



SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM, TRUMP ALLY, DIES AT 71

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The Record

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Unexpected, devastating loss for a local family



A memorial site is left at West Magnolia and North Edison streets on July 10 for Andres Jose Ochoa, who died July 3 following a solo-vehicle collision in Stockton. VICTORIA FRANCO/THE RECORD

Stockton man killed in solo-vehicle crash

Victoria Franco
The Stockton Record
USA TODAY NETWORK

The family of a 37-year-old Stockton man who died this month in a solo-vehicle collision that injured a 10-year-old boy said they want their loved one re-

membered for who he was, not how he died.

A memorial site sits near a stop sign at West Magnolia and North Edison streets for Andres Jose Ochoa, who died on July 3. Just some feet away from the stop sign and intersection, two dream catchers were pinned to a tree trunk with Ochoa's name etched into them.

Stockton police said officers were called to the area for a report of a crash. Ochoa was found at the scene and later

pronounced dead.

Police said a 10-year-old boy, who was a passenger in the vehicle with Ochoa, was taken to a hospital for treatment. The child was in serious condition as of Tuesday, July 7.

Christina Ochoa, sister to Andres Ochoa, said the child in the vehicle the day of the crash was not related to her brother.

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Residents press city council on ethics after report

Hannah Workman
The Stockton Record
USA TODAY NETWORK

Residents urged the Stockton City Council to rebuild public trust through greater transparency and stronger ethics reforms, while several speakers questioned the San Joaquin County District Attorney's Office decision not to pursue criminal action against former Interim City Manager Steve Colangelo and criticized some councilmembers' continued association with 209 Times.

Eight residents spoke during public comment at the July 7 council meeting as council members discussed the June 25 San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury report, "Governance in Turmoil," plans to publicly account for the \$770,508 spent on council-initiated investigations, and Mayor Christina Fugazi's proposed 100-day governance reform plan, "Stockton Governance Reset."

The latest civil grand jury report describes the council as plagued by internal conflict, leadership instability and governance failures that the panel said have eroded public trust and disrupted city operations.

In total, the grand jury issued nine findings related to council conflicts, violations of City Charter Section 408, fiscal procedures, ethics compliance and campaign finance transparency. It also issued eight recommendations, including mandatory conduct training, development of an ethics commission, revisions to the city's code of ethics, adoption of social media guidelines, restrictions on disparaging public statements and consideration of local campaign contribution limits.

The city must submit its formal response to the grand jury within 90 days of the report's release.

The proposal calls for creating a public tracking matrix for each grand jury finding and recommendation, including the city's response, the department responsible for implementation and the status of each item.

Among the reforms, Fugazi is asking the council to adopt new standards for meeting decorum, professional conduct, treatment of city staff and public statements by elected officials

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RTD appoints fourth leader since February

Hannah Workman
The Stockton Record
USA TODAY NETWORK

The San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) named Eric Williams acting chief executive officer July 9, marking the fourth leadership change at the embattled agency since a major board shakeup in February.

Williams, who became RTD's chief operating officer in May, was appointed acting CEO effective immediately. The San Joaquin Regional Transit District Board of Directors is expected to formally ratify the appointment at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The leadership transition follows for-

mer Interim CEO Bernard Veasley's resignation. The agency said he resigned "to attend to personal family matters."

The announcement came three days after Stockton Vice Mayor Jason Lee said July 6 that he provided the California State Controller's Office with a letter of concern signed by more than 50 RTD retirees, customers, former executives and former board members. The letter expressed no confidence in the agency's leadership, called for an independent investigation and external audit, and alleged financial mismanagement, governance failures and improper personnel practices.

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Eric Williams was named acting chief executive officer of the San Joaquin Regional Transit District on July 9.
PROVIDED BY SAN JOAQUIN RTD

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