

Patterson and Lone: Two cities. The same warning signs.



Patterson residents have watched legal costs **surge to five times the legal budget of \$385k**, as concerns over transparency and accountability continue to mount. Now, a June 23, 2026, Amador County civil grand jury report reveals strikingly similar concerns in the city of Lone.

What is the common link? The Sacramento-based law firm, **White Brenner LLP**, **serves as city attorney in both cities.**

Since White Brenner was hired in January 2025, Lone's legal costs have more than doubled, and the city has faced multiple claims of Brown Act violations. Sound familiar? These problems closely mirror the out-of-control legal spending Patterson is facing.

This is not a coincidence. A recent article in The Modesto Bee shows that White Brenner's problems extend across multiple cities in Stanislaus County and beyond.

Yet Mayor Clauzel and the City Council continue to hand over blank checks to the firm and provide zero oversight over how your taxpayer dollars are spent.

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