



K. C. ALFRED San Diego Union-Tribune



U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia



ENRIQUE CASTRO AFP/Getty Images



U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

EL MENCHO, the reputed leader of the Jalisco New Generation cartel, clockwise from top left, has eluded capture despite a U.S. bounty on his head; evidence from the trial of his son, Rubén Oseguera González, or El Menchito, includes a rifle bearing his nickname and custom magazine holsters; the cartel's Spanish initials and a bullet-pocked wall serve as a warning in Aguililla, Mexico.

A cautionary tale for ‘narco juniors’

Trial of reputed drug lord’s son highlights generational split between cartel bosses and millennial offspring.

By KEEGAN HAMILTON

The reputed Mexican drug lord known as El Mencho has spent more than a decade evading efforts by U.S. and Mexican officials to bring him to justice. His son, alleged heir to one of Mexico’s big-

gest criminal empires, has not been so elusive.

Captured by Mexican law enforcement in 2015 — a month after henchmen allegedly operating under his orders shot down a military helicopter pursuing him and his father — he is now on trial in Washington on drug trafficking and weapons charges related to his alleged role in the Jalisco New Generation cartel.

Rubén Oseguera González, 34, better known as El Menchito, is part of a generation of “narco juniors” learning that the old-school

codes of silence and family loyalty that once protected their fathers are increasingly relics of the past. He has faced damning testimony from a parade of former cartel members.

Although the sons of some prominent Mexican traffickers have struck plea agreements — sometimes involving cooperation against cartel associates — court filings show Oseguera González rejected a deal last year. If convicted, he almost certainly faces life in prison.

The case has highlighted a gen-

erational divide between boomer-age cartel bosses and their millennial kids.

The fathers often came from nothing and climbed the ranks to form their own cartels. Some of the juniors have attended private schools and rubbed shoulders with the future elites of their country. Now the privileged 30-somethings are increasingly taking on leadership roles as their dads — or at least those not killed or captured — near retirement age.

The offspring don’t have to look [See **Cartels**, A10]

Sheriff unveils deputy gangs policy

Luna touts directive banning such groups, though critics say it doesn’t go far enough.

By KERI BLAKINGER

Nearly two years after Sheriff Robert Luna took office and promised to eradicate deputy gangs, and three years after state lawmakers greenlighted a measure requiring police agencies to ban the groups, the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department unveiled a much-awaited anti-gang policy Wednesday to comply with the law.

The controversial tattooed groups and their alleged misconduct have plagued the nation’s largest sheriff’s department for decades, spurring oversight investigations, an FBI probe and a stream of lawsuits.

But leaders have been hamstrung in their efforts to eradicate the inked groups, in part because being in a gang was never explicitly grounds for firing.

The new policy could change that.

“It’s a huge step forward,” Luna told The Times on Wednesday.

“People thought it was going to be impossible for me to start shifting this culture, but it’s happening. I like where we’re going.”

When it takes effect in 30 days, officials say, the policy will ban being in a deputy gang or hate group and require department employees to participate in investigations into the groups. It also will require that allegations of gang membership be referred to the state commission responsible for certifying — or revoking the certification of — peace officers across California. Violating the policy could result in discipline, including termination.

And, as Luna explained, it “lays out the expectations more clearly” and “shows that there are significant consequences if you violate this policy.”

Some deputy union lead- [See **Sheriff**, A10]

Mayor hosts two likely finalists for LAPD chief

Despite calls for an outsider, Bass appears focused on veterans of the department.

By LIBOR JANY, DAVID ZAHNISER AND RICHARD WINTON

Mayor Karen Bass said she would conduct a nationwide search for the next chief

of the Los Angeles Police Department, but in the end it seems she found three finalists close to home.

Deputy Chief Emada Tingrides and Robert “Bobby” Arcos, a former LAPD assistant chief who works in the L.A. County district attorney’s office, were seen arriving at Getty House, the mayor’s residence, for their candidate interviews over the span of a few hours Tuesday.

The third candidate is said to be former Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, who also served in the LAPD, leaving as first assistant chief.

McDonnell was not seen at the Getty House on Tuesday, but according to multiple sources he is also being considered by the mayor to replace interim Chief Dominic Choi, who has run the department since Michel Moore retired unexpectedly

in February after 5½ years on the job. The sources asked not to be identified because the final stages of the search process have been kept confidential and they were not authorized to discuss it.

A spokesman for Bass declined to comment when asked by The Times if she interviewed chief candidates on Tuesday.

All three of the contenders have deep ties to the

LAPD even amid growing calls from within the department for an outsider to bring change.

On Tuesday, Bass released a report detailing the results of a months-long survey about what civil rights groups, neighborhood council members, LAPD officers and others want in their next chief.

Someone who met with Bass called for a chief attuned to [See **LAPD**, A7]

A bellwether county weighs in on Trump vs. Harris

MARK Z. BARABAK
REPORTING IN PORT ANGELES, WASH.

In a far corner of the continental U.S., amid the salty air and green-carpeted mountains of the Pacific Northwest, lies a unique place with an unparalleled record of political precision.

Clallam County, Wash., which takes its name from its Indigenous peoples, has voted for the winner in every presidential election since 1980. If you go back more than 100 years, to 1920, the losing candidate has carried the county just twice; the last time was nearly half a century ago.

That’s a streak unmatched by more than 3,000 other counties in America and lends a certain weight to views expressed in this political bellwether — which, despite its physical remove, reflect the passions and polarization that make this presidential race among the most contentious in modern history.

Good luck trying to figure out

Voters on Washington’s Olympic Peninsula have picked 11 straight presidential winners



MARK Z. BARABAK Los Angeles Times

PORT ANGELES, Clallam County’s biggest city, is a jumping-off point for visitors to British Columbia. It votes reliably Democratic.

who wins the White House in November.

Neither Donald Trump nor Kamala Harris appears to be running away with the contest here. In dozens of interviews across this lush slice of the Olympic Peninsula, support for the two was just about evenly split. Events that once might have given someone pause or pried loose a shaky partisan or two — the attempted assassination of Trump, Harris’ strong debate performance — have evidently passed with nary a ripple.

Voters weren’t just dug into their positions. Many couldn’t fathom how anyone could possibly think any differently.

William Lewis didn’t watch much of the Trump-Harris face-off. There was no point.

“I didn’t learn anything I don’t already know,” he said of the few minutes he did tune in. “It was just the same stuff with both of them in the same room instead of different places.”

Besides, Lewis already knows who he’s voting for. He’s a staunch Trump supporter.

[See **Barabak**, A5]



WILFREDO LEE Associated Press

Ohtani blasts his way past 50-50

Going 6 for 6 with 10 RBIs, slugger achieves history and helps the Dodgers clinch a play-off berth. **SPORTS, B10**

Weather

Clouds, then sun.
L.A. Basin: 76/61. **B6**

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