

Ex-L.A. official guilty of bribery

Former Deputy Mayor Raymond Chan secured payments for himself and a council member.

BY DAVID ZAHNISER AND DAKOTA SMITH

A jury delivered a swift and decisive judgment in a federal corruption case targeting former Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Raymond Chan, finding Wednesday that Chan secured bribes for himself and for former City Councilmember Jose Huizar as part of a sprawling pay-to-play scheme.

Within a few hours, the jury found Chan guilty on 12 of 12 counts — racketeering conspiracy, bribery, honest services fraud and giving false statements to investigators — in a case focused on financial benefits provided by real estate developers with projects in Huizar's district.

U.S. Atty. Martin Estrada said Chan, 67, used his leadership role at City Hall to "favor corrupt individuals and companies willing to play dirty" to win approval of downtown high-rises. Residents of Los Angeles, Estrada said, deserved "much better."

"With today's verdict, we send a strong message that the public will not stand for corruption and that pay-to-play politics has no place in our community," he said in a statement.

Chan worked for the city for more than three decades, much of it at the Department of Building and Safety, where he ascended to the top job. In 2016, he was hired by then-Mayor Eric Garcetti to serve as deputy mayor over economic development, supervising the Planning Department, Building and Safety, and other city agencies. He held that job for slightly more than a year.

Sentencing is scheduled for June 10.

Chan's attorney, John [See Corruption, A6]



CHRISTIAN TORRES Anadolu Agency

TEXAS Gov. Greg Abbott has turned Gate 36 into a militarized zone, with rifle-toting soldiers and coils of razor wire. Some migrants get through and are told to kneel while waiting to be processed by U.S. authorities.

The standoff at Gate 36

Immigration has long been the federal government's domain, but Texas is seeking to change that with its own border force

BY PATRICK J. McDONNELL

CIUDAD JUÁREZ, Mexico — There was a time when migrants arriving here would cross the Rio Grande, make their way to a gate in the border fence and turn themselves in to federal agents to claim asylum.

That was before Texas Gov. Greg Abbott turned Gate 36 into a militarized zone, fortified by rifle-toting soldiers, a fleet of Humvees and a forest of razor wire glistening in the desert sun.

"It looks like a prison," Mario Jesús Nazareño said Saturday afternoon, gazing north across the river.

The 47-year-old former boxer had just arrived at the border after traveling for weeks from his native Ecuador. He hoped to make his way to Florida, where he has relatives.

Now he and hundreds of others were stuck. The governor's aim is to prevent migrants from reaching the gate — part of the 30-foot-high, steel border wall built during the Trump presidency — and thus deny them a chance to apply [See Migrants, A4]



DAVID PEINADO Anadolu Agency

MIGRANTS from South America and beyond come to Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, in hopes of getting to Texas to seek asylum in the United States.

Broad museum plans an even wider footprint

A \$100-million building expansion will increase gallery space by 70%

BY JESSICA GELT

The Broad on Wednesday announced a \$100-million building expansion that will increase gallery space at one of Los Angeles' most popular museums by 70%. The sweeping plans could provide a critical boost to downtown L.A., which has seen sluggish recovery since the pandemic and the rise of remote work left the city's core a shell of what it had once been.

The 55,000-square-foot addition is designed by the New York-based firm Diller Scofidio + Renfro, which designed the original museum — built at a cost of \$140 million. It will rise directly behind the existing structure and is expected to break ground in early 2025, with completion anticipated in advance of the 2028 Summer Olympics.

Joanne Heyler, founding director and president of the Broad, said in an interview that the plan has been in the works since late 2022 after it became clear that [See Broad, A6]



Diller Scofidio + Renfro
A RENDERING of the museum's future second building, which is anticipated to be completed ahead of the Summer Olympics in 2028.

Putin escalates his scapegoating

He blames West for terror attack. Analysts see an attempt to divert attention. **WORLD, A8**

2 bodies found in bridge wreckage

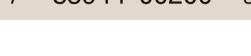
The remains of the Maryland men are in a truck submerged in 25 feet of water. **NATION, A5**

Ethics panel accuses Price

Commission suspects council member of voting on issues involving his wife. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather

Partly sunny. L.A. Basin: 68/51. **B6**



How saga of Ohtani and his aide unfolded, where it might be going

Dodger's theft claims raise a key question: How could interpreter get away with such huge wire transfers?

BY PAUL PRINGLE, NATHAN FENNO AND ADAM ELMAHREK

The tip arrived two weeks ago, and it threatened to engulf Major League Baseball's biggest star, Shohei Ohtani, in scandal.

The name of the Dodgers slugger and pitcher had surfaced in a federal investigation of illegal sports gambling — millions of dollars in payments were allegedly made from his bank account to an illicit bookmaker.

As The Times investigated the tip and began to assemble a story, Ohtani's representatives scrambled behind the scenes to head it off. The result was a series of shifting accounts of how Ohtani's name was raised as part of the investigation,

with each version presenting him as not being involved in any wrongdoing.

And that effort continued after The Times broke the story of the probe. It culminated Monday in a news conference by Ohtani at Dodger Stadium, and what the ballplayer, the Dodgers and Major League Baseball had hoped would put the matter to rest.

It didn't. That's because Ohtani's claims — that his interpreter stole millions of dollars from him to pay a bookmaker and that the ballplayer knew nothing about it — have produced more mystery than clarity, beginning with the unanswered question of how such a large theft could go unnoticed for so long.

If the allegation against interpreter Ippei Mizuhara is true, and if Ohtani and his money were protected by the usual roster of business managers and financial institutions, the translator would have had to evade all the safeguards typically in place to shield a wealthy ce-

[See Ohtani, A7]

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