To: THOMAS DIETRICH(tom@smcarthurlaw.com)

Subject: U.S. Trademark Application Serial No. 97738815 - ABRAMS

Sent: July 11, 2023 01:17:32 PM EDT

Sent As: tmng.notices@uspto.gov

Attachments

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United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Office Action (Official Letter) About Applicant's Trademark Application

Mark: ABRAMS

Correspondence Address: THOMAS DIETRICH THE MCARTHUR LAW FIRM, PC 9465 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 300 BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212 UNITED STATES

Applicant: Pro Eagle LLC **Reference/Docket No.** N/A

Correspondence Email Address: tom@smcarthurlaw.com

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL ACTION DENIED

Issue date: July 11, 2023

Applicant's request for reconsideration is denied. See 37 C.F.R. §2.63(b)(3). The trademark examining attorney has carefully reviewed applicant's request and determined the request did not: (1) raise a new issue, (2) resolve the outstanding issue, (3) provide any new or compelling evidence with regard to the outstanding issue, or (4) present analysis and arguments that were persuasive or shed new light on the outstanding issue. TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a).

Accordingly, the following refusal made final in the Office action dated April 6, 2023 is **maintained** and continued:

• Refusal under §2(e)(4) of the Trademark Act

See TMEP §§715.03(a)(ii)(B), 715.04(a).

As the Federal Circuit has made clear, an applicant's mark is primarily merely a surname if the surname, when viewed in connection with the applicant's recited goods, "is the primary significance of the mark as a whole *to the purchasing public*" (emphasis added). *Earnhardt v. Kerry Earnhardt, Inc.*, 864 F.3d 1374, 1377, 123 USPQ2d 1411, 1413 (Fed. Cir. 2017) (quoting *In re Hutchinson Tech. Inc.*, 852 F.2d 552, 554, 7 USPQ2d 1490, 1492 (Fed. Cir. 1988)); TMEP §1211.01.

In this case, the examining attorney has established with abundant evidence that Abrams is a common surname well known to the purchasing public. *See attached* news reports and articles, as well as dictionary definitions. The examining attorney notes that the determination of whether a surname is common or rare is not done solely by comparing the number of listings of the surname to the total number of listings in a computerized database, because even the most common surname would represent only a small fraction of the database. *In re Gregory*, 70 USPQ2d 1792, 1795 (TTAB 2004). Rather, if a surname appears routinely in news reports or articles and receives media publicity so as to be broadly exposed to the general public, then such surname is not rare and its primary significance to purchasers would be that of a surname, as is the case here. *See In re Beds & Bars Ltd.*, 122 USPQ2d

Much of applicant's argument in favor of registration on the Principal Register rests on its claims that "the surname 'Abrams' is not connected with anyone associated with Applicant," and that it "chose the mark specifically because it is closely associated with something that is not a surname -- the Abrams tank." However, the fact that "a proposed mark is not applicant's surname, or the surname of an officer or employee, does not tend to establish one way or the other whether the proposed mark would be perceived as a surname." *In re Thermo LabSystems Inc.*, 85 USPQ2d 1285, 1287 (TTAB 2007) (quoting *In re Gregory*, 70 USPQ2d 1792, 1795 (TTAB 2004)); *see In re Adlon Brand GmbH & Co. KG*, 120 USPQ2d 1717, 1724 (TTAB 2016). In a surname analysis, the absence of a person connected with applicant that has this term as a surname is a neutral factor. *In re Thermo LabSystems Inc.*, 85 USPQ2d at 1287.

Moreover, applicant's own subjective desire to associate its products with the U.S. Army's Abrams tank (famously named after General Creighton Abrams) is not relevant to the legal standard at issue in this case, which is the primary significance of the surname Abrams "to the purchasing public." The examining attorney previously submitted the Army's Registration No. 1359136 for ABRAMS (in typed format) for "tanks," which was registered under §2(f) of the Trademark Act precisely because Abrams is primarily merely a surname, and therefore not inherently distinctive.

However, in an attempt to bolster its argument that the surname Abrams is inherently distinctive in this case because applicant wishes to make an association with the Army's Abrams tank, applicant states that "[u]ntil 1955 or so, 'McDonalds' was merely a surname. But after selling millions of hamburgers, the public came to associate the surname with fast food restaurants." It is noteworthy that applicant highlights McDonald's®restaurants, because its argument is directly at odds with the well-settled rule that evidence of a term's recognition and fame (e.g., consumer surveys, promotional expenditures) is only relevant to prove acquired distinctiveness under Trademark Act Section 2(f), and is not pertinent to a determination of surname significance. *SeeIn re McDonald's Corp.*, 230 USPQ 304, 307 (TTAB 1986) (holding McDONALD'S primarily merely a surname despite applicant's evidence of secondary meaning, noting that, absent a claim of secondary meaning under Section 2(f), "registration must be refused"); *In re Cazes*, 21 USPQ2d 1796, 1797 (TTAB 1991) (holding BRASSERIE LIPP primarily merely a surname despite applicant's evidence of the mark's fame, noting that applicant did not make a Section 2(f) claim and, without a formal claim of distinctiveness, "evidence of fame [could not] serve as the basis for allowing registration of applicant's mark"); TMEP §1211.02(b)(vii).

Finally, the examining attorney notes that Abrams has the structure and pronunciation of a surname. The examining attorney has attached evidence showing similar surnames Abraham, Abram and Abrahams appearing 87238, 14666 and 7067 times, respectively, as surnames in the Lexis® surname database, which is a weekly updated directory of cell phone and other phone numbers (such as voice over IP) from various data providers. *See attached* printouts. Evidence that a term has the structure and pronunciation of a surname contributes to a finding that the primary significance of the term is that of a surname. *In re tapio GmbH*, 2020 USPQ2d 11387, at *12 (TTAB 2020) (citing *In re Giger*, 78 USPQ2d 1405, 1409 (TTAB 2006)); *In re Eximius Coffee*, *LLC*, 120 USPQ2d 1276, 1280 (TTAB 2016); *see*; TMEP §1211.01(a)(vi).

In short, the evidence of record overwhelmingly demonstrates that the applied-for mark is not inherently distinctive because its primary significance to the purchasing public is that of a surname. The examining attorney therefore continues and maintains his final refusal under §2(e)(4) of the Trademark Act.

Since applicant has already filed an appeal with the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, the Board will be notified to resume the appeal. *See* TMEP §715.04(a).

/Nick Altree/ Nick Altree Examining Attorney LO107--LAW OFFICE 107 (571) 272-9336 Nick.Altree@uspto.gov https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abrams_(surname) at 10:11:59, 07/10/2023



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See also

Abrams (surname)

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia Abrams is a surname related to Abrahams, Abram, Abrahm and Abraham. It developed independently in the Jewish diaspora, England, Germany and the Netherlands. [1] The name and its variants have been found in England since the medieval era in the Domesday Book and Hundred Rolls [2] As of 2014, it is most commonly found in the United States [3] Notable people with the surname include:

- A. J. Abrams (born 1986), American basketball player
- Albert Abrams (1863–1924), American physician
 Aruna Abrams (born 1975), American singer

- Austin Abrams (born 1996), American actor
 Cal Abrams (1924–1997), American baseball player
- Carol Ann Abrams (1942–2012), American television and film producer
- Charles Abrams (1901-1970), Polish-American lawyer
- CJ Abrams (born 2000), American baseball player
- . Creighton Williams Abrams (1914-1974), American army officer
- Dan Abrams (born 1966), American television talk show host
- . Delrick Abrams (born 1997), American football player
- Elliott Abrams (born 1948), American foreign policy official
- Elliot Abrams (meteorologist) (born 1947), American meteorologist
 Floyd Abrams (born 1936), American attorney

- Geoff Abrams (born 1978), American tennis player
 Gerald W. Abrams (born 1939), American television producer
- Gracie Abrams (born 1999), American singer-songwriter . Harry N. Abrams, American book publisher
- Herbert Abrams (1921–2003), American painter
- Herbert L. Abrams (1920-2006), American doctor
- J. J. Abrams (born 1966), American producer
- · James Atkinson Abrams (1844-1914), Canadian politician
- John Abrams (field hockey) (born 1934), New Zealand field hockey player
- . John N. Abrams (1946-2018), American army officer
- Kevin Abrams (disambiguation), multiple people
- LeRoy Abrams (1874–1956), American botanist
 Link Abrams (born 1973), American-New Zealand basketball player
- Mark Abrams (1906–1994), English social scientist
 Melville E. Abrams (1912–1966), New York politician

- M. H. Abrams (1912–2015), American literary critic
 Mike Abrams (psychologist) (1953-), American Psychologist and author
- Morris Abrams (1908–1981), American inventor
 Richard Abrams (disambiguation), multiple people
- Robert Abrams (born 1938), American politician
- . Robert B. Abrams (born 1960), American general
- Roz Abrams (born 1948), American television journalist

- Ruth Abrams (1930-2019), American judge
- Sam Abrams (born 1935), American poet
- · Stacev Abrams (born 1973), American politician
- Stephen Abrams (1938–2012), American scholar and activist
- Steve Abrams (born 1949), American politician
 William Abrams (1785–1844), English businessman
- W. J. Abrams (1829–1900), American businessman and politician

References [edit]

- 1. ^ "Abrams Name Meaning & Abrams Family History at Ancestry.com8" c. Ancestry.com. Retrieved 29 June 2021.
 2. ^ "Surname Database: Abrams Last Name Origin" c. The Internet Surname Database. Retrieved 29 June 2021.
 3. ^ "Abrams Surname Origin, Meaning & Last Name History" c. Forebears. Retrieved 29 June 2021.

See also [edit]

- Abrams (disambiguation)
- Abram (name)



This page lists people with the sumame Abrams.
If an internal link intending to refer to a specific person led you to this page, you may wish to change that link by adding the person's given name(s) to the link.

Categories: Surnames | English-language surnames | Jewish surnames | Patronymic surnames

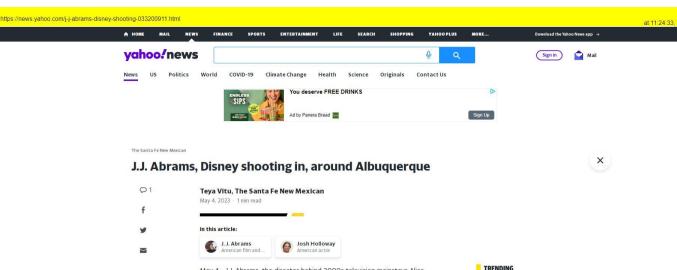
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May 4—J.J. Abrams, the director behind 2000s television mainstays Alias and Lost and more recently the movie, Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, has a new television series called Duster in production in New Mexico.

Also, Walt Disney Pictures will film through May in and around Albuquerque on a Latino-centric reimagining of the 2014 film Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.

Duster reunites Abrams with Josh Holloway from Lost and Greg Grunberg from Alias and an earlier Abrams creation Felicity. Rachel Hilson, Keith David and Sydney Elisabeth also star. It is being filmed in Albuquerque, Moriarty, Belen, Gallup, Sandia Pueblo and Laguna Pueblo, according to the New Mexico Film Office.

Duster is employing more than 4,000 New Mexicans, including 350 crew members and 50 principal actors, the film office reported.

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Set in 1972, Duster follows the first Black female FBI agent seeking to take down a crime syndicate in the Southwest. The eight-episode series will appear on HBO Max. The Max Original/Warner Bros. series is produced by Abrams' Bad Robot Productions and LaToya Morgan's TinkerToy Productions. Abrams and Morgan wrote the first two episodes, which are being directed by Steph Green.

Also in New Mexico, Disney's Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day stars Eva Longoria, also an executive producer, and Cheech Marin, who in late April replaced original cast member George Lopez. Deadline reports the film will appear on Disney+.

The film follows 11-year-old Alexander (Thom Nemer) and his family on an epic road trip.

Alexander filmed April 26-28 in Socorro.

The film is directed by Marvin Lemus with screenplay by Matt Lopez.

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Cool... I wish I could get back to doing background in some of these NM made films... Cry Macho had a little bit of filming at the edge of the village where I live, and across the flats to the next canyon north of util



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Jack White is taking aim at celebrities such as Mark Wahlberg, and Mel Gibson for "normalizing"
Donald Trump by meeting him at public events. The two actors, along with Joe Rogan and Guy
Fieri, were photographed interacting with Trump at the UFC 290 event in Las Vegas over the... 8h ago



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The Daily Beast

'Cocky Idiot': Wagner's Men Spill Messy Secrets of Russian Mutiny
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mutiny in Russia, fissures are emerging within the Wagner Group itself over whether Prigozhin i...



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Divers Find an Old Camera Lying On The Ocean Floor, Then They Saw The Pictures





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Benzinga

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Deadline

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Guy Fieri's Trump Photo Op Has People Reckoning With His Politics

Guy ries a train p-rioto Op nod recipier excouning which in Politics Jeff Bottan/Zuff LLC via Getty Images For most of his career, Guy Fier has managed to keep his brand relatively apolitical. Now that he's been photographed with Donald Trump, however, the bleach-tipped celebrity chef might be starting to feel the heat On Saturday, Fieri was...



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The Republican Party is establishing some strict guidelines for their upcoming presidential debates for the primaries. Most of the rules are there to whittle down the talent pool on the stage so candidates will have to qualify to make it to the televised events, but that's not a ... 10h ago



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One Tik Toker made a skit imagining how Jonah Hill would police his partner's outfit if they were going out running.



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lowa Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds bears the brunt of Trump's rage this time



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Kevin Costner's first wife, Cindy Silva, spotted amid actor's second divorce Kevin Costner's first wife, Cindy Silva, was spotted grocery shopping amid the "Yellowstone" star's divorce from Christine Baumgartner, his second.



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J.J. Abrams, Warner Bros. Team for Adaptation of Stephen King Crime Novel 'Billy Summers'

It's unclear if Abrams, who hasn't directed a movie since 2019's 'Rise of Skywalker,' will helm the adaptation.

BY BORYS KIT

FEBRUARY 3, 2023 11:35AM





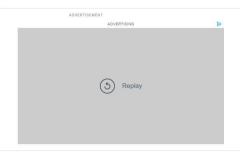




Appian Way will also produce the project, which is being written by Ed Zwick and Marshall Herskovitz.

A year ago, Bad Robot was developing the IP as a limited series with Zwick and Herskovitz attached to adapt, and Zwick looking to direct a good portion of the episodes, if not all.

Not one of King's horror novels, Summers focuses on a 44-year-old hitman, the eponymous Billy Summers, who is considering retirement when he accepts one last job from a regular client. ("One last job" is always synonymous with "Things go awry," but we'll get to that in a moment.) Taking up a cover story that he is a novelist, Summers ensconces himself in a small town as he preps for the hit, and in his spare time actually begins to write a novel, which turns into his life story, from his little sister being killed by their mother's boyfriend to him becoming a decorated sniper.



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Anne Hathaway, 'It Follows' Filmmaker David Robert Mitchell Team for Warners Bros. Feature

The hit ... goes awry when the regular client doesn't pay and Summers escapes a trap. His life gets even more complicated when he finds out there's a bounty on his head, and he saves a rape victim named Alice. Summers and Alice then end up on a cross-country journey to rectify the hitman's many wrongs.

The book was critically well-received upon its release.

It is unclear if Abrams would direct Billy Summers. As a features director, Abrams has almost exclusively hewed toward established properties. He made his feature debut with Mission: Impossible III (2006), the Tom Cruise film that helped revitalized the franchise after the previous installment was poorly received six years earlier. Abrams then pivoted to relaunch the Star Trek galaxy with the 2009 reboot that starred Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto. He then directed the Spielbergian passion project — and his only original movie — Super \$\mathcal{S}\$ in 2011 before helming Star Trek: Into Darkness (2013).

Before Into Darkness arrived in theaters, he surprised Hollywood by signing on to relaunch the galaxy far, far away with Star Wars: The Force Awakens, the 2015 film that introduced the franchise to a new generation and was a commercial and critical success. He returned to Star Wars one last time to close out the sequel trilogy with The Rise of Skywalker (2019), a film that, though it took in more than \$1 billion at the box office, was not as well received by hard-core fans or critics (consider that Force Awakens made roughly double that).



In the years since Rise of Skywalker, Abrams has focused on television, the medium in which he made a name for himself with hits such as Felicity, Alias and Lost. As part of a massive overall deal between Bad Robot and Warners,

'Mission: Impossible 7' After COVID Shutdowns: "We Dreamed About It"

BY HILARY LEWIS



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ADVEDTISEMEN

Abrams has been developing projects such as the pricey *Demimonde* for HBO Max, which was scrapped amid the Warner Bros. Discovery merger, as well as several DC projects. Many of the latter have been waylaid by the creation of DC Studios, run by James Gunn and Peter Safran, although his Black Superman project, being written by Ta-Nehisi Coates and on which he is a producer, remains in active development.

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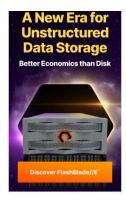


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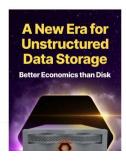


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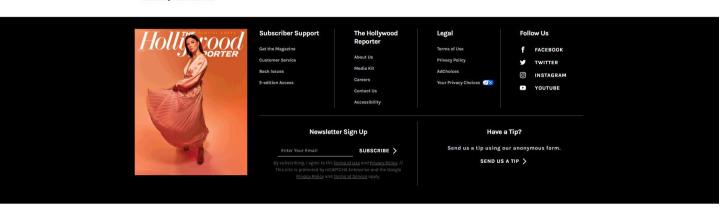
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Stacey Abrams to join Howard University in role focused on race, politics

The activist, author and former gubernatorial candidate will take an endowed chair at the HBCU









Former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams outside Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in Macon, Ga., on Oct. 15, 2018, the first day of early yoting. (Melina Mara/The Washington Post)

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Stacey Abrams, the former two-time candidate for Georgia governor, voting rights activist and author, is joining the faculty of Howard University, the historically Black college in the nation's capital announced Wednesday.

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Abrams will be the inaugural Ronald W. Walters Endowed Chair for Race and Black Politics. She expects to start the multiyear appointment in September and will travel some to D.C. but remain based in Georgia.

"We are entering an inflection point in American politics where the conversation of race and Black politics will be a central facet," Abrams said, "and having the chance to help guide part of the conversation for young people who are studying at Howard University is an exceptional opportunity."

Howard President Wayne A.I. Frederick said the appointment speaks to Walters's legacy around the topics of Black politics and the role politics plays in African American life. "Stacey Abrams epitomizes that in our contemporary experience, in our society."







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"The work she has been doing on voter registration and voting irregularities, especially in Georgia but across the country, speaks to a lot of what Ronald Walters embodied. This appointment is extremely important for our students," he said, adding that he hopes it will help them create solutions to those problems.

Walters, a leading scholar of politics and race who was a professor at Howard for 25 vears, organized one of the country's first lunch-counter sit-ins in Kansas in 1958 and decades later advised Jesse Jackson's presidential campaigns. "His focus on African American leadership has shaped so much of how we have seen leaders engage over the last 30 years," Abrams said.

[She collected art worth millions. Now, she's giving the coveted collection to Howard University.]

Abrams's new role is the latest in a string of high-profile hires for Howard in recent years. In 2021, Ta-Nehisi Coates, the writer whose work has earned him a MacArthur "genius grant" and a National Book Award and led to a congressional hearing on reparations for slavery, joined the faculty, along with Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones. The award-winning actress and director Phylicia Rashad was named dean of the Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts.



students, hurt others



4 The revolt of the Christian



10.00

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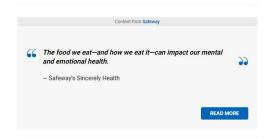




"We're going to be the answer to societal issues," Frederick said. "We're going to hire public intellectuals who will bring the type of discourse" to campus that will inform and inspire students to solve problems.

Howard students have activism embedded in their DNA, he said. "We want to make sure they are good advocates, they understand the issues, that they're going to be in positions to help make the laws, help to change the laws, but that they are educated in what needs to be changed and why and how to change it. We want them fully equipped to be politically active."

Abrams, who is 49, has experience as an adjunct professor at her alma mater, Spelman College in Atlanta, and said she has an "extraordinarily strong" relationship with the HBCU and its former president, Johnnetta Cole, a mentor to her. She also has strong ties to the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a master's degree in public affairs, and Yale University, where she went to law school.



But Howard is located in a powerful hub of influence in many fields, she said. "Washington, D.C. is an essential part of how we protect democracy, how we think about social policy, how we challenge norms,"





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and any same. And noward offiversity is a cruciole for now we can engage all of those pieces. And so when they approached me, I was excited."

Abrams will be using the endowed chair for a variety of things, Frederick said, "everything from teaching students to holding workshops and symposia ... and also collaborate with other faculty members as we conduct research about these critical issues as well."

The creation of the endowed chair was first announced in 2020 when Ronald Walters's wife, Patricia Turner Walters, gave the university the couple's collection of African American art valued at more than \$2.5 million. The artwork is now on display at the Howard University Gallery of Art. Ronald Walters died in 2010.



In an interview this week, Abrams did not rule out running for office again but said that was not her focus at the moment.

Abrams became nationally known for energizing reluctant voters and building support for Democratic candidates with intensive efforts aimed at both rural and urban areas. Some presidential candidates sought out her expertise in voter mobilization in recent years, and she was considered a likely vice-presidential candidate for Joe Biden.

In 2018, Abrams lost by less than 2 percent of the vote when she sought to become the country's first Black female governor. In November, Abrams <u>lost her rematch</u> to the incumbent, Republican Gov. Brian Kemp. She had previously served as Democratic leader of the Georgia General Assembly



MOST READ



[The Power of Stacey Abrams]



A vote sign with the face of Stacey Abrams during a get-out-the-vote event in Atlanta on Nov. 7. (Demetrius Freeman/The Washington Post)

Abrams said she has carved out a career that has included public policy, political leadership, social justice, activism, organizing and listening, as well as work in business, in entertainment and for the environment.



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DEAD MODE

She has practiced tax law for a large firm, co-founded several businesses, served as deputy city attorney for the city of Atlanta, launched several nonprofit groups and written more than a dozen books.

She said she works in the for-profit, nonprofit and public sectors, often simultaneously, because they are inextricably linked.

She plans to bring a practical approach to politics and policy to the classroom. "People don't care about your politics," she said. "They care about their lives."

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Susan Svrluga is a reporter covering higher education for The Washington Post. Before that, she covered education and local news at The Post. 💆 Twitter

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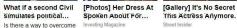


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■ Q POLITICS



Eager to Grab National Spotlight, Abrams Falls Again on Georgia Stage

In her second bid for governor, Stacey Abrams was dogged by complaints that she was distracted by her national ambitions and disconnected from voters at home.







 $Stacey\ A brams\ conceded\ to\ Brian\ Kemp\ on\ Tuesday,\ after\ raising\ and\ spending\ tens\ of\ millions\ of\ dollars\ on\ her\ second\ run\ for\ governor.\ Gabriela\ Bhaskar\ for\ The\ New\ York\ Times$





By Maya King and Reid J. Epstein

 ${\it ATLANTA-Four days before \ Election \ Day, with her campaign for}$ governor on the ropes, Stacey Abrams called into a morning radio show with a message — not for voters, but for the show's host.

"It was so disturbing to me to hear you suggesting that I wasn't talking to Black people in Georgia," she said sharply to Rashad Richey, a popular Atlanta radio personality. "I want to address it."

 ${\it Taken\ aback,\ Mr.\ Richey,\ an\ enthusiastic\ Abrams\ supporter,\ began}$ $tangling\ with\ Ms.\ Abrams-live\ on\ Atlanta's\ AM\ airwaves-over$ whether she had ignored his invitations to come on his show. "I don't know why you decided to do it this way," he said.

After several minutes, Ms. Abrams decided she'd had enough.

"If you want to keep doing this, I'd prefer we just stop right now," $\,$

SIEMENS



Then she hung up.

Talk of Ms. Abrams's interview shot through Atlanta's political class, where puzzled allies worried, not for the first time, how the candidate's awkward remarks might land with voters.

If Ms. Abrams's first campaign for governor for Georgia in 2018 earned her the reputation as a fierce political tactician — the strategist who changed the state's politics, and helped elect President Biden and flip Senate control to the Democrats — her second exposed the limits of her skills as a political candidate, especially in the intensely competitive and demanding environment of Georgia.











Abrams supporters came out for a campaign event with the rapper 2 Chainz last week in Savannah, Ga. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times

In interviews, community leaders, campaign aides, state lawmakers and other allies describe Ms. Abrams, 48, as a visionary sometimes distracted by her obvious national ambitions and a personality more at home explaining intricate policy than engaging in the glad-handing and rope-line hugs.

The portrait they paint helps answer the question: How does a politician who a few years ago was described as a once-in-a-generation star, and has become a record-breaking fund-raiser and liberal darling, keep coming up short in her home state?

LOVERTISEMENT

The Abrams campaign was often described as insular and reluctant to take advice. By the final weeks, it was stunningly tight on cash. The Abrams campaign and its two affiliated committee raised at least \$131 million. After spending at least \$2.2 million a week on television ads for more than a month, the campaign's spending plummeted in the final week to just \$313,000, according to data from AdImpact, a media-tracking service.

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 at its highest level in decades, legislators across much of America leaned
 into cultural issues and bulldozed the opposition.

The Abrams campaign declined to comment for this article.

Ms. Abrams's 2022 campaign was always going to be more difficult than her 2018 run, when she lost to Brian Kemp by 54,000 votes.

Mr. Biden's unpopularity combined with Republican talking points on inflation, high gasoline prices and crime all worked in Mr. Kemp's favor. The governor spent two years presiding over the distribution of millions of dollars in pandemic aid to Georgians and won credibility with swing voters by defying Donald J. Trump's demands to overturn the result of the 2020 election.

Public and private polling from both parties never showed Ms. Abrams ahead.

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Ms. Abrams's election night party. Georgia has never elected a Black governor. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times

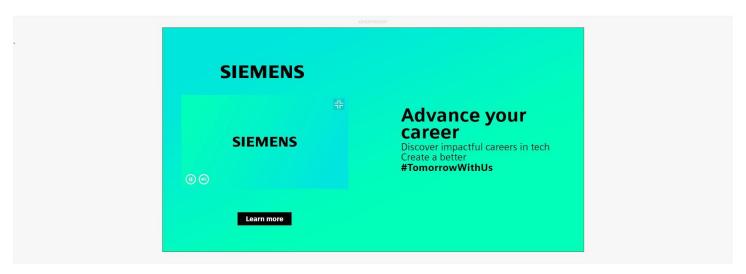
Ms. Abrams's loss, made more striking by Democrats' better-thanexpected performance on Tuesday, is another major setback for a party whose most celebrated up-and-comers seem to just never arrive. (Also losing on Tuesday were the 2020 presidential candidates Beto O'Rourke and Tim Ryan.) Ms. Abrams hasn't won a race since 2017, the last time she was elected to the Georgia state House.

Running in a state that has never elected a Black chief executive, no less a Black woman, Ms. Abrams was also contending with deep prejudices. Ms. Abrams's supporters saw racism and sexism at play. Other politicians would have received less scrutiny and more leeway, they argue.

"If we believe the electorate has bias in it, then do you blame the person who's the victim of that bias for not doing something different or better?" said Steve Phillips, an early Abrams supporter and progressive Democratic donor from San Francisco. Ms.

Abrams remains underestimated compared with other Democratic stars, Mr. Phillips argued, including other former presidential candidates.

"People will say, 'Oh well, that's a nice run you had, Stacey.' But she's more accomplished electorally and she's had a greater impact on the country's politics than Pete Buttigieg."



Over Before It Started?

Ms. Abrams's fate may have been sealed before she began her campaign last December.

By then, Mr. Kemp had made the politically risky — and perhaps dangerous — move to make Georgia the first state to fully reopen during the pandemic, a stance that grew more popular over time.

Mr. Kemp had already tied Ms. Abrams to the left wing of her party,

notably anchoring her to Major League Baseball's decision to <u>move</u> <u>its 2021 All-Star Game</u> out of Atlanta in protest of the voting laws Mr. Kemp signed last year.

"Stacey Abrams and the M.L.B. stole the All-Star Game from hardworking Georgians," Mr. Kemp said last October.

Ms. Abrams tried to keep some distance from activists on the left. (She never lobbied Major League Baseball to move the game, according to a league official involved in the decision.)



 $Campaigning\ across\ Georgia\ in\ the\ final\ week, the\ same\ week\ Ms.\ Abrams's\ ad\ spending\ withered.\ Gabriela\ Bhaskar\ for\ The\ New\ York\ Times$

But she did not keep much distance from the national spotlight after 2018. She delivered her party's response to Mr. Trump's 2019 State of the Union address, publicly lobbied to be Mr. Biden's running mate in 2020 and told the hosts of "The View" that she'd like to be president one day.

Martha Zoller, a conservative radio host in Georgia and former aide to Mr. Kemp, noted Ms. Abrams's 2021 book tour did not include stops in Georgia. The perception that Ms. Abrams had her eye on other ambitions was reinforced in May, when she described Georgia "the worst state in the country to live," while pointing out the state's low rankings on quality of life.

"She shot herself in the foot multiple times," Ms. Zoller said. "And the question was asked in many circles: If you really believe this about Georgia, why would you want to be governor?"



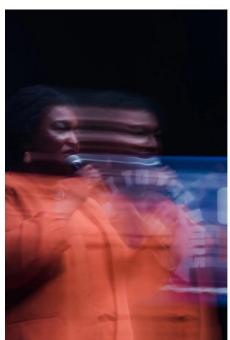
'Stacey Must Own Some of This'

It did not take long for some Democrats to start complaining that Ms. Abrams was neglecting the people who powered her rise.

David Brand, a veteran Atlanta Democratic strategist, said he offered in December to help the Abrams campaign build its network with local Black business owners and civic organizations. With their candidate still operating under pandemic precautions, the gatherings were virtual and short-lived.

"She's having Zoom meetings with Black businesspeople," Mr. Brand said. "Brian Kemp's having cocktails with them."

Derrick Jackson, an Atlanta-area state representative, said he approached Ms. Abrams's campaign around the same time with a warning: engage more with Black fraternities and sororities or risk alienating an important constituency — one that could be crucial to helping mobilize and turn out Black voters.





Ms. Abrams's political ambitions are hardly extinguished, and some supporters believe she could do better nationally. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times

Ms. Abrams working from her campaign bus last week between stops. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times

Mr. Jackson, who is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, a Black fraternity, said his group and several others invited her to their gatherings this spring. She did not attend them and her campaign cited her busy schedule, he said. Ten months later, after polls showed some slippage in her support from Black voters, Ms. Abrams hosted a town hall event with the organizations.

"Stacey must own some of this," said Mr. Jackson, the vice chairman of the state legislative Black caucus. "If you're running a statewide race, if you venture off and you nationalize it, then that's problematic." $\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2$



That national profile helped Ms. Abrams raise tens of millions of dollars — enough to outspend Mr. Kemp, a rarity for a challenger in a governor's race who is not self-funding their campaign. It was bolstered by donors in larger, more Democratic leaning states where Ms. Abrams spent her time to fund-raise during the campaign. The day after winning her primary unopposed in May, for example, she flew to New York for a fund-raises.

"She had spent an enormous amount of time being a national figure on really crucially important issues," said Jason Carter, a former colleague in the Georgia legislature who was the Democratic Party's 2014 nominee for governor. "That national profile is really important and has enormous value, but it also has consequences."

The Abrams campaign was widely seen as a tight-knit operation — run by Ms. Abrams herself and two longtime aides. Her fundraising prowess meant that Ms. Abrams was less dependent on party committees or outside groups and free of political pressure they impose. Her status as the undisputed leader of Georgia's Democrats meant the universe of voices willing to publicly question her choices was small.

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ Richey, the radio host, was one of the few. After his exchange

with Ms. Abrams about Black voters outreach, he told his listeners his conclusion: "I can only assume that the team is not prioritizing this," he said.

There were no immediate signs that Ms. Abrams saw a significant erosion support from Black voters. According to exit polls, Ms. Abrams won the vast majority of Black voters in the state, about the same share as other Democrats on the ballot, including Senator Raphael Warnock, whose race against Herschel Walker, the Republican nominee, is headed to a runoff.

The child of preachers, Ms. Abrams has long been known for her sharp debate skills and command of policy. As the Democratic leader in the State House — who wrote romance novels on the side — she was hailed as a master strategist, devising a long-term plan to bring Black, Hispanic and Asian American citizens into the electorate.





In October, Ms. Abrams stopped at "Spelhouse Homecoming," for Morehouse College and Spelman College, Abrams's alma mater. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times

But people who worked closely with her acknowledge she was often removed from the people she sought to represent. Her campaign events were long on relatable anecdotes and policy explanations and short on up-close, personal moments. In her concession speech on Tuesday, she even acknowledged her introverted style.



"That is why I am proud that over the past year we have shaken the hands and hugged thousands of people — and y'all know how I feel about hugs," she said.

"She's always 100 percent poised and perfect all the time," said Paul Glaze, an official with the New Georgia Project, the organization Ms. Abrams began to register the state's voters of color. "It's kind of hard to reach people that are turned off by the process if you don't give off the perception or don't appear willing to piss off the powers that be."

By the end of her campaign, Ms. Abrams spoke more bluntly about seeing herself as an outsider and wanting to take on the power structure in a state with a long history of racism.

"I don't have the luxury of being a part of a good-old-boys' club," she noted in her first debate against Mr. Kemp.

It remains to be seen what comes next for Ms. Abrams after her loss. Her political ambitions are hardly extinguished, and some supporters believe she could do better — at least in a Democratic primary — in a presidential campaign than in Georgia.

Like so many other losing candidates, Ms. Abrams used her concession speech Tuesday to insist that her political career will go on and her fight isn't over.



"We may not have made it to the finish line but we ran that race. And we know this path," she said. "We know that running is what matters, that standing is what matters, that defending is what matters."





Her national profile helped Ms. Abrams raise tens of millions of dollars — enough to outspend Mr. Kemp, a rarity for a challenger in a governor's race who is not self-funding the campaign. Gabriela Bhaskar for The New York Times.

Maya King is a politics reporter covering the South. Prior to joining The Times, she was a national political reporter at Politico, where she covered the 2020 presidential election. More about Maya King

Reid J. Epstein covers campaigns and elections from Washington. Before joining The Times in 2019, he worked at The Wall Street Journal, Politico, Newsday and The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. More about Reid J. Epstein

A version of this article appears in print on Nov. 11, 2022, Section A, Page 15 of the New York edition with the headline: Georgia Turned Blue Under Her Strategy, But it Didn't for Her. Order Reprints | Today's Pager | Subscribe

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Dan Abrams Mocks 'Woke' ESPN Purge Theories, Says Network Fired 20 Hosts After It Overspent on '2nd-Tier' College Football (Video)



ESPN is "going down" because of its left-leaning politics ignore some "expensive facts," suggesting that the network fired 20 high-profile hosts after it overspent on things like Big 12 football games and celebrity sports analyst Pat McAfee.

The "Dan Abrams Live" host on Wednesday highlighted the analysis of Charlie Kirk and other right-leaning commentators who repeated the theory that ESPNs "woke" politics somehow led to the firing of longtime lead NBA analyst Jeff Van Gundy, Jalen Rose, Steve Young, Suzy Kolber, Max Kellerman, Keyshawn Johnson and others.



"So what is driving this at ESPN?," Kirk said in a clip played by Abrams. "The answer is, ESPN has gone woke, and they're not as boundary-pushing or as funny or as interesting... This is happening because ESPN has decided to go a political route."

Abrams acknowledged that the network had, in fact, taken a political stand:

"Let's be clear: ESPN certainly has shown a leftward leaning in recent years. Earlier this year the network honored transgender swimmer Lia Thomas during a celebration of women's history month, they've been criticized by many over on the right about their coverage of Colin Kaepernick, their commentators frequently express left-leaning political opinions on air, on social media and elsewhere."

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As a result, he said, and "because everything these days has to be seen through a political lens," ESPN has "become a lightning rod for some conservatives." But, he continued, anyone trying to say the layoffs are a sign of ESPN "going down"

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because or its politics are probably overlooking some big, expenive racts.

"ESPN has recently made some major acquisitions in the past few days," Abrams said. "The network finalized a six-year deal with the Big 12 Conference to broadcast some of its football and basketball games, forking over a billion to the conference. Despite the fact that, by the way, the Big 12 Football conference has no powerhouse teams after Texas and Oklahoma defected. Think about that, a billion dollars to broadcast second-tier football games!"

He also highlighted the high-profile singing of wrestler, punter and commentator Pat McAfee.

"And on top of that, ESPN recently signed sports broadcasting superstar Pat McAfee to a blockbuster five-year, \$85 million dollar contract, making him the highest-paid personality on ESPN, even ahead of ratings machine Stephen A. Smith."

Abrams suggested the moves to clear out expensive salaries and infuse some fresh talent "hardly seem like investments a dying media company would make."

"Instead it seems more like ESPN's bean-counters have made a decision to slash well-known vets with high salaries who may not have necessarily moved the ratings needle."

Watch the entire clip above.

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and waiting... and wondering.

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initions dow. Jo. Pittakel and state kep. Kaini bounter both expressed their content doubt alregations of hazing within the Northwestern football program, with both leaders calling for further action in response to the situation.



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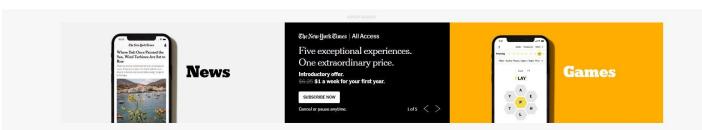
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The Doting Dad Side of Dan Abrams



their 3-year-old son, Everett. Emily Andrews for The New York Times

By Michelle Green

July 15, 2019

On a dazzling Friday afternoon, Everett Floyd Abrams, 3, was racing down the sidewalk in the West Village, neatly steering past pedestrians. Pedaling a pint-size bike with training wheels, his duckie-blond hair nearly hidden by his helmet, he was headed west on Grove Street.

Running flat-out behind him was his father, the journalist Dan Abrams, ready for action in a baseball cap and high-tops.

"Uh-oh," Everett announced in his faint little-boy voice.

"What's that, a bump?" Mr. Abrams called. "You want to go on it?"

"Yeah, O.K., I go on it!" Everett answered.

 $\label{pumping exaggeratedly, he negotiated the two-inch shear.}$

Besotted parent that he is, Mr. Abrams — fast-talking legal expert, new-media mogul and restaurant maven — wanted the verdict. "How was it, Bud?" he asked. "Was it amazing?"

SIEMENS



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To some who recognized Mr. Abrams, 49, ABC's chief legal analyst, the sight of him with a toddler (his son with the publicist Florinka Pesenti) may have seemed discordant. Famously single, he has long been pegged by Gawker, et al., as a man who sought reflected glory; his much-discussed hir list includes Elle Macpherson, Renée Zellweger and Elisabeth Röhm.

A partnership with his brother from another mother, Dave Zinczenko, has fueled his image as a heat seeker. Formerly the editor in chief of the better-sex-and-biceps bible Men's Health and now a wellness titan who pumps out titles like "Eat It to Beat It!," Mr. Zinczenko, 45, is tall, buff and dirty blond. He packs a reputation as a conquistador with an impressive list of done-thats, and inevitably the more erudite Mr. Abrams has been branded his wingman — one approaching midlife on the prowl.

In 2010, their shared interest in food and wine led them to a deeper level when they invested in the Lion. Cozy and clubby, with an Old New York vibe, the boite on West Ninth Street was described by some as a knockoff of the cool-kid Waverly Inn, owned in part by Graydon Carter of Vanity Fair.

Last September, Mr. Abrams and Mr. Zinczenko switched gears by opening White Street in TriBeCa. In the evenings, the soaring space is defined by Venetian mirrors and velvet drapes. On the weekends, it morphs into a skylit brunch spot with a V.I.P. lounge for children. Grown-ups are allowed, but not required, in a bubbly room where the soundtrack features Florence and the Machine and the face painting never stops.

The lounge was inspired in many ways by Mr. Abrams's evolution. These days, instead of pursuing shimmering femmes, he often makes the scene with Everett. Last July, the two appeared at a charity event in Bridgehampton, N.Y., with Mr. Abrams in Ray-

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In 1960s New York City, a Lost Young Woman Longs to Be



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This Company Is Taking the "What-Out of Retirement Bans that matched his son's. The pair have been featured on the cover of <u>Hamptons magazine</u>, and in 2012, Everett met Oprah Winfrey with his father on the set of "Good Morning America" — and later documented it on his <u>Twitter feed</u>.

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Mr. Abrams now shares his townhouse with Everett's mother, Ms. Pesenti. A Vassar College graduate and the director of public relations for Gucci, Ms. Pesenti, 36, has been in his life since 2009. Though not a celebrity, she catapulted into Wikipedia in 2002 as the first female winner of "The Amazing Race."

"Florinka is very fierce and very smart," said Christine Cole, the general manager at White Street and a friend of Mr. Abrams's. "Instead of being in search of his partner, he's found her."

Now, his pale-pistachio living room with clean lines and contemporary furniture is crowded with trains, trucks and gnome-size sports gear. A poster-size version of the Hamptons cover is propped by the fireplace; Everett, it seems, likes to ride his bike on it





White Street, the TriBeCa restaurant where Dan Abrams is an owner, hosts weekend brunches during which children take over the V.I.P. lounge. Emily Andrews for The New York Times

"The truth is that this room was supposed to be kid-free, and every $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$ room is now Everett's room," Mr. Abrams said. " 'Everett's room' is now the TV room, our room, his room, the bathroom — they're all his rooms."

A renovation will solve part of the problem, and Mr. Abrams has $\,$ reconsidered the virtues of "kid-free." Parenthood, he said, "has added an enormous amount to my life. Now I see everything through the prism of my son."

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Cut to White Street, the palmy expanse on West Broadway that Mr. Abrams and his partners designed as a temple for serious food. In the evenings, free-spending locals, financiers and outlanders come for globally influenced dishes from the chef Floyd Cardoz, who made his name at Tabla. (Set to leave at the end of July, he will be replaced by the sous-chef Jason Lawless.)

Julianne Moore, Eddie Redmayne, Naomi Watts and Sting have savored dishes including the duo of Elysian fields lamb (\$39) and taro-crisped halibut (\$34) at White Street. And President Obama rallied the troops over pumpkin soup with lemon ricotta at a Democratic fund-raiser in October.

The concept of courting the squirmy set was spawned in the early months, when brunch turnout was low. Ms. Cole (a partner in the restaurant) said that they tried hiring a band, which wasn't a draw. So they brainstormed: a clown, perhaps?

Happily, Plan C prevailed. On a recent Sunday, couples lingering over prosecco ignored abandoned strollers. In the V.I.P. lounge, an elegant silver-gray room with long windows, their toddlers to preteens dawdled over puzzles and games while a cherub mouthed blocks in his high chair. Supervised by Julia Pfender, a serene young woman who works as a nanny, the novice epicures chattered, shrieked and occasionally wandered out to their parents for bites of pancake. The scene resembled a birthday party, minus the stickiness and tears.

At diaper-changing time, parents headed to a private enclave downstairs. Instead of struggling with a pull-down shelf, they could do makeovers on a full-size changing table stocked with diapers and wipes. With flattering lighting and a wall lined with gin bottles, the ambience was pleasantly surreal.

Apparently, it is all working: Ms. Cole said that she sees the same little painted faces from week to week, and that brunch has "grown organically" since the V.I.P. space debuted in January.



One regular is Everett Abrams, who began restaurant-hopping as babe. "Going to dinner was always a big part of our lives, and we wanted to keep that," Ms. Pesenti said.

Her romance with Mr. Abrams, in fact, had its beginnings at Mr. Carter's media hive. In 2009, a mutual friend introduced them at a party to celebrate "The Hunger," a memoir by John DeLucie. (Then the chef at the Waverly Inn, he later left for the Lion.) A legal analyst for NBC and substitute "Today" anchor at the time, Mr. Abrams failed to recognize the vibrant Ms. Pesenti.

"We had met a few times before, which Dan claims didn't happen, but he meets a lot more people than I do, and he was famous," she said. "So it stuck with me much more than it did with him."

Nor did he peg her as the overwrought "Flo," who, in the third season of "The Amazing Race," leaned on her hard-working teammate, Zach Behr.

Born in Milan, Ms. Pesenti moved to New York in 1984. Her parents — Roberto, the bureau chief for an Italian newspaper, and Ilike, a photo editor — had settled with Florinka and her younger brother, Viktor, on the Upper East Side.





Mr. Abrams at home in his West Village townhouse with his son, Everett. Emily Andrews for The New York Times

A short hike away was the building where Mr. Abrams was raised with his younger sister, Ronnie. Ms. Pesenti graduated from Fieldston — "practically across the street," she said, from Mr. Abrams's alma mater, Riverdale.

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Just out of a serious relationship when she met Mr. Abrams, Ms. Pesenti wasn't in the market for another. And though she said the attraction was immediate, she and Mr. Abrams dated other people for a time. "Dan is not a relationship person, really, and I needed some space," she said. "But we got to know each other really well." And when the issue of parenthood came up, she said, "We were like, 'Oh, this feels right. . . . ' "

At home at the end of a busy week, Ms. Pesenti was curled on a leather sofa in a study upstairs. Barefoot and without makeup, she was dressed for a drive to the Hamptons in camouflage-print leggings and a long-sleeved tee.

A midcentury family they are not. "We went into it sort of unconventionally, because we weren't married," Ms. Pesenti said. "But even though we're very different people, we have a lot of the same philosophies on life. And we felt we were on very solid granted. That seemed to be a very fared went to an interest within

ground. That seemed to be a very good way to go into a crazy thing like parenthood."

From the beginning, Mr. Abrams has been a dynamic presence in his son's life. "In all our years as friends," Mr. Zinczenko wrote in an email, "I've never seen him throw himself [into] anything like he does with Everett."

Everett's grandfather <u>Floyd Abrams</u>, the constitutional lawyer and a frequent babysitter, described his son in an email as "very much the father my wife, Efrat, and I might have expected — totally engaged and unrestrictedly loving."



Back in his toy-stocked living room, Everett's father was reflecting on the flood of decisions that crop up in a day of tending a toddler. He was taking on the topics that seem charmingly distant to parents whose children are long grown — and prompt exhausted sighs from others.

Obsessed with healthy eating, Mr. Abrams was "monumentally" annoyed at Everett's nursery school, for example, because "it seems every week it's someone's birthday," and out come the treats. Not long ago, he learned of a cupcake fest when he arrived for pickup and spun into a lather: "I'm thinking, 'It's the morning, what is this school doing serving cupcakes to $2\frac{1}{2}$ -year-olds without asking the parents?" "

In this case, there was no face-off because Everett was set to change schools. But even when scores are settled, there are

epiphames to be processed, moments of awakening to be acknowledged. Mr. Abrams was struggling with the notion that he sometimes gives mixed messages and that when Everett is within earshot, "everything I say now is effectively on the record."

That is a milestone that may seem like old news to Mr. Abrams next year. In the meantime, it is clear that he is seizing the moments. "Dan wants to take Everett to every dentist visit, every doctor's appointment, every haircut," Ms. Pesenti said.

He also makes room for the occasional boys' night out. A few weeks ago, he and Everett dined à deux at Rosemary's trattoria on Greenwich Avenue, half a block from the Fire Department's Squad 18

"You should have seen us," Mr. Abrams said. "We sat outside, and Everett got the seat facing the fire station. There was a little bit of action when the truck backed out, and he got excited when ambulances drove by.



"I brought a half bottle of wine, a beautiful aged Bordeaux, and he had green juice and pasta with butter," he added. "We had a great night. I loved that."

No V.I.P. room required.

A version of this article appears in print on July 16, 2015, Section D, Page 1 of the New York edition with the headline: The Doting Side of Dan Abrams. <u>Order Reprints | Today's Paper | Subscribe</u>



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Stacey Abrams says she'll be president by 2040

The prediction adds to the political intrigue surrounding one of the Democratic Party's most rapidly ascending stars.



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Stacey Abrams, the former Georgia gubernatorial nominee whose name has $\,$ been floated as a possible Democratic vice presidential pick, predicted in an interview published Friday that she will become president within the next two $\,$ Advertisement

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After Abrams said she "absolutely" believed Americans would send a black woman to the Oval Office in the next 20 years, journalist Clare Malone of FiveThirtyEight asked: "Do you think they'll elect you?"



"Yes. I do," Abrams responded. "That's my plan. And I'm very pragmatic."

The declaration from Abrams, a former Georgia state representative, adds to the political intrigue and professional speculation surrounding one of the $\,$ Democratic Party's most rapidly ascending stars. Abrams, who lost a close $2018\ \mathrm{race}$ to be governor of Georgia, has been mentioned by several White House hopefuls as a potential running mate.

Prior to her declaration Friday that she will seek the presidency before 2040, Abrams said in a March interview that 2028 "would be the earliest I would be ready to stand for president." In a subsequent tweet, however, she wrote that "2020 is definitely on the table" — a run she has since ruled out.

In August, Abrams announced she would not enter the current Democratic $\,$ primary and would instead focus her efforts on combating voter suppression $% \left\{ 1,2,...,n\right\}$ and boosting participation in the 2020 census. But she also said in an interview $\,$ that same month that she would be "honored to be considered by any nominee" $\,$ as a vice presidential contender.

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CJ Abrams is set on learning from his struggles at the plate









"I can get better," CJ Abrams said. "A lot of times, fill see the breaking ball, kind of freeze and then swing. I just need to be able to like recognize and swing at the same time." (John McDonnell/The Washington Post)

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Nationals shortstop CJ Abrams had done everything the Washington Nationals' coaching staff preached to him. That's what made his second strikeout Thursday so difficult.

Arizona Diamondbacks left-hander Tommy Henry threw Abrams a slider that was well below the zone, exactly the type of pitch he has chased this season. Abrams smartly laid off but wasn't rewarded for it. The pitch was a called third strike and Abrams jumped in the batter's box, knowing he had made the right decision.

"We're teaching this kid not to chase, and then it's a big situation and he's battling up there," said Manager Dave Martinez, who <u>was ejected from Thursdav's game after arguing with home plate umpire Doug Eddings.</u> "He gets two strikes, and all of a sudden he gets rung up. For me, I'm more worried about him. Because he's doing everything right."



To paint a picture of Abrams's year at the plate, take a look at his past



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two games. Abrams went 3 for 3 on Wednesday with a go-ahead home $\underline{\mathrm{run}}$ to the opposite field and two infield singles in Washington's 3-0 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals. The next day, Abrams went 0 for 4 with three strikeouts against the Arizona Diamondbacks.

[Svrluga: Remember when the Nats were competitive? Now they're an $\underline{easy\ out.}$]

A few hours before the Nationals took on the Cardinals this week,
Abrams stood by home plate with Keibert Ruiz and Luis García as they
watched a coach set up a pitching machine on the mound. Abrams said
he wanted to see more breaking ball shapes from both lefties and
righties so he could better identify those pitches.

Entering Friday, ahead of Washington's game against the San Diego Padres, Abrams was hitting .266 against fastballs and a modest .241 against off-speed pitches. But breaking balls have given Abrams the most trouble — he's batting .160 with a .240 slugging percentage on breaking pitches. He's whiffing on 36.6 percent of breaking balls, according to Baseball Savant.



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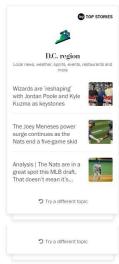
"I can get better," said Abrams, who said he needs to trust what he sees.
"A lot of times, I'll see the breaking ball, kind of freeze and then swing. I just need to be able to, like, recognize and swing at the same time."

Opposing teams have been pitching to Abrams hoping he will chase balls low in the zone. So far this season, he has. Earlier this year, Abrams admitted that when he's doing well, he thinks he can hit everything — a positive for his confidence but not so much for limiting his swings and misses. Abrams is chasing 38.3 percent of the time, well above the MLB average.

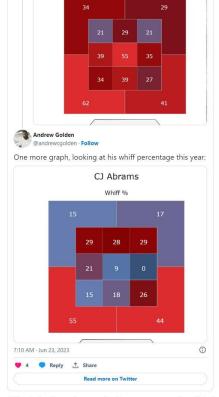
Abrams and Nationals hitting coach Darnell Coles are working on adjustments at the plate to ensure he doesn't open up too soon. That way, he can recognize outside breaking pitches and lay off them. And when he gets a pitch away in the zone, he can drive it to left field over the shortstop's head instead of trying to pull it.

Abrams's stride direction is still a major point of emphasis — Coles has Abrams stand on a line in the batting cage so he can have a visual guide of where his feet end up. Abrams sometimes strides toward the plate instead of the pitcher. That causes him to be jammed on inside pitches and doesn't give him a chance to recognize pitches away.





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Offensively, Abrams's season has been a seesaw — a handful of games at the plate seemingly shift his momentum in one direction before a rough stretch follows. He's 22 years old and entered Friday having played just 157 MLB games in his career. He made his major league debut with the

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San Diego Padres last season and $\underline{\rm was\ then\ sent\ to\ Washington\ as\ part\ of\ the\ Juan\ Soto-Josh\ Bell\ trade.}$

Abrams has a .272 on-base percentage, the third lowest in baseball entering Friday. He has six hits in his past four games, but before that he was 5 for 41 with 12 strikeouts in June. Abrams said he can be hard on himself because he knows what he can do; it's a matter of executing it

"He doesn't like to do bad. He doesn't like to make mistakes," Martinez said. "He wears it, he comes back when something happens and watches videos, and he criticizes himself a lot. But I told him: 'Hey, it's part of the game. It's part of being young.' "

Abrams was the eighth-youngest player to make an Opening Day roster this season. Four of the seven players younger than him are also shortstops. Aside from Tampa Bay's Wander Franco, the 22-year-old who has been one of the best in the game but was benched recently for disciplinary reasons, the others also have experienced rough patches. Colorado Rockies shortstop Ezequiel Tovar (age 21) entered Friday hitting. 256, but Abrams has 16 fewer strikeouts and more home runs and RBI than him. Anthony Volpe, the 22-year-old shortstop for the New York Yankees, entered Friday hitting .196.

The Nationals are preaching patience with Abrams at the plate — and they know they will have to have it, too.

"I just want to let him know that it's not the first time you're going to fail in this game, probably not going to be the last time you fail," said first baseman Dominic Smith, who has been Abrams's mentor this season. "So the fact that you can kind of get over that is going to help you, one, feel better but also play better. You're seeing it. You see him struggle. You see him bounce back. It's just showing he's really learning. He's becoming more mature as a player, as a young man."





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By Andrew Golden

Andrew Golden covers the Washington Nationals for the Washington Post after previously assisting on the Commanders beat and sports breaking news team. Andrew started at the Post as an intern in 2021.

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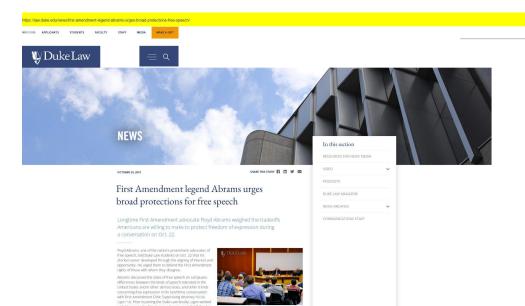
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Taylor Swift Duets With Gracie Abrams for 1st Time at 'Eras Tour' After Weather Impacts Show Length

By Miranda Siwak July 2, 2023









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Taylor Swift and Gracie Abrams, Shutterstock (2)



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Taylor Swift's Eras Tour is forever keeping Us on our toes!

During her Saturday, July 1, concert in Cincinnati, Ohio, Swift, 33, added a third surprise song to the setlist. After the Grammy winner performed "lvy" live with collaborator **Aaron Dessner**, she brought out **Gracie Abrams** — one of her tour's opening acts — for a special number.

"She's one of my favorite friends and I love her so much. We haven't sung together before, so I wanted to bring Gracie out on stage," Swift told concertgoers on Saturday, per social media footage, noting that she was bummed that Abrams, 23, did not get to perform her set amid unexpected weather changes.



So 'Enchanting'! See Taylor Swift's Most Stylish 'Eras Tour' Outfits

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Hours earlier on Saturday, Swift tweeted that a "weather situation" meant that she planned to start the show at Paycor Stadium one hour early. The "All Too Well" songstress was supposed to take the stage following **Muna** and Abrams' sets, but the change in plans eliminated **J.J. Abrams**' daughter's slot.





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Instead, Swift performed a cover of Gracie's "I Miss You, I'm Sorry" live for the Ohio-based crowd.

"I have no words, actually," Gracie quipped during the show after Swift admitted that "I Miss You, I'm Sorry" was one of her favorite songs. Gracie played the track on the piano while the Valentine's Day actress strummed along on her acoustic guitar.

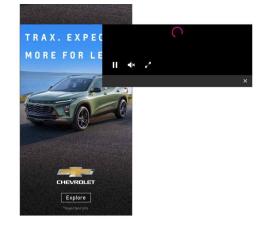


Stars Who Had the Time of Their Lives at Taylor's 'Eras Tour'



Swift kicked off her *Eras Tour* — which is her first live concert tour since 2018's *Reputation* — in March to celebrate all of her past albums and rerecorded LPs. The *Eras Tour* setlist even rotates at least two surprise songs per show, allowing Swift to sing even more of her biggest hits.

"One thing we said about the *Eras Tour*." You think you can just go online, you think you can just scroll and know the setlist?" Swift teased during her Arlington, Texas, show later in March. "You think you can just come prepared with little flashcards (that list the song order and my outfits)?" Let it be said about the *Eras Tour*, we're tricksy. That's what we are [and] we enjoy a good, healthy setlist hijinks."





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Swift — who later added the caveat that she will play Midnights songs more than once — also performed "Call It What You Want" from Reputation at her Saturday show.









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Additionally, Swift has recently been adding more Speak Now singles to her Eras set in advance of her re-recorded album, which will drop on July 7.

 $\ensuremath{^{^{\circ}}}$ I'm putting this out now because I want to own my music and I believe that any artist who has the desire to own their music should be able to. That's why I'm putting out this album," she told Minnesota fans last month while introducing "Dear John" as a surprise song. "I'm 33 years old. I don't care about anything that happened to me when I was 19, except the songs I wrote. ... So, what I'm trying to tell you is that I'm not putting this album out so that you should go and feel the need to defend me on the Internet against someone you think I might have



written the song about 14 million years ago."



What do you think? Leave a comment.

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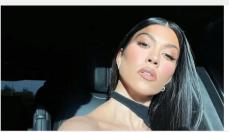




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Descriptive words... » GO THERE suitA MARRIOTT BONVºY" Mentions of Abrams OAII Wikipedia Books Quotes Pop music Hip hop Wyman, Bryan Burk and J. J. Abrams are executive producers.
—<u>Almost Human (TV series)</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics] Clifford Ross, Abrams Publishers New York 1990.p. -Abstract expressionism [Similar quotes, lyrics] Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, Henry Abrams New York, 1968, pp.
—<u>cubism</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics] Carlos Fuentes & C. Fuentes; Abrams, Harry N. Inc.
—<u>Frida Kahlo</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics]

Ghost Protocol" was written by André Nemec and Josh Appelbaum, and produced by Cruise, J. J. Abrams (director of) and Bryan Burk.

—<u>Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics]

Note: Quotation is from Nairn's appearance on the Charlie Rose TV show with Elliott Abrams in March 1995.

—Alan Nairn [Similar quotes, lyrics]

To rub it in, he is using Bush and Reagan-era Neocon arsonists, John Bolton and now Elliott Abrams, to fan the flames in Venezuela.

— <u>Michael Hudson /economist</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics]

Let's be clear here, Elliott Abrams is an unrepentant war criminal.

—Jeremy Scahill [Similar quotes, lyrics]

Col. Creighton Abrams of the 37th Tank Battalion, broke through the German lines.

—<u>Maxwell D. Taylor</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics]

S. is a 2013 novel written by Doug Dorst and conceived by J. J. Abrams, presented as a story within a story.

—<u>S./Dorst.novel\</u> [Similar quotes, lyrics]

More mentions...

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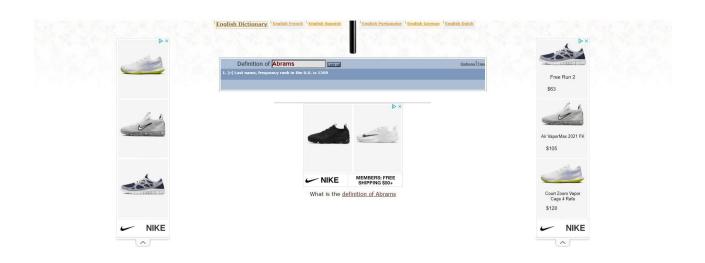
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Biden nominates controversial former Trumpappointee to Public Diplomacy Commission

By <u>Jack Forrest</u>, CNN Updated 10:40 PM EDT, Mon July 3, 2023

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power 'almost...

al representative for Iran and Venezuela at the U.S. Department of State, speaks during a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing in Washington, DC, in

(CNN) — President Joe Biden announced Monday his intention to nominate a former appointee under former President Donald Trump with a controversial past in Latin America to the bipartisan United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Elliott Abrams, who has served in three Republican administrations, most recently acted as the Trump administration's special envoy to Iran and Venezuela where he was tasked at the time with directing the campaign to replace Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro.

The Republican insider's long history in foreign policy is marked by a 1991 guilty plea for withholding information about the Iran-Contra affair that earned him two misdemeanor counts, two years probation and 100 hours of community service - though his crimes were later pardoned by President George H.W. Bush.



The secret Iran-Contra operation, which took place during Abrams' time as an assistant secretary of state in the Reagan administration, involved the funding of anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua using the proceeds from weapon sales to Iran despite a congressional ban on such funding

Again in his role under former President Ronald Reagan, Abrams was also blasted by a Human Rights Watch report for his attempts in a February 1982 Senate testimony to downplay reports of the massacre of 1,000 people by US $trained-and-equipped\ military\ units\ in\ the\ Salvadoran\ town\ of\ El\ Mozote\ in\ December\ 1981-\underline{the\ largest\ mass\ killing}$ in recent Latin American history. He insisted the numbers of reported victims were "implausible" and "lavished praise" on the military battalion behind the mass killings - stances he doubled down on when they were put on display during a 2019 House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing by Rep. Ilhan Omar, a Minnesota Democrat, who used his history in Latin American to call into question his credibility.

He later served as a senior director of the National Security Council and then as a deputy assistant to the president and deputy national security adviser under former President George W. Bush. Abrams currently serves as senior fellow for Middle Eastern studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. He attended Harvard College, the London School of Economics and Harvard Law School and served under two former US senators.

The United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy is a bipartisan body and does not allow for more than four of its seven members appointed by the president to be from any one political party, according to the $\underline{\text{State}}$

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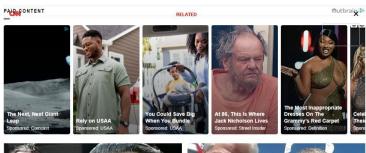
рерагинени.

The commission "appraises the US Government activities intended to understand, inform, and influence foreign publics" and "may assemble and disseminate information and issue reports and other publications to the Secretary of State, the President, and the Congress," according to the <u>State Department</u>.

Current members include Sim Farar, the managing member of JDF Investments Company; William Hybl, former special counsel to Reagan; and Anne Terman Wedner, a political organizer and former foreign service officer – four seats on the commission remained vacant as of March 2023, according to the National Archives.

CNN's Jennifer Hansler and Ray Sanchez contributed to this report.







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1 A

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1B

Publication for Opposition Date

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20230530

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• IC 041. US 100 101 107.G & S: book publishing; providing online publications in the nature of newsletters in the field of books; providing information in the field of books via the Internet, namely, providing news in the field of books relating to new book releases, book editing, and book publishing; providing newsletters in the field of books via e-mail. FIRST USE: 19990000. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 19990000

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(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

Design Code

Serial Number

77561976

Filing Date

20080904

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1**A**

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Publication for Opposition Date

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• IC 041. US 100 101 107.G & S: Production of films, motion pictures or movies; direction of making films, motion pictures or movies; writing of films, motion pictures or movies; production of television programs; direction of making television programs; television program writing. FIRST USE: 20060000. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20060000

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(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

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Serial Number

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LIVE

Attorney of Record Andrew D. Price

(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

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Translation

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- IC 016. US 002 005 022 023 029 037 038 050.G & S: Fiction and non-fiction books on a variety of topics; comic books; graphic novels; gift books featuring works of fiction and non-fiction; [kits comprised primarily of books and journals in the field of fiction and non-fiction packaged with additional items, namely, pens, arts and craft paint kits, and toys, namely, dolls;] blank journals; guided printed journals featuring works of fiction and non-fiction; notebooks; notepads; adhesive note pads; stickers; memo pads; drawing pads; art pads; magnet-backed notepads; pens; pencils; arts and craft paint kits; postcards; notecards; [paper gift wrap;] gift boxes; gift bags; envelopes; stationery holders, namely, boxes, folders, desktop cabinets; stationery cases; stationery sets comprised of note pads, envelopes and pens; drawing rulers; flash cards; crossword puzzles; coupon books; photo albums; event albums; scrap books; guest books. FIRST USE: 19500000. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 19500000
- IC 041. US 100 101 107.G & S: Publishing services, namely, publication of fiction and non-fiction books on a variety of topics, journals, gift books, comic books, and graphic novels; providing book publishing information in the nature of information about books, authors and new book releases; providing a website featuring book publishing information in the nature of information about books; on-line journals, namely, blogs featuring information, news and commentary in the field of books [; entertainment services, namely, educational services in the nature of classes, conferences, workshops, and seminars in the field of books and book publishing]. FIRST USE: 19500000. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 19500000

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(4) STANDARD CHARACTER MARK

ABRAMS BLOCK BOOKS

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 IC 016. US 002 005 022 023 029 037 038 050.G & S: Series of fiction and non-fiction books on a variety of topics. FIRST USE: 20180501. FIRST USE IN COMMERCE: 20180501

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Serial Number

87497384

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Original Filing Basis

Publication for Opposition Date 20170704

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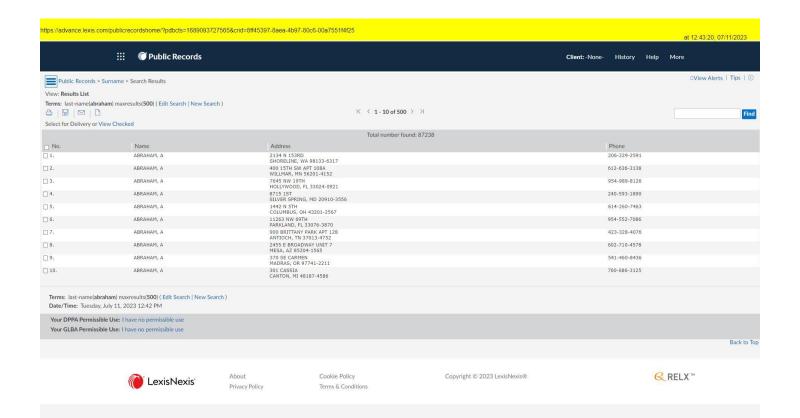
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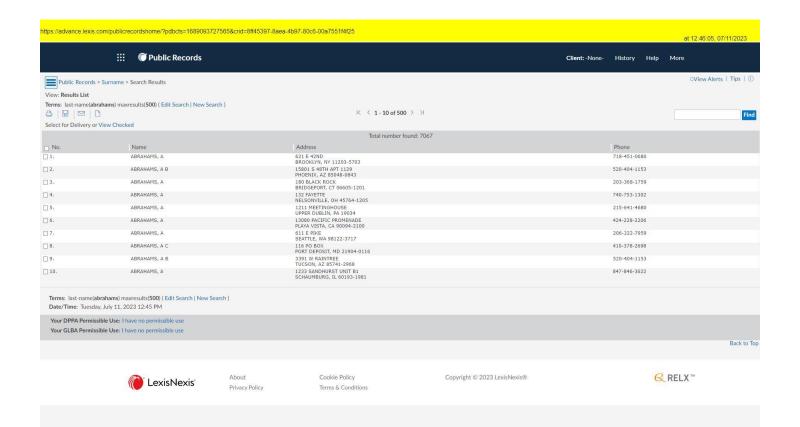
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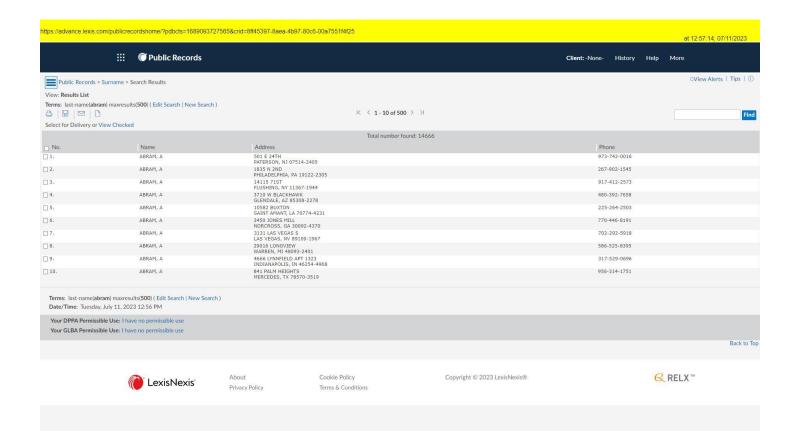
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