



# City of Needles

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363  
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765  
[www.cityofneedles.com](http://www.cityofneedles.com)

Mayor, Janet Jernigan  
Vice Mayor Kirsten Merritt  
Councilmember Tona Belt  
Councilmember Ellen Campbell  
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle  
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue  
Councilmember Henry Longbrake

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 20, 2024

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1. On **September 18, 2024**, City officials and staff attended this year's San Bernardino County "Empowering Tomorrow" State of the County event. Special thanks to Supervisor Dawn Rowe and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority Executive Director Ray Wolfe for their ongoing support and commitment to finding solutions for all cities in the county, with a special mention of Needles during their presentation. We also extend our gratitude to Andrew Goldfrach, CEO of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, for his vision and dedication to ensuring all county residents, including those 200 miles away, receive the care they need. **Refer to the attached image for a snapshot of the event.**
2. On **September 19, 2024**, City officials and staff celebrated the groundbreaking of the **\$1.8 million Phase IV-A Street Improvement Project**. This project aligns with the City Council's ongoing commitment to revitalizing street and water infrastructure. In 2019, the City adopted an ambitious 15-year Pavement Management Plan (PMP) to maintain and improve 47 miles of city streets. To date, the City has successfully paved approximately 17 miles.

Vance Construction Company has already begun mobilizing equipment, with street grinding starting next Monday and paving scheduled to follow in a few weeks. Phase IV-A will focus on paving several main roads, including Desoto St., Cibola St., F St., E St., Downey St., Valley St., Fourth St., and G St. These improvements are designed to enhance road safety, reduce maintenance costs, and improve overall driving conditions for residents. By addressing these critical streets, we ensure our City remains well-maintained and accessible for years. **For additional information, refer to the attached image.**

We will hold a second groundbreaking on **October 1, 2024**, for the Obernolte Street Improvement Project, which will focus on streets near the school area. Additionally, the City Council has approved Phase IV-B, which includes water service

replacement in preparation for street paving in early 2025. Streets scheduled for paving in 2025 include Carty Way, Carty Circle, Carty Place, El Monte St., I St., H St., G St., Crestview Dr., and Desoto St. These improvements go beyond basic infrastructure and reflect our dedication to building a stronger, safer, and more resilient community for all residents.

3. IEHP Covered offers affordable health coverage for residents of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, providing essential healthcare services to those in need. All IEHP Covered plans include free preventative care, and eligible members may qualify for Enhanced or Cost Share Reduction (CSR) Silver plans with \$0 deductibles and low out-of-pocket costs. These plans cover 10 categories of Essential Health Benefits, as required by the Affordable Care Act. In addition, IEHP members have access to medical transportation services for appointments, including travel to facilities like Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, located over 200 miles away. For more details, call 1-877-273-IEHP (4347) or visit their website. **For more information about specific coverage options, click [here](#).**
4. On **Wednesday, October 2, 2024**, Needles Area Transit, in partnership with other transit providers from the San Bernardino County Transit Authority, will be offering free fares all day long. No reservations are required—just hop on a Needles Area Transit bus and enjoy your complimentary ride! For more details, **refer to the attached flyer** or contact Community Services at 760-326-2113 ext. 115, or via email at [csallis@cityofneedles.com](mailto:csallis@cityofneedles.com). Don't miss out—come out and ride!
5. This week, City Staff met with Jartino Spencer, a Victim Advocate from the Bureau of Victim Services stationed in Needles through the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office. He assists crime victims by providing financial and healing resources. Mr. Spencer is located at 1111 Bailey Avenue and can be reached at 760-326-9245. The District Attorney assigns a Victim Advocate once charges are filed. **For more details, refer to the attached Bureau of Victim Services flyer.**
6. The City's Public Works staff is actively repairing deteriorated sidewalks to ensure public safety and improve infrastructure. Ongoing projects, such as the repair at the Women's Club (**refer to the attached image**), demonstrate our commitment to these efforts. We encourage residents to report any damaged sidewalks, potholes, or road issues by contacting the City of Needles Billing Office at 760-326-2115 (press #9) or through the Needles Connect app, available on both the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Your feedback is invaluable in helping us maintain and improve our streets. Please don't hesitate to reach out with concerns or to report issues—your involvement is essential to our community's progress.
7. The City's Public Works staff recently repainted the barriers of the Needles Bridge following vandalism, which costs the city thousands of dollars annually. For a visual update, **refer to the attached image**. To combat this, the city promptly repairs damage and reports incidents to law enforcement. In 2019, the City Council passed

Ordinance No. 624-AC, strengthening enforcement against vandalism, including graffiti on public and private property. If you witness vandalism, please report it to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office at (909) 387-8313. Additionally, contact the City (760) 326-2115 for graffiti removal or use the convenient Needles Connect app, available on both the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).

8. **Last April**, the Needles Chamber of Commerce took over management of the Business Directional Sign Program, which provides travelers with key information about local landmarks and businesses within the City of Needles. Thanks to a generous donation of nearly \$8,700 from Supervisor Dawn Rowe, the revitalization of the signs is now underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Businesses interested in participating in this program are encouraged to contact the Chamber directly at [info@needleschamber.com](mailto:info@needleschamber.com).

Additionally, the Needles Chamber of Commerce is hosting the State of the City event on **October 3, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Businesses are invited to participate in the **Market Night earlier from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, offering a great opportunity to showcase products and services to Needles residents. To reserve a table, please contact the Chamber at 760-326-2050 or email [info@needleschamber.com](mailto:info@needleschamber.com). **Refer to the attached flyer for additional information.**

9. For the first time, [Ventura Circus](#) is coming to Needles! Come and experience the enchantment of "The Dream," a traditional American family circus showcasing everything from juggling and clowns to stunning aerial acrobatics. Performances will run from **October 10 through October 21, 2024**, with the opening night set for **7:00 p.m. on October 10 at 100 G Street in Downtown Needles**. Don't miss out on this unforgettable event—tickets can be purchased by clicking this [link](#).
10. The Needles Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Field Office temporarily closed for remodeling last May to enhance customer experience. We're excited to announce that the newly improved office is expected to reopen **on October 7, 2024**, with upgraded facilities designed to provide a more comfortable and efficient service experience for our community. We look forward to welcoming you back!
11. **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**
  - **Animal Shelter Spay/Neuter Clinic on September 26 and 27.** Is sold out.
  - **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Lynne's Little Ladies Tea Party on Saturday, September 21, 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00pm** at the Needles Women's Club.
  - **Annual Bridge to Bridge First Responders Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 11 am-2 pm** at the Mohave Valley Legacy Community Park at 9200 Aquarius, Mohave Valley.
  - **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: The Well No. 11 Water Treatment Facility Project is anticipated for mid-October.** The date, time, and location are TBD.
  - **SBCSD/Needles Police 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat Event on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM** at the Recreation Center parking

lot at 1705 J Street. If you're interested in participating, please get in touch with Misty Hunt at 760-526-9200 or [mhunt@sbcasd.org](mailto:mhunt@sbcasd.org).

- **Community Fall Festival: November 2, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM** at 950 Front Street. To participate vendors can contact Jennifer Valenzuela, Recreation Manager, via email at [jvalenzuela@cityofneedles.com](mailto:jvalenzuela@cityofneedles.com) or directly at 760-326-2814.



1. STATE OF THE COUNTY





## 2. PHASE IV-A STREET GROUNDBREAKING





## 2. PHASE IV-A STREET GROUNDBREAKING





NEEDLES AREA TRANSIT

# CLEAN AIR AND FREE FARES!



A PROJECT OF THE COALITION FOR CLEAN AIR

Celebrate California Clean Air Day on **Wednesday October 2** by riding public transit in the San Bernardino region.

Check with your local system for details.

## RIDE FREE ALL DAY AND HELP CLEAR OUR AIR!

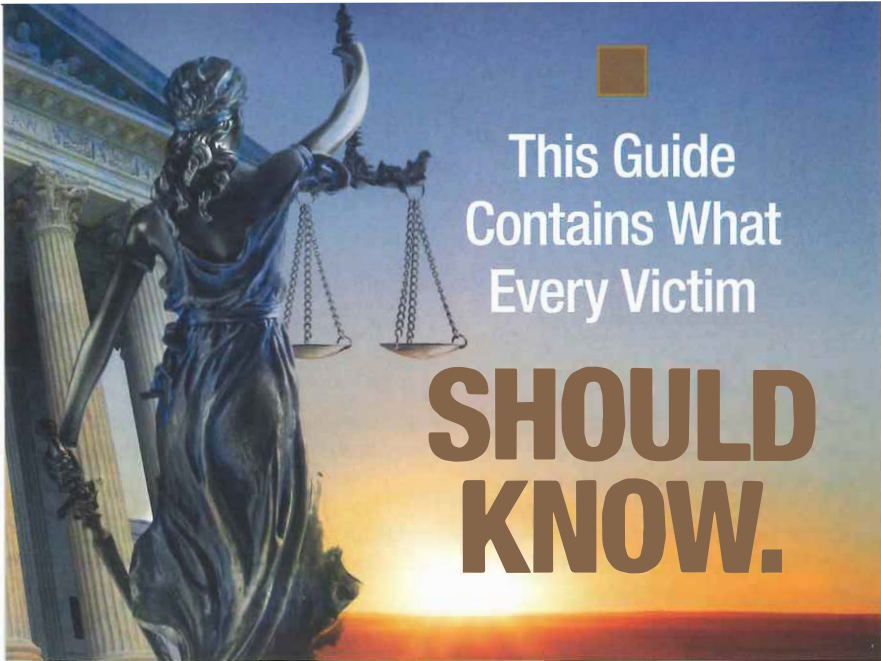


Powered by



San Bernardino County  
Transportation Authority





This Guide  
Contains What  
Every Victim

# SHOULD KNOW.

As a **Victim** or **Witness** of a Crime,  
You are Vital to the **Criminal Justice Process**.

The **Bureau of Victim Services**  
Can Provide **Guidance** During this Process.



**Jason Anderson**  
District Attorney | San Bernardino County

“ I recognize that being a victim and witness to a crime can cause fear and uncertainty. Our role is to alleviate that fear by honestly explaining what you can expect in court, explain what financial and healing services we can provide and assist with, and that victims of crime are protected under the California Constitution. This guide is intended to explain your value and the important role you serve in our criminal justice system.”

## 5. **VICTIM ADVOCATE**

### **Bureau of Victim Services**

Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 5:00PM

#### **SAN BERNARDINO**

303 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
909 382.3846

#### **RANCHO CUCAMONGA**

8303 Haven Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
909 945.4241

#### **MORONGO**

6527 White Feather Rd.  
760 366.5740

#### **JUVENILE UNIT**

303 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
909 382.3846

#### **VICTORVILLE**

15371 Civic Drive  
760 552.6947

#### **VICTIM COMPENSATION CLAIMS UNIT**

909.386.9130

### **Satellite Locations**

#### **SB SHERIFF'S HEADQUARTERS**

655 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
909.387.3586

#### **ARROWHEAD REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

400 N. Pepper Ave., Colton  
909 580.1443

#### **ONTARIO POLICE DEPT.**

2500 S. Archibald Ave.  
909 408.1073

#### **BARSTOW POLICE DEPT.**

500 Melissa St.  
760 255.5185

Needles Sheriff's Dept.  
1111 Bailey Ave.  
(760) 326-9245



Scan QR Code for Our Website and Social Media Links

**COURT  
CASE NO.**

Fill In Your Court Case Number Here for Easy Reference.

This publication was supported by funding awarded by Federal Grant Fund Sub-Award number XC20 03 0360 through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).



# BUREAU OF **VICTIM SERVICES**

Your Guide as Your Case Moves  
Through the Criminal Justice System.



### **Criminal Justice System Guidelines**



### **Victim & Witness Services**



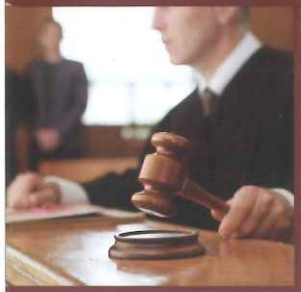
### **Victims' Bill of Rights**

Our Program Values Diversity and does not Discriminate Based on Race, Religion, National Origin, Age, Physical Ability, Gender or Sexual Orientation.

**For More Information Visit [www.SBCountyDA.org](http://www.SBCountyDA.org)**

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE





## Criminal Justice System Guidelines

*An Overview of Your Case Proceedings:*

### The Subpoena –Don't Ignore It

A subpoena is a court order requiring you to appear in court. You can receive it in person, by mail, or electronically.

Sometimes a case will be postponed or "continued." If your case is "continued" before your appearance date, we will make every effort to inform you.

### Misdemeanor Trial

In misdemeanor cases, your testimony will be needed during trial.

### The Preliminary Hearing

In felony cases, you may be required to testify. While not a trial, it is a hearing at which the judge determines if there is sufficient evidence to "hold the defendant to answer" for their actions and stand trial.

### Arraignment in Superior Court

If the defendant is "held to answer" for their crimes, they will be arraigned again in Superior Court within fifteen days. You do not have to appear at this hearing.

### Verdict and Sentencing

When the defendant is sentenced, you have the right to appear and make a statement about how the crime has affected you and your family, and what punishment you feel is appropriate. A Victim Advocate may accompany you to court to support you or can read your statement on your behalf.

### Felony Trial

California law requires that a defendant charged with a felony be brought to trial within 60 days of the filing charges, unless that right is waived by the defendant. In some cases, this time could extend to several months or even longer. You will need to testify at the trial, even if you testified at the preliminary hearing. In some cases, a trial will not be held because the defendant pleads guilty.

### Your Testimony

You may be called to testify in court by a deputy district attorney. After he/she has asked the questions, the defense attorney has the right to test your memory of the facts, or to "cross-examine" you. You may be excluded from the courtroom when other people are testifying. This is to ensure that the testimony or memory of one witness does not influence the testimony of another.

### The Defense Attorney

The defense attorney may ask to speak with you to find out the nature of your testimony. There are no laws or rules prohibiting you from telling the defendant's attorney or representative what your testimony will be. **However, you are not required to do so; this is your decision.** You may discuss any of this with the deputy district attorney. If you choose to speak with the defense, you may wish to have another person present or record the interview to avoid later misquotations and misunderstandings.



## Victim & Witness Services

*We Can Help You in the Following Ways:*

### Case Information

Our team can provide court case status and hearing dates. They can also coordinate transportation when a victim has been subpoenaed to testify.

### Crisis & Emergency Assistance

Our team provides crime related crisis intervention and when necessary, emergency services such as funeral and burial assistance, food, shelter, clothing, and referrals to medical and mental health care.

### Support with Your Testimony

We can help coordinate your scheduled appearance and prepare you with what to expect. Upon request, Victim Advocates accompany victims, witnesses, and their family members to court proceedings for support and may sit on the stand while you testify.

### Restitution & Creditor Assistance

If you have suffered a financial or property loss as a direct result of a crime, we can explain the process of a restitution order, and advise you on what documentation is needed. Also, injuries or court appearances may affect your earnings. Our staff can advocate on your behalf with creditors to explain your situation and encourage them to work with you.

### Property Return

In some criminal cases, personal property is held as evidence by law enforcement or by the court. Our team can assist with the request for the return of your property when the case is concluded.

### Victim Compensation Claims

Victims and their families may be eligible for reimbursement through the California's Victim Compensation Program for out-of-pocket expenses resulting from a crime. Funds may be available for medical expenses, lost wages or support, funeral expenses, mental health counseling, and physical therapy. We will advise you on your eligibility and help prepare and submit a claim on your behalf.

### Counseling Assistance

Victim Advocates are familiar with local, state, and national resources and can provide referrals to the help for your specific needs.

### Defendant Release Information

We can assist you in registering to receive notifications when any defendant that is housed in San Bernardino County Jail or a correctional facility is scheduled for release or transfer.

You can also call **877.411.5588** or visit [www.VineLink.com](http://www.VineLink.com)



## Victims' Bill of Rights

*A Quick Look at Some of Your Rights:*

### Marsy's Law

On November 4, 2008, Proposition 9, the Victims' Bill of Rights Act of 2008: Marsy's Law was approved. This measure amended the California Constitution to provide additional rights to victims.

Crime victims may obtain additional information regarding Marsy's Law by contacting a local District Attorney's Victim Services Center, or by visiting [www.sbcountyda.org](http://www.sbcountyda.org).

### *As a Victim of Crime, You have the Right to:*

- Be treated with dignity and compassion.
- Be protected from intimidation and harm.
- Be informed about the criminal justice system and the status of your case.
- Be informed of social services and resources available in the community.
- Have help in dealing with the system and be accompanied to court for support.
- Have your opinions considered at the sentencing and parole phases of a case.
- Be compensated for injuries, wage loss, and funeral expenses.



## 6. PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE





## 7. NEEDLES BRIDGE UPDATE





## 8. STATE OF THE CITY



### Exhibit Your Business at "The State of the City" Market Night!

We wanted to let you know about a fantastic opportunity to showcase your business at our upcoming "STATE OF THE CITY " event. This year, prior to the meeting, we are creating an open-air market setting on the lawn of El Garces. We're inviting our members, including you, to reserve a space, bring a table, and take the opportunity to engage with the community, network with fellow business owners, and promote your products or services.

Event: State of the City

Date: October 3rd

Time: 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Meeting -El Garces

Market Night: Park

Cost: Market Night participation is 25.00 for Chamber Members  
125.00 for Non Chamber Members (includes membership)

If you are interested in reserving a table or have questions feel free to call the Chamber at 760-326-2050

Space is limited, Don't miss this opportunity!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

The Team at the Chamber!



**NEEDLES**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
AND  
VISITOR CENTER

## 9. VENTURA CIRCUS



**VENTURA**  
*Circus*

**FIRST TIME EVER  
IN NEEDLES!**

**VENTURA  
CIRCUS!**

**\$5 OFF**  
**1 ADULT & 1 CHILD**  
**WITH THIS FLYER**  
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.

The flyer features a vibrant purple and pink background with a starburst pattern. In the top left, a woman in a black leotard and boots performs a handstand on a wire. In the center, a man in a blue and red outfit performs a handstand. On the left, a man in a black shirt and white pants is seen from behind, walking on a blue, textured globe. In the bottom left, a clown with a green hat and a colorful striped shirt waves. On the right, two women in black and purple leotards pose with their arms raised. The Ventura Circus logo is in the top left, and the main offer is in a large, jagged starburst in the center.



## 9. VENTURA CIRCUS



**OCT 10 THRU OCT 21**

**VENTURA CIRCUS!**

**NEEDLES**

**CIRCUS EVENT - 100 G ST**

**THURSDAY OPENING NIGHT 7 PM**

**MON - FRI 7:30 PM**

**SAT & SUN 12, 4 & 7 PM**

The poster features a vibrant background of pink and purple rays. In the center, a blue globe is surrounded by acrobats in various poses. To the left, two women in purple and black outfits are smiling. To the right, a woman in a black outfit is suspended in the air. The Ventura Circus logo, featuring a red and yellow striped tent, is in the top right corner.