

## COURTS

# Muslim woman suing LB police



Kirsty Powell

COURTESY PHOTO

Plaintiff alleges that her headscarf was forcibly removed by male officer after a May 2015 arrest

By Josh Dulaney  
[josh.dulaney@langnews.com](mailto:josh.dulaney@langnews.com)  
[@JoshDulaney on Twitter](https://twitter.com/JoshDulaney)

A Muslim woman has filed a lawsuit against Police Chief Robert Luna and the city of Long Beach, alleging that an officer forcibly removed her religious headscarf while she was handcuffed after an arrest on an outstanding warrant.

The Greater Los Angeles Area chapter of the Council on Amer-

ican-Islamic Relations filed the lawsuit Monday in Los Angeles federal court on behalf of Kirsty Powell, who alleges that the incident occurred May 5, 2015 at the Long Beach police station.

Long Beach City Attorney Charles Parkin said his office has not yet been served with the lawsuit, and therefore had no comment.

According to CAIR, Powell and her husband, Deshawn Smith, who are both African American,

were driving home near Market Street and Long Beach Boulevard when they were pulled over by an officer with the Long Beach Police Department.

Powell was arrested on suspicion of having an outstanding warrant, and during the arrest she was told by the officers that she would have to remove her hijab, according to CAIR, which says Powell made several requests for a female officer to search her. The political advocacy group

says officers informed Powell that she was "not allowed to wear her hijab" and that they were "allowed to touch a woman."

While handcuffed at the police station, the arresting officer forcibly removed Powell's head covering and forced her to remain exposed overnight, in plain view of other male officers and dozens of inmates, the suit alleges.

CAIR-LA Civil Rights attorney Yalda Satar says Powell's

**HEADSCARF » PAGE 6**

## LONG BEACH EDUCATION

## LET'S GET COOKIN'

Chef shows Cesar Chavez Elementary students healthful and hygienic food preparation



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CARR — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Executive Chef Philip Pretty of Restauration restaurant shows Cesar Chavez Elementary School students how to make a wood-fired pizza Monday at Restauration restaurant on Long Beach's Fourth Street Retro Row. Pretty and owner Dana Robertson hosted a Healthy Kitchen Tour for 9- and 10-year-old aspiring chefs from Cesar Chavez Elementary. Along with tasting the food they made, like the pizza student Gabriella Marissillo, at right, is preparing, they learned about healthful cooking and with kitchen hygiene and safety.

**+** Online extra: See a gallery of the Healthy Kitchen Tour at [PHOTOS.PRESSTELEGRAM.COM](http://PHOTOS.PRESSTELEGRAM.COM).



## CERRITOS

## Sánchez seeking answers in Ogle hoax

House member wants anti-bullying measures after shooting threat

By Phillip Zonkel  
[phillip.zonkel@langnews.com](mailto:phillip.zonkel@langnews.com)  
[@zonkelpt on Twitter](https://twitter.com/zonkelpt)

**CERRITOS** » Rep. Linda Sánchez penned a letter to the maker of the social media app Ogle, demanding an explanation as to how it will combat cyber bullying after a student from Cerritos High School posted a threat that turned out to be a hoax.

Sánchez, D-Norwalk, a member of the Congressional Anti-Bullying Caucus, sent a letter to Daniel Jiang, the founder and CEO of Ogle and its parent company, Nuistars, last week after she received phone calls from concerned parents and district officials about the Cerritos incident as well as various media reports.

"I am increasingly concerned by the amount of bullying and harassment on the app, and the lack of accountability for those posting," Sánchez wrote in her April 27 letter. "While school teachers and administrators have the ability and flexibility to address this kind of conduct on school grounds, they are not able to intervene in comments transmitted over the internet (cyber bullying)."

"The anonymous posting of



Sánchez

**OGLE » PAGE 6**

## CALIFORNIA MAN

## Hey, Florida, your governor keeps stalking our state

We love California, but we're cool about it. We act like we've been here awhile; don't slobber all over ourself and our birth state. We're comfortable with California's superiority over the other states. Really, if there's a competition at all, it's between us and New York.

But our love for California looks like chilly ambivalence compared to Florida Gov. Rick Scott's embarrassing adulation of our Golden State. The guy is starting to come across as full-blown stalker with his repeated trips to California to enjoy a break from his horrible, horrible state and hang out on our brilliant beaches, basking in absolutely perfect weather.



Tim Grobaty  
 Columnist

Don't misunderstand it. We don't blame him for visiting. If we had the miserable bad luck to have to live in Florida, we'd go to California every time the change jar got filled. But he has the cheek to call his latest three-day California getaway, which kicked off on Sunday, a "trade mission." Which means he gets to write the whole thing off as a business trip.

In fact, it's another of his job-stealing assaults on California in which he tries to lure businesses out of the country's most glorious state and into one of the U.S.'s least desirable places to live by almost every measure a person wishing for a comfortable life would care about.

Scott's spiel this time, the worm he's dangling in front of those he hopes are avaricious corporations who care so little about their employees that they're not at all concerned about moving them from paradise to hell if it'll save a few hundred bucks. He's pointing out that while California's minimum wage is \$10 an hour, Florida's is a darned attractive \$8.05 an hour. That's \$64.40 for an eight-hour day in FLA vs. \$80 in CA. Now, either way, your impoverished workers aren't making out like archdukes, but at least in California they can enjoy the climate and increase their living space by going outdoors to the park or the beach or even just sitting out on the porch in a Rubermaid chair. In Florida, on the

other hand, you can't go outdoors at all. Ever. In the summer it's utterly uninhabitable, with the humidity surpassing the state's median IQ. Plus, you're going to get a couple-three world-class hurricanes tearing off big chunks of the state. Or, you could get eaten by an alligator or crocodile (we forget which is which on account of it's nothing Californians have had to worry about).

They have mosquitoes in Florida the size of SPAM cans that can suck all of the blood out of a child in 30 seconds. There are thousands of sinkholes in Florida that swallow whole neighborhoods.

The state of Florida is easily the No. 1 state to visit if you're trying to cross off "struck by lightning" off your bucket list.

Between 1959 and 2013, there were 468 deaths by lightning strikes in Florida, which is far ahead of the braggart state of Texas, which follows with just 216.

The state leads or comes close to leading the country in health care fraud, identification theft, public official corruption convictions, pain-pill addiction and home foreclosure. The website Thrillist, in ranking the 50 states from best to worst, awarded Florida the No. 50 spot.

We'd tell Gov. Scott to take his carpetbagging act and go home, but we can't blame him if he refuses.

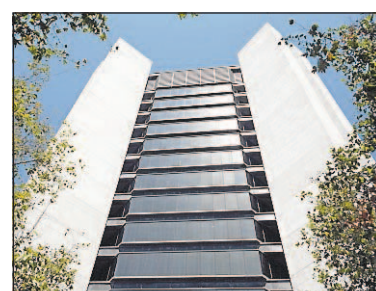
Contact Tim Grobaty at [tim.grobaty@langnews.com](mailto:tim.grobaty@langnews.com) or [@grobaty on Twitter](https://twitter.com/grobaty).

## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

### Long Beach's damaged streets and sidewalks

The Long Beach City Council is scheduled to hold a study session on prospective infrastructure projects at 5 p.m. today at City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd.

[WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV](http://WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV)



## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

### Expanded rental inspections in LB?

An update on Long Beach's rental housing inspection program, which a senior official wants to expand, is planned for the City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. today at City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd.

[WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV](http://WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV)

## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

### Solving a problem like the Queen Mary

Long Beach's Queen Mary Land Development Task Force is scheduled to hold a brainstorming workshop during its 5:30 p.m. Wednesday meeting in the Veterans Park Community Room, 101 E. 28th St.

[WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV](http://WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV)

## GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

### Take a dive into Long Beach pool plans

A study session on the Belmont Beach and Aquatic Center is scheduled for the Long Beach Planning Commission meeting set for 5 p.m. Thursday at City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd.

[WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV](http://WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV)