

— Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025 at 11:43 a.m. —

LAist: Can you start by saying your name and title?

FIORA ASTON: Sure, Fiora Aston, Compass Real Estate.

LAist: I'm calling about the listing at 1324 Casiano Road. Did that just go up today?

ASTON: Yes.

LAist: Can you tell me a bit about the home?

ASTON: Yeah, it's a beautiful, mid-century modern home that was completely restored, and it's being offered fully furnished.

LAist: And that's being listed for \$29,500 per month?

ASTON: Yes, yes.

LAist: And it looks like that was posted about nine hours ago?

ASTON: It just went on the market. And actually, we just found out that that whole area is evacuated. So we have to wait until we can show it again.

LAist: OK, so that's in a voluntary evacuation zone. But it's not under mandatory evacuation orders yet, right?

ASTON: No orders.

LAist: But it sounds like you're just waiting to show it when it's more safe?

ASTON: Well, I mean, right now, you can't, you know, it's not safe now. But I don't think, I think they're being very proactive in that area. So they have stopped the fires from moving towards Brentwood. But you know, they just wanted to be sure that people are going to be safe. So we decided we're not going to be doing any showing until next week.

LAist: Are you getting a lot of calls about this home?

ASTON: Yes.

LAist: How many people have reached out about this home?

ASTON: I mean, today I've had five people from Zillow.

LAist: And are these folks who lost their homes in the fires?

ASTON: Everybody. I've had, I have three, two other listings right now. They're, one of them is a fully furnished home in Palms, Mar Vista. I had about 40 people come through yesterday. And um, I've had, I have about 10 applications right now. And one person offered \$10,000 over what we were asking per month.

LAist: So clearly there's a lot of demand?

ASTON: It's crazy. I've never, I've been in the business for 35 years. I've never seen anything like this. People are desperate. There are so many families without a house, you know?

LAist: So I see that this property was listed for \$15,900 per month back in September 2024. Is that right?

ASTON: Yes, the property was taken off the market, and my client was actually, she had no intention of leasing it anymore. And she moved into the house. When this whole situation happened, I told her, I said, you know, this is, people are desperate, and you can probably get good money, and you should move out. She has a second home, so she moved into her second home, and this house is for lease now. She had no intention of leasing it.

LAist: But now it's back on the market?

ASTON: Yeah.

LAist: One of the reasons I wanted to call is that people might be wondering why the rent has gone up so much. It looks like the rent has almost doubled since September. Can you tell me why the rent has increased so much?

ASTON: I'm sorry, I have to get this phone call. It's a long distance call.

A note on this transcript: Only Fiora Aston's side of the call was recorded. The questions from LAist are reconstructed from reporter David Wagner's notes, not verbatim.

