


Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form

(To be submitted with a copy of the CCR)

Water System Name: Golden State Water Company – Bell-Bell Gardens

Water System Number: CA1910011

The water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report was distributed by July 1, 2018 (date) to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

Certified by: Name: Lisa Miller
Signature: 
Title: Water Quality Engineer
Phone Number: (562) 907-9200 x. 404 Date: 9/20/2018

To summarize report delivery used and good-faith efforts taken, please complete this page by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate:

- ☐ CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery methods (attach description of other direct delivery methods used).
- ☒ CCR was distributed using electronic delivery methods described in the Guidance for Electronic Delivery of the Consumer Confidence Report (water systems utilizing electronic delivery methods must complete the second page).
- ☒ “Good faith” efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods:
 - ☒ Posting the CCR at the following URL: www.gswater.com/BellBellGardensCCR
 - ☐ Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used)
 - ☒ Advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of press release)
 - ☐ Publication of the CCR in a local newspaper of general circulation (attach a copy of the published notice, including name of newspaper and date published)
 - ☐ Posted the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)
 - ☐ Delivery of multiple copies of CCR to single-billed addresses serving several persons, such as apartments, businesses, and schools
 - ☐ Delivery to community organizations (attach a list of organizations)
 - ☐ Publication of the CCR in the electronic city newsletter or electronic community newsletter or listserv (attach a copy of the article or notice)
 - ☐ Electronic announcement of CCR availability via social media outlets (attach list of social media outlets utilized)
 - ☐ Other (attach a list of other methods used)
- ☐ For systems serving at least 100,000 persons: Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible internet site at the following URL: www.
- ☒ For privately-owned utilities: Delivered the CCR to the California Public Utilities Commission

Consumer Confidence Report Electronic Delivery Certification

Water systems utilizing electronic distribution methods for CCR delivery must complete this page by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate.

- ☒ Water system mailed a notification that the CCR is available and provides a direct URL to the CCR on a publicly available website where it can be viewed (attach a copy of the mailed CCR notification).
URL: www.gswater.com/BellBellGardensCCR _____
- ☒ Water system emailed a notification that the CCR is available and provides a direct URL to the CCR on a publicly available site on the Internet where it can be viewed (attach a copy of the emailed CCR notification). URL: www.gswater.com/BellBellGardensCCR _____
- ☐ Water system emailed the CCR as an electronic file email attachment.
- ☐ Water system emailed the CCR text and tables inserted or embedded into the body of an email, not as an attachment (attach a copy of the emailed CCR).
- ☐ *Requires prior DDW review and approval.* Water system utilized other electronic delivery method that meets the direct delivery requirement.

Provide a brief description of the water system's electronic delivery procedures and include how the water system ensures delivery to customers unable to receive electronic delivery.

In our continuing efforts to better serve our customers, conserve resources, and reduce costs, Golden State Water Company chose to utilize electronic delivery of the annual Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) as allowed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water. Notices regarding the availability of the CCR were mailed to customers as a bill insert, and also emailed to all customers receiving electronic bills. These notices, printed and emailed in both English and Spanish, directed people to the URL for viewing the CCR online, and also gave them information on how to request a hard copy of the CCR.

*This form is provided as a convenience and may be used to meet the certification requirement of
section 64483(c), California Code of Regulations.*

Consumer Confidence Reports Available Now!

The Consumer Confidence Report, or CCR, is an annual water quality report that the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires Golden State Water Company to provide to you. The purpose of the CCR is to raise customer awareness of the quality of your drinking water, where your drinking water comes from, what it takes to deliver water to your homes, and the importance of protecting drinking water sources. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

In recent years, Golden State Water Company has mailed its customers a printed copy of the CCR to comply with the SDWA.

On February 21, 2013, the California Department of Public Health expanded its interpretation of the SDWA to allow for electronic delivery of the CCR. The electronic delivery method will allow Golden State Water Company to reduce the consumption of paper and minimize potential printing and mailing costs.

If you would like a paper copy of the 2018 CCR mailed to your address or would like to speak with someone about the report, please call 1-800-999-4033 or email waterquality@gswater.com.

*You can view your 2018 Consumer Confidence Report and learn more about your drinking water by visiting our website. **You can find a direct URL link in the message center on the back of your water bill.** You can also find the URL link for your system in the table on the reverse.*

El informe de Confianza del Consumidor o CCR, es un informe anual de la calidad de agua potable que el Decreto de Agua Potable Sana requiere que Golden State Water Company (GSWC, por sus siglas en ingles) le provee. El objetivo del CCR es aumentar la conciencia de los consumidores acerca de la calidad de su agua potable, de donde viene el agua potable, lo que se necesita para distribuir agua a su hogar, y la importancia de proteger fuentes de agua potable. Este informe contiene información importante acerca del origen y la calidad de su agua potable.

En los últimos años, GSWC ha enviado por correo una copia del CCR para cumplir con la regulación.

El 21 de febrero de 2013, el Departamento de Salud Pública de California ha ampliado su interpretación de la regulación para permitir la distribución electrónica del CCR. El método de entrega electrónica permitirá que GSWC reduzca el consumo de papel y gastos de envío y de imprenta.

Si desea una copia en papel del CCR del 2018 enviado por correo a su dirección o si desea hablar con alguien sobre el informe, llame al 1-800-999-4033 o por correo electrónico a waterquality@gswater.com.

2018 Consumer Confidence Report Direct URL Links

System Name	Direct URL Link
Apple Valley North Water System	www.gswater.com/AppleValleyNorthCCR
Apple Valley South Water System	www.gswater.com/AppleValleySouthCCR
Arden Water System	www.gswater.com/ArdenCCR
Artesia Water System	www.gswater.com/ArtesiaCCR
Barstow Water System	www.gswater.com/BarstowCCR
Baypoint Water System	www.gswater.com/BaypointCCR
Bell-Bell Gardens Water System	www.gswater.com/BellBellGardensCCR
Calipatria Water System	www.gswater.com/CalipatriaCCR
Claremont Water System	www.gswater.com/ClaremontCCR
Clearlake Water System	www.gswater.com/ClearlakeCCR
Cordova Water System	www.gswater.com/CordovaCCR
Cowan Heights Water System	www.gswater.com/CowanHeightsCCR
Culver City Water System	www.gswater.com/CulverCityCCR
Cypress Ridge Water System	www.gswater.com/CypressRidgeCCR
Desert View Water System	www.gswater.com/DesertViewCCR
Edna Road Water System	www.gswater.com/EdnaRoadCCR
Florence-Graham Water System	www.gswater.com/FlorenceGrahamCCR
Hollydale Water System	www.gswater.com/HollydaleCCR
Lake Marie Water System	www.gswater.com/LakeMarieCCR
Los Osos Water System	www.gswater.com/LosOsosCCR
Lucerne Water System	www.gswater.com/LucerneCCR
Morongo Del Norte Water System	www.gswater.com/MorongoDelNorteCCR
Morongo Del Sur Water System	www.gswater.com/MorongoDelSurCCR
Nipomo Water System	www.gswater.com/NipomoCCR
Norwalk Water System	www.gswater.com/NorwalkCCR
Orcutt Water System	www.gswater.com/OrcuttCCR
Placentia Water System	www.gswater.com/PlacentiaCCR
San Dimas Water System	www.gswater.com/SanDimasCCR
Simi Valley Water System	www.gswater.com/SimiValleyCCR
Sisquoc Water System	www.gswater.com/SisquocCCR
South Arcadia Water System	www.gswater.com/SouthArcadiaCCR
South San Gabriel Water System	www.gswater.com/SouthSanGabrielCCR
Southwest Water System	www.gswater.com/SouthwestCCR
Tanglewood Water System	www.gswater.com/TanglewoodCCR
West Orange County Water System	www.gswater.com/WestOrangeCountyCCR
Willowbrook Water System	www.gswater.com/WillowbrookCCR
Wrightwood Water System	www.gswater.com/WrightwoodCCR
Yorba Linda Water System	www.gswater.com/YorbaLindaCCR



SERVICE FOR
[REDACTED]
Bell Gardens CA 90201-5584

ACCOUNT NUMBER
[REDACTED]

DUE DATE
June 06, 2018

Page 1 of 2

BILL DATE
May 16, 2018

AMOUNT DUE
\$607.42

Customer Service - 24 Hours: (800) 999-4033 www.gswater.com
Hearing Impaired TTY: (877) 933-9533
Preguntas? Llame al Centro de Servicio al Consumidor al **(800) 999-4033**

Visit **gswater.com** to enroll for service updates via **e-newsletter**.
Your local Office: 7105 D Eastern Ave Bell Gardens, CA 90201

Please see back of bill or visit **gswater.com** for more information on the 2017 WRAM/MCBA surcharge.

Current Activity

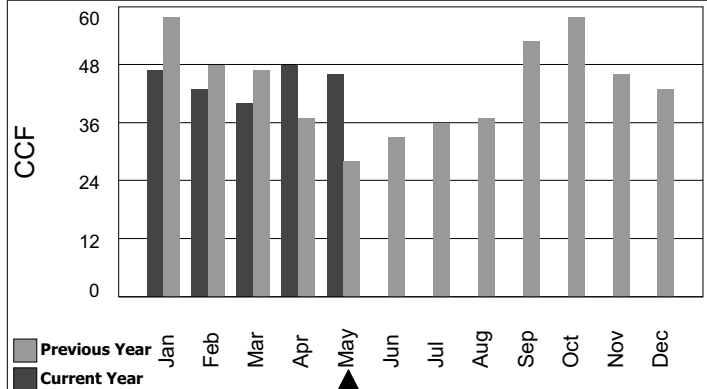
Rate Schedule ME-1-NR (ME1NRM)

Service Charge	1" meter	
Service Charge		\$56.80
Water Usage		
Water Usage - 46.00 CCF at \$3.959		\$182.11
Surcharges, Fees, & Credits		
CARW Prog Adm Surcharge - 46.00 CCF at \$0.25		\$11.50
WRAM/MCBA Surcharge/credit		\$47.84
Other Surcharges/credits		-\$4.55
CPUC Fee - 1.4% of \$293.70		\$4.11
Total New Charges		\$297.81

Account Summary		
Previous Balance		\$561.06
Payments	5-10-18 Thank You	-\$251.45
Total Prior Balance	Due On May 24, 2018	\$309.61
Current Charges	Due On June 6, 2018	\$297.81
Total Amount Due		\$607.42

Your opinion is very important to us. Please rate our job performance by calling 1-888 933 8648. Enter code 206 when prompted.

Average Usage History (One CCF = 748 gallons)



The graph displays approximated monthly usage and is not exact for customers billed bi-monthly. The average monthly usage is 44.00 CCF.

Read and Usage Information

Meter	Service Period	Days	Previous Reading	Current Reading	CCF Usage
[REDACTED]	Apr 16 May 15	29	2266	2312	46

Your next scheduled meter read date is approximately June 15, 2018

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT.



**PO BOX 9016
SAN DIMAS CA 91773-9016**

POSTAL

If you have changed your address or are moving, please call (800) 999-4033 or fill out form on back.

ACCOUNT NUMBER: [REDACTED]

Total Prior Balance Due On May 24, 2018	\$309.61
Current Charges Due On June 6, 2018	\$297.81
Total Amount Due	\$607.42

**Amount
Enclosed**

[REDACTED]
Bell Gardens, CA 90201-5584

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY
PO BOX 9016
SAN DIMAS CA 91773-9016**

0019955210000200000607420

To view your 2018 Consumer Confidence Report and learn more about your drinking water, please visit: www.gswater.com/BellBellGardensCCR
Local water-use and outdoor irrigation restrictions have been lifted. See below or visit gswater.com for more information.

On April 6 your water rates decreased by an average of 1.30 percent as a result of a decision issued by the CPUC to reduce Golden State's rate of return on its cost of capital structure.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

For a listing of payment options, authorized locations, and application forms go to www.gswater.com/payment-options.

Auto Pay (Electronic Funds Transfer): Complete an application to have your bill paid automatically from a checking or savings account when due.

Online: Receive bills online and pay them electronically by using "MyGSWater". Call (800) 999-4033 for more information.

Phone: Use KUBRA EZ-PAY at (844) 706-7690. KUBRA EZ-PAY accepts ATM, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or electronic check. A service fee applies.

Mail: Send bill stub and payment in enclosed envelope.

In Person: Visit www.gswater.com/payment-options to find a KUBRA EZ-PAY agent near you (service fee applies), or go to your local Golden State Water Office.

Unpaid Bill: Your service may be discontinued. A cash deposit and reconnection charge may be required to re-establish credit and service.

DISPUTING YOUR BILL

This bill is due and payable upon date of presentation. It will become past due if not paid within 19 days from the date of mailing.

Should the amount of this bill be questioned, an explanation should be requested from the utility within five (5) days. If an explanation satisfactory to the customer is not made by the utility and the bill is still questioned, the customer may deposit with the California Public Utilities Commission the amount of the bill to avoid discontinuance of service. Make remittance payable to "California Public Utilities Commission" and attach the bill and a statement setting forth the basis for the dispute of the amount of the bill. Mail to: Consumer Affairs Branch, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2003, San Francisco, California 94102; or call toll-free (800) 649-7570; or visit online at www.cpuc.ca.gov. The Commission will review the basis of the billed amount and disburse the deposit in accordance with its findings.

The Commission will not, however, accept deposits when the dispute appears to be over matters that do not directly relate to the accuracy of the bill. Such matters include the quality of a utility's service, general level of rates, pending rate applications, and sources of fuel or power.

DROUGHT INFORMATION/RESTRICTIONS

Golden State Water has implemented local conservation standards for its water systems, reflecting the State Water Board's revised emergency regulations that were issued on May 18, 2016 then extended on Feb. 8, 2017. Many of Golden State Water's systems now have voluntary conservation goals, while others (Edna Road, Cypress Ridge, Nipomo) remain in mandatory conservation under Staged Mandatory Water Conservation and Rationing (Schedule 14.1) due to local water supply conditions.

Please visit gswater.com/drought for additional information and to review the water-use restrictions, conservation goals and reduction mandates for your community. Please check the "Message Center" at the top of this bill for irrigation restrictions in your area.

BILL TERMS AND OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

WRAM/MCBA. The Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM) and Modified Cost Balancing Account (MCBA) were adopted by the CPUC in 2008 to help balance revenue and expenses during times of drought and mandatory conservation. Because approximately 75 percent of Golden State Water's expenses are "fixed costs" and do not change based on usage, if annual water sales don't generate enough revenue to cover annual fixed costs, Golden State Water must collect the revenue shortfall through the WRAM surcharge.

If water sales generate more revenue than the CPUC-authorized amount, revenue is returned to customers in the form of a temporary surcredit. The MCBA ensures any savings associated with lower purchased water or energy (variable) costs are credited back to customers in the form of a surcredit. Conversely, any supply costs that exceed the CPUC-authorized levels are recovered in the form of a temporary surcharge.

The 2017 WRAM/MCBA surcharge or surcredit is effective on 3/23/2018 (Region 2 and 3) or 3/30/2018 (Region 1), and may include any residual balances from previous WRAM/MCBA filings. For additional information, please visit gswater.com.

PLEASE INDICATE ANY CHANGES

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

Work Phone:

Email:

[Home](#)[Your Service Area](#)

Dear Valued Customer,

Golden State Water is pleased to announce that Customer Confidence Reports are available now!

The Consumer Confidence Report, or CCR, is an annual water quality report that the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires Golden State Water Company to provide to you. The purpose of the CCR is to raise customer awareness of the quality of your drinking water, where your drinking water comes from, what it takes to deliver water to your homes, and the importance of protecting drinking water sources. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

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-Golden State Water Company

For the latest updates, visit our website at www.gswater.com or follow us on Twitter at [@GoldenStateH2O](https://twitter.com/GoldenStateH2O).



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OBITUARIES

PAUL TAYLOR, 1930 - 2018

Broke the rules of modern dance

ASSOCIATED PRESS

When the Los Angeles Times knocked on the door of the Lower East Side apartment in 2010, the man who answered looked like a rumples professor, not the impish rule breaker who helped to shape modern American dance.

But then conversation turned to Fred Astaire, and the personality of Paul Taylor came through loud and clear. "He looks like a mosquito to me," Taylor told writer Sylviane Gold. "He's too lightweight. Just to flap your feet around is not enough."

Taylor, the innovative dancer and choreographer whose vast body of work reflected the giddy highs and the depraved lows of the human condition, died Wednesday at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan, spokeswoman Lisa Labrado said. He was 88.

The cause of death was not available, but Labrado said Taylor was in hospice care.

Taylor had worked well into his 80s, venturing into his company's New York studios to choreograph two new pieces a year, and 147 in all. "The works that satisfy me the most? They're the ones I'm working on," he told the Associated Press in 2011 while rehearsing "To Make Crops Grow," his 137th dance. "It's the work process that I like. Once it's done, I want to put everything out of my mind. I'd rather forget it."

The 64-year-old Paul Taylor Dance Company tours the globe year-round and stages a three-week season every year at Lincoln Center in New York. Taylor



JOHN LENT Associated Press

COMMUNICATING THROUGH DANCE

Paul Taylor in 1969. After his dancing career ended in 1974, he flourished as a choreographer. His body of work, 147 pieces in all, reflected the giddy highs and the depraved lows of the human condition.

named dancer Michael Novak as artistic director designate this year.

"Paul Taylor was one of the world's greatest dance-makers, and his passing deeply saddens not only those of us who worked with him, but also people all over the world whose spirits have been touched by his incom-

parable art," Novak said in a statement. "We are grateful for your love and support as we begin to carry on his legacy with the utmost fidelity and devotion."

In a 2014 review of Paul Taylor Dance, Times critic Lewis Segal wrote of the choreographer, "Other societies would long ago have

named him a Living National Treasure. Here, at 83, he continues to assert his power to delight, amuse and possibly even anger audiences with programs such as the varied and challenging one his company danced Friday at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion."

Taylor's signature work was "Esplanade" (1975), an explosion of joy and athleticism, with Taylor's limber dancers running, skipping, hurling themselves into each other's arms like missiles and tumbling to the floor with abandon, all to two Bach concertos.

The pairing of classical music — especially 18th century Baroque — with a very modern style of dance was one of Taylor's hallmarks. But he also went far and wide with his musical choices, scoring his works not only with symphonies and concertos but ragtime, tango, barbershop quartet and even elevator music.

"Big Bertha" (1970) was most notable for its disturbing content, reflecting Taylor's penchant for giving equal time to the darkest depths of human nature. A wholesome 1950s couple and their young daughter come out to a carnival, but after feeding coins into a robotic creature named Bertha, the family slips into depravity; by the end, the father has raped and killed his pig-tailed daughter.

Even a lighter work, "Company B," a set of jaunty dances to the music of the Andrews Sisters, has its dark elements: Look closely amid the joyful dances and you see young men as soldiers, shot and crumpling to the ground.

A strong message always emanated from Taylor's work, dance writer Allan Ulrich said. "You know he's al-

ways saying something," Ulrich said. "There should be two words written on his tombstone: 'He communicated.'"

Paul Belleville Taylor Jr. was born July 29, 1930, during the Great Depression. He began his life in a town outside Pittsburgh but spent much of his youth in the Washington, D.C., area. In his whimsically written autobiography, "Private Domain," he describes a childhood full of boundary-testing moments: a run-in with police after he and a friend steal a baby stroller from a variety store, or a prep-school stunt involving the excavation of a coffin.

He wound up at Syracuse University, where he studied painting and then joined the swim team, purely to gain scholarship money. The college sport was more work than he expected, but at 6 feet tall and with a huge arm span, he was well-suited to it.

Those arms, swinging through space, would become crucial to his dance work. In fact, Taylor's signature move looks a bit like a swimmer in mid-butterfly stroke, albeit twisted up to the sky.

But the desire to dance came as a shock to Taylor: In his sophomore year, he once wrote, he experienced "something stronger than an itch."

Taylor transferred to Juilliard in New York, but first he attended a summer dance course where he met, and learned from, the great modern choreographer Martha Graham. Years later, his name would become forever linked with hers as part of the great trio of modern dance choreographers, along with Merce Cunningham. (Graham died in 1991, Cunningham in 2009.)

USC search panel reflects many views

[USC, from B1] Tyndall. The newspaper's reporting catalyzed a wave of public criticism of Nikias' leadership and triggered mounting litigation against USC.

"This is a monumental moment for the future of our university, and we commit to this undertaking with the utmost faith, trust and confidence," Caruso said in a letter last week that named the committee members and outlined the search process. He said the group would use "as much time as needed" to pick a president.

Dr. Wanda Austin, the former chief executive of Aerospace Corp. and a USC alumna, was named interim president last month and serves on the search committee.

The sprawling private university has about 45,000 students, tens of thousands of employees, a vast health-care enterprise in partnership with Los Angeles County and an annual budget that approaches \$5 billion.

The president post's unique challenges are compounded by the revelations about Tyndall, who has been accused of sexually harassing and abusing scores of young women during their gynecological exams over a career that spanned nearly three decades.

Hundreds of women came forward after The Times documented the record of complaints about Tyndall and recounted in graphic detail their experiences on his exam table. Tyndall, 71, has denied wrongdoing, but L.A. County prosecutors are evaluating dozens of cases for possible criminal charges.

Caruso, who took over as chairman of the Board of Trustees in May, said in his letter that the process of replacing Nikias will include



John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

VIET THANH NGUYEN, who won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2016 and is a tenured professor, is one of 23 members of USC's search committee.

multiple chances for the community to participate. The search committee has launched a website to provide updates, collect nominations of prospective candidates and gather feedback via an online questionnaire.

The committee will also hold forums on campus for students, alumni, faculty and staff.

"There are 'listening sessions' where you can directly share your views and recommendations," Caruso said of the forums.

Although several alumni sit on the committee, none of the members is a student now — a move that current and former students criticized.

"After numerous scandals that sacrificed student safety, you choose not to include a student voice on the presidential search commit-

tee," Rini Sampath, a former student body president, said on Twitter. "This is a grave mistake."

William Tierney, a USC professor who studies governance in higher education, praised how Caruso assembled the search committee and communicated the group's work.

"He has listened, and he's a good listener," Tierney said. "There will always be nitpicking. No search committee is perfect. Some will say the staff are not on the committee. Some will say a student is not on the committee. But this isn't the United Nations. This is a committee that would pass muster at any major university."

matt.hamilton
@latimes.com
Twitter: @MattHjournio

twitter.com/latimes

Paid Advertisement

Interested parties who would like to view or print a copy of Golden State Water Company's 2018 Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for the Year 2017 can access the report on the web at: www.gswater.com/annual-water-quality-reports.

OBITUARY NOTICES

Place a paid Notice: latimes.com/placeobituary
Search obituary notice archives: legacy.com/obituaries/latimes

WATERMAN, Rosalie
Mount Sinai Memorial Parks - Hollywood Hills 800-600-0076
www.mountsinainaparks.org

In Memoriam

Elinor "Chicky" Robison
September 13, 1935 - September 3, 2013
In-memoriam of our mother, Elinor. Five years later, my sister and I still miss her everyday.

Cemetery Lots/Crypts
Double Crypt
Englewood Park
\$8,000
909-275-3872

WANTED: Graves at Rose Hills, Forest Lawn & other cemeteries Buy-List-Sell 800-256-7111 Broker

To place an obituary ad please go online to:

latimes.com/placeobituary

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1-800-234-4444

Los Angeles Times

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2018 Water Quality Report

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EDUCATION WATCH

UCI Law marks 10th anniversary

School kicks off a yearlong celebration by touting academic achievement and pro bono work.

BEN BRAZIL

Less than a decade ago, 60 students began classes at California's first new public law school in more than 40 years.

They knew the uncertainties associated with enrolling at the UC Irvine School of Law in its infancy but recognized opportunities to shape it by fostering a tradition of pro bono work, writing the first law review and founding groups aimed at improving minority representation in the profession.

"We, in many ways, were risk-takers, but it was a risk worth taking," said Christina Zabab-Fran, a graduate of the first class in 2012.

UCI began a yearlong celebration of the law school's 10th anniversary Monday. Students and faculty gathered in the courtyard to pay respects to trailblazers and welcome incoming students. At about 520, current enrollment stands well above that inaugural class.

"We are not satisfied with the status quo," L. Song Richardson, the school's dean, said at the ceremony. "We want to build the law school all other law schools will follow."

Current students Marlon Holley, Erik Jimenez-Rodriguez and James Kim cut the ribbon, ushering in the first day of instruction.

"In the early 2000s, the law school had about as much a chance of success of working out as a mule winning the Kentucky Derby," recalled Newport Beach attorney Mark Robinson, who helped establish it. "But it worked out."

Law school discussions were underway when UCI opened in 1965, but decades would pass before the idea



KEVIN CHANG Times Community News

DEAN L. Song Richardson addresses students and faculty Monday at a ceremony marking the UC Irvine School of Law's 10th anniversary.

took hold. The breakthrough came when the UC Board of Regents gave its approval in November 2006. A \$20-million gift from Irvine Co. Chairman Donald Bren about a year later helped attract renowned faculty.

In 2007, 1st Amendment scholar Erwin Chemerinsky, who was then at Duke University and USC before that, became founding dean. Classes began in August 2009 and the school quickly — by academic standards — won provisional American Bar Assn. accreditation in 2011 and then full accreditation in 2014.

"I am very proud that the decision by the ABA is at the earliest possible time under the ABA rules," Chemerinsky said at the

time. The first graduating class achieved a rare 90% passage rate on the California Bar Exam — then second only to Stanford University.

Chemerinsky left in 2017 to become dean of UC Berkeley's law school, known as Boalt Hall.

Zabab-Fran recalled early students playing an integral role in founding the UC Irvine Law Review. "We picked the fonts, the weight of the paper, the design of the cover," Zabab-Fran said. "We decided how we were going to organize and run ourselves."

They also formed the student government and campus groups built around civil rights, assisting the poor in need of counsel, addressing the underrepresentation of lawyers of color and other causes.

Brooke Weitzman, a 2014 graduate, helped develop the Global Justice Summit, a two-day simulation in which students negotiate a resolution and write a treaty to a mock conflict.

Weitzman said the program has become known for community service. UCI Law ranked third in per-student community service hours, which includes clinical and pro bono programs, according to a national legal publication.

The required clinical program provides students practical experience working with clients. Students notched several wins, including helping veterans receive wrongfully withheld benefits and helping low-

income and elderly mobile home residents in San Juan Capistrano buy their park. Although the pro bono program isn't mandatory, about 90% of students have completed more than 80,000 hours since its inception providing legal services to clients who couldn't otherwise afford it.

"The law school imparts that mindset of being a good steward and recognizing the important role attorneys play in the community," Zabab-Fran said. "It's the culture of community at UCI Law."

Weitzman said she chose UCI because its community-driven mission aligned with her values. She completed about 400 hours of pro bono work as a student and built relationships with

nonprofit organizations that later helped her with her career.

After graduation, Weitzman co-founded the Santa Ana-based Elder Law and Disability Rights Center, which is involved in a federal lawsuit aimed at protecting the homeless.

"It's not typical for law schools to have that kind of a relationship with the community," Weitzman said. "I wouldn't have been able to do these things if I went to a different school."

The law school has become one of the most renowned in the country. It is ranked No. 21 out of 194 by U.S. News & World Report.

ben.brazil@latimes.com
Brazil writes for Times Community News.

SCIENCE FILE

Outside the echo chamber? More discord

Exposure to political opposition on social media sites can make partisanship even worse, a study finds.

KAREN KAPLAN

Dwelling in a political echo chamber — where you encounter only people who agree with you — is hardly

conducive to a healthy democracy.

But it turns out that broadening your horizons by perusing opposing points of view on social media may just make the partisan divide worse.

That's the depressing result of an unusual experiment involving 909 Democrats and 751 Republicans who spend a lot of time on Twitter.

"Attempts to introduce people to a broad range of opposing political views on a social media site such as Twitter might be not only ineffective but counterproductive," researchers reported last week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Political polarization is on the rise in America, and the results aren't pretty, the study authors said.

"Americans are deeply divided on controversial issues such as inequality, gun control, and immigration," they wrote. "Partisan divisions not only impede compromise in the design and implementation of social policies but also have far-reaching consequences for the effective function of democracy more broadly."

The researchers, led by Duke University sociologist Christopher Bail, set out to do something about this problem by harnessing the power of Twitter.

They already knew people become more inclined to compromise on political issues when they spend time with people who hold opposing views. Face-to-face meetings can override negative stereotypes about our adversaries, paving the way for negotiation.

But whether these dynamics would extend to virtual interactions through social media was unknown.

So Bail and his colleagues hired YouGov to survey active Twitter users who self-identified as either Democrats or Republicans. Participants indicated the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with 10 statements like, "The best way to



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THE KITCHEN at Twitter's office in Santa Monica. Attempts to introduce people to a wide range of opposing political views on social media sites might be not only ineffective but counterproductive, researchers reported.

ensure peace is through military strength," and "Stricter environmental laws and regulations cost too many jobs and hurt the economy."

The researchers learned even more about the participants' partisan leanings by checking whom they followed on Twitter and other publicly available information.

A week later, some of the Democrats were randomly selected to receive an apparently unrelated offer: For \$11, would they be willing to follow an automated bot that retweets 24 items every day?

These Democrats weren't told that the retweets would originate from Twitter accounts belonging to politicians, pundits, nonprofit advocacy groups and media organizations aligned with Republicans.

Meanwhile, a randomly selected group of the Re-

publican survey-takers got the same offer, and their Twitter bot retweeted messages from accounts aligned with Democrats.

The word most commonly retweeted by the liberal bot was "Trump," which appeared in its feed 256 times over the course of one month. "Tax" came in a distant second, showing up 93 times. As it happened, these were also the two favorite words of the conservative bot, which mentioned "tax" 125 times and "Trump" 123 times.

After a month of reading tweets from the other side of the political spectrum, the participants re-took the original 10-item survey. So did the people who were not asked to follow the bots.

Compared with the Democrats who did not follow the conservative bot, those who did "exhibited slightly more liberal attitudes." The more they had

paid attention to the bot's retweets (as measured by additional surveys), the more liberal their attitudes became. However, none of these changes were large enough to be statistically significant.

It was a different story for Republicans. Compared with those who did not follow the liberal bot, those who did "exhibited substantially more conservative views" after just one month. The greater the number of liberal tweets the Republicans absorbed, the more conservative they became. These results were statistically significant.

In other words, the experiment backfired.

But Bail and his colleagues from Duke, Brigham Young University and New York University said it's too soon to give up on the idea that social media can help bridge the partisan divide.

Twitter is certainly popular, but the majority of Americans still don't use it. That means the results of this experiment wouldn't necessarily predict how things would go if a similar initiative were rolled out to Americans as a whole, the researchers wrote.

Another cause for optimism: The bots retweeted messages from "elites," who tend to be "significantly more polarized than the general electorate," the study authors wrote. If instead the tweets had come from regular folks, people might have been more receptive to their messages.

Perhaps. Future research should determine "which types of messages, tactics, or issue positions ... might be more effective vehicles to bridge America's partisan divides," the team concluded.

karen.kaplan@latimes.com