it home permanently.

Chief Gonzales quickly realized there was a pressing need for law enforcement in our town. As a frontier town, duels, fights, and murders were common as soldiers battled drifters and anyone else. After several months of witnessing the lawlessness, Gonzales rounded up eight vigilantes himself, formed a small police force and appointed himself as the chief.

1. Image, San Diego Police Museum Online, City Marshals and Chiefs, "San Diego Police Department." Retrieved on 17 April 2023, [SDPD\\_CHIEFS \(sdpolicemuseum.com\)](https://www.sdpolicemuseum.com).



CHIEF  
"DAVID"  
BEJARANO

*CHIEF "DAVID" BEJARANO in 1999<sup>1</sup>*

David Bejarano receives the appointment of San Diego's first Hispanic police chief since 1838, the self-appointed Chief Antonio Gonzales. Chief Bejarano was known to embrace all people and made a stand for disparaging treatment of any group, and that it would not be tolerated in the department.

Chief Bejarano transferred to the Chula Vista Police Department in 2009.

2. Image, San Diego Police Museum Online, City Marshals and Chiefs, "San Diego Police Department." Retrieved on 17 April 2023, [SDPD\\_CHIEF'S \(sdpolicemuseum.com\)](https://www.sdpolicemuseum.com).





# Ah Quin

*Ah Quin became one of our City's founders*

Ah Quin has been noted as being one of the first Chinese immigrants to come to our City in 1878, San Diego, Ah Quin has been documented in making substantial contributions to our City, also known as one of our City's founders.

Ah Quin was one of San Diego's first Chinese entrepreneurs, owning a grocery store to serve the small community of citizens. Ah Quin also contributed to locating workers for the establishment of the California Southern Railroad in San Diego. "After the railroad was completed Quin also got involved in real estate, "often leasing his properties in places like Mission Valley and Bonita to fellow Chinese so they could grow vegetables to sell at market."<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Quin was also known to have ties to George Marston.

1. Rossi, Vincent, San Diego History Seeker, Exploring San Diego History "Diversity at the Heart of San Diego." July 17, 2020, retrieved on April 17, 2023, from <https://sandieghistoryseeker.com/2020/07/17/diversity-at-the-heart-of-sd/>

# Honorable Earl Ben Gilliam

Judge, Earl B. Gilliam is San Diego's notably first African American judge. Having graduated from San Diego State University where he received his bachelor's degree in 1953, then attending the University of California, Hastings College of Law, J.D., 1957. Judge Gilliam has made numerous contributions to our City, one being the founder of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, giving a voice and representation through support to our African American communities in diversifying the legal groups throughout our City. Judge Gilliam was known to be compassionate to first time offenders. The mission of the non-profit Judge Gilliam created was in "defending the legal and human rights of all people, promoting the administration of justice, eradicating the root causes of racism, promoting the professional and personal interests of its individual members, and preserving high standards of integrity, honor, and courtesy in the legal profession."<sup>1</sup> throughout our American justice system. If you were from the Southeast, you may remember Judge Gilliam's family restaurant that operated for many years, the "Louisiana Fish Market" that was located off Market and Imperial.

Judge Gilliam was a maverick, with a legal career spanning over five decades of service to all people, serving a seat in many courthouses across our county, as declared in Ballotpedia:

- Deputy district attorney, San Diego, California, from 1957-1961
- Private practice (Storefront and pro-bono work), San Diego, California, from 1961 - 1963
- Judge, San Diego Municipal Court, San Diego, California from 1963-1975
- Judge, San Diego County Superior Court, San Diego, California from 1975-1980
- Federal Judicial Service: Judge, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Nominated by Jimmy Carter on December 7, 1979, to a new seat authorized by 92 Stat. 1629. Confirmed by the Senate on August 19, 1980, and received commission on August 20, 1980.

Assumed senior status due to certified disability on April 2, 1993.

Service terminated on January 28, 2001, due to death.

1. Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, "True Change Requires Real Action." Date accessed April 28, 2023, <https://ebgba.org/about/>

2. Ballotpedia, "Earl Gilliam." Date accessed April 28, 2023, [https://ballotpedia.org/Earl\\_Gilliam](https://ballotpedia.org/Earl_Gilliam)



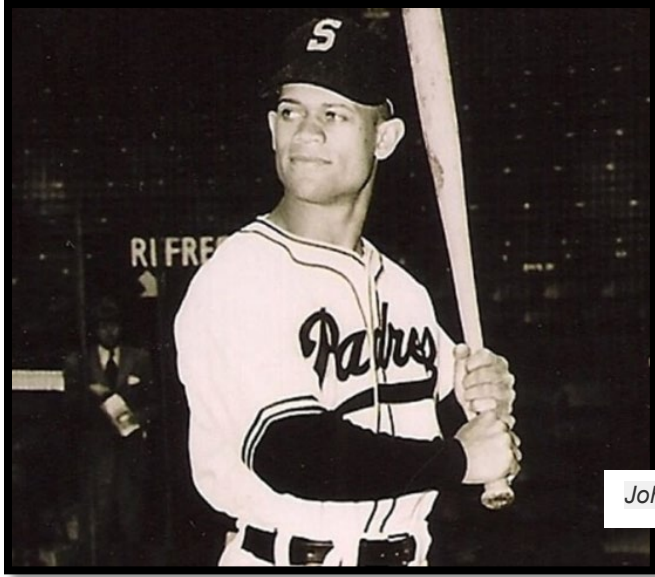
# Honorable Councilmember Jess Haro

*Jess Haro at the 1978 Incident Protest. (Photo courtesy of the Herman Baca Collection, UC San Diego, Special Collections and Archives.)*<sup>1</sup>

Jess Haro, most notably known as the City's first appointed Hispanic City Councilmember and the active role he played, ensuring Hispanic communities had representation and a voice. Jess Haro played a significant role for all minorities and the communities that believed they weren't being seen or heard.

Jess's accomplished achievements involved bring the "Chicano perspective on issues related to municipal affairs in San Diego."<sup>2</sup>

1. Haro, Jess (Former San Diego City Councilman) - "Incident protest" (1978) Herman Baca Collection, UC San Diego, Special Collections and Archives, Calisphere Retrieved on April 10, 2023. <https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/20775/bb24244660/>
2. San Diego Mexican and Chicano History, Chapter 10: "Si Se Puede!" Chicano Activism in San Diego 1965 - 2000, retrieved on April 10, 2023, <https://chicanohistory.sdsu.edu/chapter10/c10s08.html>



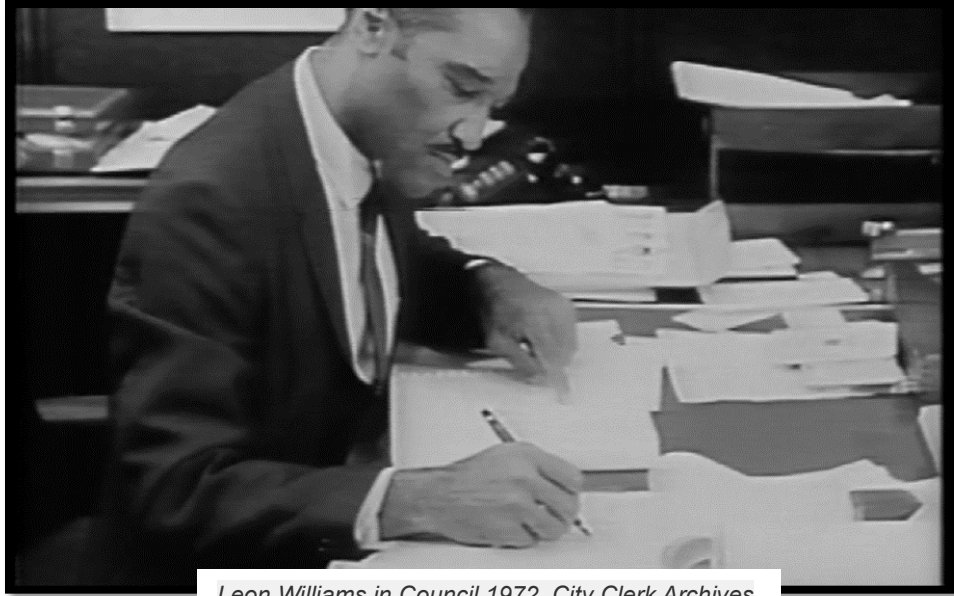
# John Franklin Ritchey

*Johnny Ritchey, photo courtesy of San Diego Padres*

John Franklin Ritchey born in San Diego had a passion for baseball that earned him the moniker “Johnny Baseball” from his teammates. He played in the American Legion Baseball and the Junior World Series as a teenager, 1938-1940. In 1947 he made his professional debut in the Negro American League in the Chicago American Giants. One year after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier, Johnny Ritchey became the first African American in the Pacific Coast League.

He joined the San Diego Padres in 1948. He played for many different teams throughout his career, but he returned to San Diego when he retired. He is recognized with a statue in the Petco Park stadium in 2005 and inducted into the Breitbard Hall of Fame in 2017.





*Leon Williams in Council 1972, City Clerk Archives*

## Leon Williams

Leon Williams first African American to sit on San Diego's City Council and the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Williams represented the 4<sup>th</sup> district in 1969, he was also widely known as an activist, marshaling for both African American and Hispanic communities citywide.

When speaking to Secretary of State Shirley Weber in 2022, Leon simply said, "Looks to me as if there is a lot of appreciation for me and I am kind of wondering where it comes from. I appreciate you. I appreciate everybody. I think we all ought to respect each other. We all ought to realize our limitations, and we all ought to be less aggressive against other people. We ought to love each other more. A lot of the evidence is that we don't sometimes. We hurt each other too much, I think, and I think we ought to help each other more. All of you are great human beings."<sup>1</sup>

1. Bruner, Michael, Opinion: "At 100, San Diego's first Black City Council member, Leon Williams, has lessons to impart." San Diego Union Tribune, July 27, 2022.

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 301016

ADOPTED ON NOV 14 2005

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a graduate of San Diego State University, has had a long and distinguished career of public service and community involvement, beginning with service in the armed forces, service in the County of San Diego's Social Services and Sheriff's Departments, and having served as acting director of the San Diego Urban League; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS made history as San Diego's first African-American City Councilmember and in this capacity was instrumental in the creation of the Metropolitan Transit System in 1985, which he would eventually Chair in 1994, and where he became known as a visionary of what has evolved into a very successful light rail public transportation system throughout San Diego City and County; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS continued in his pioneering path as San Diego's first African-American County Supervisor, where he furthered his advocacy of public transportation and the expansion of the San Diego Trolley; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a local treasure, was nationally recognized as the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Public Transit Board Member; and

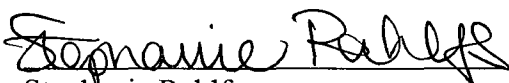
WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS, a devoted family man, takes special pride in his wife and the accomplishments of his children and grandchildren, with whom he looks forward to spending more time with, and is an avid athlete who enjoys running, cycling, and camping throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, LEON WILLIAMS has been involved in varying capacities with the California Constitution Commission, the Los Angeles-San Diego Rail Corridor Agency, the California Coastal Commission, the League of California Cities, the National League of Cities, and has served as president of the California State Association of Counties as well as the National Association of Counties; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby recognize the many inspiring contributions made by LEON WILLIAMS on the occasion of his retirement as Chair of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board after having been an integral part of the organization for nearly 30 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that November 14, 2005, be and is hereby proclaimed to be "LEON WILLIAMS DAY" in the City of San Diego in honor of all of his pioneering achievements and in appreciation of his continual dedication to our citizens and community.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By   
Stephanie Rahlfs  
Deputy City Attorney

SR:jb  
11/03/2005  
Or.Dept:Deputy Mayor Atkins  
R-2006-451



# Honorable Councilmember Tom Hom

*Hon. Councilmember Tom Hom in 1967*

Tom Hom is second generation, Chinese American. Born in San Diego in 1927. Tom would go on to be the first non-Caucasian to be elected a chair at the age of only thirty-six, to sit on San Diego's City Council. Tom is most notably known for his role as the Deputy Mayor and for his unprecedented re-election in 1967, earning him an astounding 87% of the votes which was unprecedented until 2010.

Tom Hom recalls his father taking him to San Diego's City Hall, "He said to me, 'Tom, in America, the laws that come out of here [are] dependent on the kind of people they put in there.'"<sup>1</sup>

1. Tong, Julia, AsAmNews, "Trailblazing politician Tom Hom honored with San Diego Street." February 14, 2022, retrieved on April 17, 2023, from <https://asamnews.com/2022/02/14/chris-cate-filipino-politician-described-hom-as-personal-mentor-who-paved-way/>



## Dr. Charlotte Johnson Baker (1855-1937)

*Sketch of Dr. Baker in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century*

**D**octor Charlotte Johnson Baker, San Diego's first known woman of medicine as a practicing physician. Charlotte received her M.D. license in 1881, during a time when the

industry was suited for men, Dr. Baker also became the first president of the County Medical Society, breaking all barriers. Charlotte Baker changed the traditional way of thinking when it came to what women could do and made a significant difference in the medical field, practicing gynecology and obstetrics.

Both Charlotte and her husband were doctor's, her husband Fred was a general practitioner and they're documented as being the first married couple to both practice medicine, making the both of them "the first husband-and-wife physicians in San Diego."<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Baker also made notable contributions in the Women's Suffrage Movement, influencing men to vote for women's right to vote.

1. Wikipedia contributors. "Charlotte Johnson Baker." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 30 Oct. 2022. Web. 17 Apr. 2023.



# Diana Jurado-Sainz Fuentes

Interim City Clerk Diana Jurado-Sainz Fuentes is a native San Diegan who has dedicated her career to public service. She has worked in various capacities within the City of San Diego government, including as the Interim City Clerk in 2023, Assistant City Clerk in 2022, and Program Manager in the Office of the City Clerk in 2017.

Prior to her work in the City Clerk's office, Diana served as the Director of Legislative Affairs for several Council Presidents in the City of San Diego, including Todd Gloria, Sheri Lightner, Tony Young, and Ben Hueso.

Diana holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish from Loyola Marymount University. As the first Latina City Clerk in the City of San Diego, Diana is proud to represent and serve her community.

Outside of work, Diana resides in Chula Vista with her husband Chris and their children Isabella and Chris. She is deeply committed to her family and her community and is passionate about giving back to both.



# Elizabeth Maland

*Elizabeth Maland (Photo courtesy of the City of San Diego)<sup>1</sup>*

Elizabeth Maland is the City's first female City Clerk appointed in August of 2005 after the retirement of Charles Abdelnour. She spent 17 years on the job and more than 30 years working for the City as a dedicated public servant. City Council members hail Maland as a consummate professional who showed patience and humility when dealing with members of the public.

The clerk is responsible for overseeing city elections, handling agendas for City Council meetings, coordinating written and oral comments by the public and organizing city documents so they can be provided to the public.

1. Image, Elizabeth Maland, San Diego City Clerk, Photos. Retrieved on 15 May 2023, [elizabeth\\_maland.jpg \(570x640\) \(sandiego.gov\)](#)



# Luisa Moreno

*Luisa Moreno at the 1949 California CIO Convention.  
(Photo courtesy of the International Longshore and  
Warehouse Union Library and Archives) <sup>1</sup>*

Most widely known for her role in labor advocacy and call for civil rights in social and political changes around minorities, more importantly how they were treated in the workforce. Luisa believed the sweatshop conditions were appalling for workers in the cannery and agricultural industries in San Diego, many of these companies operated twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Moreno assisted in preventing deportation of Hispanics, fought for racial inequalities of all minorities, she spearheaded the unionization of African American and Latin cigar workers and other tobacco employees that were being sought by the Ku Klux Klan. Moreno vocalized about the Japanese Americans being hauled off to internment camps, Luisa was a voice for all women workers that endured the harsh elements of inequity and served as the elected first woman of Latin descent that became a member of the Federation of Labor Unions. Congress of Industrial Organization (CIO). Unionizing would “assure the economic security of workers was to organize by industry where their numbers would give them leverage.”<sup>2</sup>

1. Image Burt, Kenneth. “Luisa Moreno’s 1949 Address to California CIO.” Kenneth Burt’s Blog, 30 September 2010, <http://kennethburt.com/blog/?p=754>.
2. Congress of Industrial Organizations, retrieved on April 7, 2023, from [https://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Congress\\_of\\_Industrial\\_Organizations](https://en.citizendium.org/wiki/Congress_of_Industrial_Organizations)





*Mara and workers (Photo courtesy of Mara Elliott, San Diego City Attorney) <sup>1</sup>*

# City Attorney Mara W. Elliott

**M**ara W. Elliott – the first woman, first Latina, and first mother elected as San Diego City Attorney – serves as general counsel to the City of San Diego and as the City’s prosecutor. She protects the health and safety of those who live, work, and visit our City, and provides independent oversight of municipal affairs on behalf of City taxpayers.

Upon taking office, Mara created the Gun Violence Response Unit, which is a recognized national leader in de-escalating potentially violent situations before tragedies can occur. She has also prioritized efforts to protect our most vulnerable citizens and to combat domestic violence, water pollution, and worker exploitation. In 2020, the California Lawyers Association recognized Mara’s contributions to her profession when it named her Public Lawyer of the Year.



*Mary Chase Walker Morse, courtesy of Wikipedia*

# Mary Chase Walker Morse

**M**ary Chase Walker Morse (1828-1899) was San Diego's first teacher. Born and raised in Massachusetts, she became a schoolteacher at 15 years old and graduated from The State Normal School in 1861. The outbreak of the Civil War sent her across the country looking for work.

During her boat voyage to the West Coast, she fell ill and taken care of by a woman of color. Months after arriving in San Diego, the two met again by chance and Ms. Walker invited her to lunch. They ate at the Franklin House hotel, where many patrons objected and left. Her classroom emptied as parents withdrew their children from her Yankee influence. Many demanded her removal. The schoolboard was divided on the issue, Captain Robert Israel made it clear he would never dismiss Ms. Walker for befriending a woman of color. Ephraim Morse, a prominent San Diegan had become smitten with the teacher, proposed a diplomatic solution, and married her.

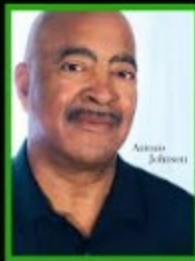
Cohen, Hanna and Harris, Gloria. "Remarkable Women of San Diego: Pioneers, Visionaries and Innovators." The History Press, Charleston, CA, 2016, pp. 13-14.

Smythe, William. "History of San Diego." Wood's Inc, Los Angeles, CA, 1907, pp. 236-237.

# Albert and Margaret



Starring Sylvia M' Lafi Thompson and Antonio T.J. Johnson



5pm August 4, 2018 at the Harold J. Ballard Center Parent Center,  
2375 Congress St, San Diego, CA 92110

Research and Original story by David Lewis  
Adapted for Stage by Sylvia M' Lafi Thompson  
Wardrobe by Maureen Placa

Source:

<https://www.pacesconnection.com/g/san-diego-county-aces-connection-group/event/the-love-story-of-albert-and-margaret-robinson>



This photo of Margaret and Albert Robinson on display at the Julian Gold Rush Hotel



Source:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/67024838@N00/3390372299/in/photolist-6aEH93-6aAxCe-6aAxyP-6aEHeY>



Source:

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017829762/>



Source:

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017829746/>



Source:

<https://www.uhhs-uhcdc.org/normal-school-site>



Source:

<https://oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/ktOp3032sm/?brand=oac4>



Source:

<https://sandiegohistory.org/timeline/henrietta-goodwin-is-the-first-african-american-graduate-from-the-state-normal-school-of-san-diego-now-sdsu/>





Source:

<https://www.sandiego.gov/digital-archives-photos/fire-hose-company-no-3-1927>



SD  
City Clerk  
ARCHIVES

Source:

<https://www.sandiego.gov/digital-archives-photos/fire-station-no-3-1930>



Source:

<https://sandiegohistory.org/journal/v57-3/v57-3travers.pdf>



Source:

<https://www.sandiego.gov/digital-archives-photos/first-san-diego-policeman-captain-and-chief-1911>



Source:

<https://sandieghistory.org/celebrate-san-diego-black-history-heroes/earlgilliam/>



Source:

<https://sandieghistory.org/timeline/the-san-diego-race-relations-society-is-founded-by-dennis-v-allen/>