

# Now8News.com Network

One in a network of websites impersonating local television stations that publish hoaxes, including false claims about the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.**

**Score: 20/100**

## Ownership and Financing

Websites in the Now8News.com network do not reveal information about their ownership.

Based on shared advertising codes and a common IP address, NewsGuard has found at least five sites in the network; Now8News.com, ActionNews3.com, Breaking13News.com, News4KTLA.com, and News4Local.com.

The websites run advertisements.

**✗ Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)**

**✗ Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)**

**✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)**

**✓ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)**

## Content

The About pages of websites in the Now8News.com network typically describe the site as news sources covering local news.

For example, Now8News.com describes itself as being “on the look for top stories in your area and across the world.” Breaking13News.com states that the site “gives you the latest headlines from around the world. We report to you the unbelievable news that other media outlets refuse to disclose. We are not afraid to post the truth.”

News4KTLA.com, which has the same call letters as a well-known television channel in Los Angeles, falsely states it is “Your local news for southern Louisiana and the surrounding area.”

However, the sites’ content primarily consists of fabricated stories. Typical articles on sites in the network have appeared under headlines including “Oregon woman accused of punching dog for asking her for a walk in the rain,” “FDA Admits: Chemicals In Food Might Make People Kill Each Other,” and “Creepy

**✗ Avoids deceptive headlines (10)**

**✗ Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)**

**✓ Clearly labels advertising (7.5)**

**✗ Reveals who’s in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)**

**✗ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)**

*Criteria are listed in order of importance.*

[More information.](#)

Clown Arrested After Haunted House Massacre, 18 People Dead.” There is no evidence that any of these articles are real.

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Credibility

Sites in the Now8News.com network publish false stories, using site names and appearances that suggest they are local news sites affiliated with television stations. They are not. Stories on the sites are entirely made up and feature fabricated quotes.

Some stories concern serious events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, in an undated story NewsGuard found during a March 2020 review of the site, Now8News.com published a false article headlined “COVID-19 Found in Toilet Paper.” The site falsely attributed the information to CNN, which never reported such a story, and included a made-up quote from a nonexistent federal health official stating that the virus “breeds rapidly in tissue fibers.”

The fact-checking organization Snopes, which said that it has debunked stories from Now8News since 2015, said that there is no evidence for the claims in the story. The site “does not carry a readily available disclaimer labeling its content as ‘satire’ or ‘fake news,’ but this website’s content is undoubtedly fiction,” Snopes reported.

In an undated story on Breaking13News.com that NewsGuard found during a March 2020 review, the site claimed that “Bob Barker, former TV host of the famous game show ‘The Price is Right’ tested positive for the coronavirus, according to a statement released by his family on Wednesday evening.” There are no credible reports that Barker tested positive for COVID-19, nor is there any record of the statement that the site claimed was released by his family.

Other hoaxes from sites in the network describe fictional violent or graphic crimes.

For example, an undated story on Breaking13news.com ran under the headline: “Babysitter Discovers ‘Clown Doll’ In Kid’s Room Was A

Real Person, Raping The Child At Night.” The story, which included fabricated quotes about the fictional incident, has been circulating online for several years. It was debunked by Snopes in 2015, when it appeared on Now8News.com. According to Snopes, “The mugshot included in the Now8News story about a rapist’s employing a clown costume to hide in a child’s bedroom actually shows Marvin Walker Jr., who was arrested in January 2015 after an attempted carjacking.”

An undated story on Now8News.com headlined “Mother Arrested After Tattooing Her Son And Attempting To Trade Him For Drugs” is a fabrication, according to Snopes. The article initially appeared on News4KTLA.com., and included an image that, according to Snopes, “has been circulating online since at least 2012 and was likely digitally manipulated.”

Another undated fictional story was headlined “Trump Signs Law To Lower The Age Of Consensual Sex To 13 Years Of Age,” which claimed that “According to the announcement, the law concerning the age of consent will be changed across all 50 states and D.C.” The story was debunked by Snopes in 2015, when the made-up policy was attributed to the Obama administration.

Because sites in the Now8News.com network regularly publish fabricated articles, headlines, and quotations, NewsGuard has determined that the site has repeatedly published false information, does not gather and present information responsibly, and does not avoid deceptive headlines.

Sites in the network typically do not publish opinion stories.

Sites in the network do not articulate a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on any of the sites.

NewsGuard sent an email to an address listed on the Contact page of Now8News.com to inquire about its publication of hoax stories, but did not receive a response.

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## Transparency

Sites in the Now8News.com Network do not reveal information about ownership, editorial leaders, or content creators. Typically, stories are not attributed to authors and are not dated.

Advertising is distinguished from editorial content.

Now8News.com did not respond to an email inquiring about its lack of disclosure regarding its ownership, editorial leadership, and content creators. A NewsGuard email to news4ktla.com about its content in 2018 also did not receive a response.

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## History

Now8News.com launched in 2015. Other sites in the network appear to have been created in 2015 or 2016.

Snopes said that it has “been debunking misinformation from Now8News since at least 2015, including junk news articles about people having sex with pigs at Walmart, a cannibal eating a person at a haunted house in Texas, and a lottery winner who died after dipping his testicles in gold.”

*Editor’s Note: This label was last updated on April 20, 2020. It incorporates and updates two separate labels previously published for news4ktla.com and breaking13news.com. The Nutrition Label changes the rating for news4ktla.com to reflect NewsGuard’s determination that news4ktla.com does not fail NewsGuard’s standard for handling the difference between news and opinion responsibly.*

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**Send feedback to NewsGuard:** [Click Here](#)

## Sources

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### Ownership and Financing

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Credibility

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Transparency

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History

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