



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN**

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KENNETH M. RUSSELL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:

DDA Greg Kohler
(661) 868-7631
DDA David McKillop
(661) 868-2330

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by JAK
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**Jury Finds Former Fairfax School District Board Member Guilty of
Felony Charges Relating to Election Fraud**

People v. Palmer Moland: Kern County Superior Court Case BF191728A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury trial conviction involving a former Fairfax School District Board Member. On June 9, 2025, a Kern County jury found Palmer Moland guilty of filing a false declaration of candidacy and perjury in connection with his reelection to the Fairfax School District in 2022. The jury acquitted Palmer of six other felony counts. A Judge dismissed two other felony charges prior to the trial. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Greg Kohler.

On August 12, 2022, Moland created, signed under penalty of perjury, and submitted to the Kern County elections Division, a False Declaration of Candidacy, listing his sister's former residence as his residence address. Moland also completed and signed three other election documents under penalty of perjury on this same date, listing that same address as his residence. The evidence presented revealed that it had been at least fourteen months since his sister had sold that property to a new owner who testified that he did not know Moland, and that Moland never lived at that address after it was purchased from his sister.

Moland also listed another residence as his mailing address on the August 12, 2022, Declaration of Candidacy. The owner of that property also testified that she did not know Moland, that he never lived at her property, and she never gave him permission to use her property as his mailing address.

As to the other counts related to earlier dates, the evidence showed that Moland lived at an apartment where he had a lease and thereafter was provided a section 8 apartment by the Kern County Housing Authority after Moland had been on the waiting list for six years. Other evidence was presented that Moland also lived at his sister's address before she sold it, despite the two other apartments he had, including the government-provided housing. The jury was unable to determine beyond a reasonable doubt that either apartment was his exclusive domicile during the time frames in question.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Kinzel commented; "Election laws exist to uphold the principles of

transparency, accountability, and fairness in elections, ensuring that all candidates meet the required criteria and that the community is accurately represented. By falsifying information on his declaration of candidacy, Moland not only violated ethical standards but also committed a criminal offense that carries legal repercussions.”

Sentencing is set for July 9, 2025, before the Honorable Judge Brian McNamara in Department 7 of the Kern County Superior Court. Palmer faces up to 4 years and 8 months in prison.

Moland also has two, unrelated healthcare fraud cases pending: BF193978A and BF205005A.

Palmer Moland:

