



NEWS



News Headlines 09/14/2023

- Fire destroys two buildings in Joshua Tree
- Pedestrian struck on Bear Valley Rd near Second Ave Wednesday morning in Hesperia
- Sex trafficking, prostitution investigation shuts multiple massage parlors in Hesperia

Fire destroys two buildings in Joshua Tree

By Staff Writer, Hi Desert Star

September 13, 2023



JOSHUA TREE — Fire destroyed two outbuildings on a large abandoned property in the area of Sutton Avenue and Broadway Sunday afternoon.

The fire was reported at 12:16 p.m. in a neighborhood a few blocks east of Joshua Tree Elementary School.

“Both buildings were a total loss,” said Justin Burtt, battalion chief with the **San Bernardino County fire** department.

No other structures were involved or threatened by flames.

“It took three engine companies about 45 minutes to extinguish the fire,” Burtt added.

No one was hurt.

A fire investigator was called to the scene but the cause has yet to be determined, the battalion chief said.

https://www.hidesertstar.com/news/fire-destroys-two-buildings-in-joshua-tree/article_534b7980-5266-11ee-ac66-ef665fc965d9.html

Pedestrian struck on Bear Valley Rd near Second Ave Wednesday morning in Hesperia

By Staff Writer, Victor Valley News Group
September 13, 2023



HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Police are conducting an investigation after a pedestrian was struck early Wednesday morning in Hesperia.

It happened at about 6:05 a.m., on September 13, 2023, along Bear Valley Road between Third and Second Avenue.

Firefighters from **San Bernardino County Fire** responded to reports of a man down. Upon arrival, they confirmed it was a vehicle versus a pedestrian and requested a medical helicopter.

The pedestrian was rushed into the E.R. at Desert Valley Hospital and subsequently airlifted via a Mercy Air helicopter to Antelope Valley Hospital with unknown injuries.

The involved vehicle, a white GMC 2500HD sweeper truck pulled into Tom's parking lot where police contacted the adult male driver. His truck sustained significant damage to the right side of the hood and front bumper.

Two eastbound lanes of Bear Valley Road were closed for the investigation.

This is a developing story and additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

<https://www.vvng.com/pedestrian-struck-on-bear-valley-rd-near-second-ave-wednesday-morning-in-hesperia/>

Sex trafficking, prostitution investigation shuts multiple massage parlors in Hesperia

By Rene Ray De La Cruz, Victorville Daily Press
September 13, 2023



Sex trafficking prostitution investigation leads to shut down of multiple massage parlors in Hesperia.

Multiple Hesperia massage parlors have been shuttered after a sex trafficking and prostitution investigation, according to authorities.

Over the past several weeks, Hesperia sheriff's deputies served multiple search warrants, and conducted compliance inspections on numerous massage parlors within the city.

The crime suppression effort was conducted by Hesperia sheriff's officials, **San Bernardino County Fire** investigators, and Hesperia Code Enforcement.

During the operation, law enforcement discovered that several establishments had evidence consistent with sex trafficking and/or prostitution-like crimes, sheriff's officials said.

In addition to various criminal violations, multiple massage therapists and establishments were found operating without proper licenses, authorities stated.

Five massage parlors were shut down indefinitely, while others were issued applicable citations, according to sheriff's officials.

Although many legitimate and law-abiding massage parlors operate within Hesperia, some establishments of this type also participate in illegal sex trafficking operations that involve victims who are coerced or deceived into prostitution. People who solicit sex workers perpetuate the problem, sheriff's officials said.

"The Hesperia Police Department remains committed to protecting vulnerable victims and dismantling operations of this type within our city," sheriff's officials said. "If you see something, say something."

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to call the Hesperia sheriff's station at (760) 947-1500 or sheriff's dispatch at (760) 956-5001. Callers wishing to remain anonymous can contact the We-Tip Hotline at 800-78CRIME (27463) or wetip.com.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/13/sex-trafficking-prostitution-investigation-shutters-massage-parlors/70844867007/#:~:text=Multiple%20Hesperia%20massage%20parlors%20have,massage%20parlors%20within%20the%20city.>