



# NEWS



## News Headlines 10/07/2021

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Source: Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle with the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (information):

Needles, California: The **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District provided a presentation on local and countywide incidents, and firework related incidents during the regular meeting of the Needles City Council and Needles Public Utility Authority that was held on Tuesday, September 28th, 2021.

The presentation was presented to members of the Needles City Council and Needles Public Utility Authority and the public in attendance which you can view at ZachNews on Facebook.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle with the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District started the presentation with the 4th quarter of 2021 ending in June.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle spoke about fire calls in the city, saying we had a total of 435 calls; of those 25 were fire related, none of those fires were major fires, they were are small and easily contained.

Of those 25 fires, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said we had 3 structure fires, 1 commercial fire, 4 grass fires, 1 vehicle fire and 16 other fires such as and nuisance and dumbest fires, and again they were all minor and easily contained.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle then spoke about traffic collisions in the city, saying we had a total of 5 traffic collisions.

Of those 5 traffic collisions, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said we had 3 with injuries, 1 automobile versus pedestrian and 1 boat related accident along the Colorado River in front of Jack Smith Memorial Park.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle then spoke about service, false alarm and medical calls in the city, saying we had 13 service calls such as locked car or falls and 'can't get up' calls, 9 false alarm calls and the balance of calls was 383 medical calls, which Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said medical calls about 88 percent is pretty standard for this community and the county as a whole, most of what we do is medical which is common knowledge now.

Regarding fireworks calls in the city, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle looked at calls a month before 4th of July (2021)- from June 5th to 4th of July.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said that we had a total of 17 fire related calls; 3 of those calls were vegetation fires with one of those vegetation fires was significant off Bush Street in Needles, California that occurred in the evening on Sunday, July 4th, 2021.

continuing his presentation, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said we had no calls for investigations from our fire prevention officers and no known reports of injuries or deaths from fireworks; adding that although there were no reports that we're

not know of or weren't notified of, doesn't necessarily mean that there weren't any – some people may have just went straight to the hospital or self care.

Next, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle spoke about his comparing firework related calls within Needles, California to the rest of the San Bernardino County, California.

Just on the 4th of July and throughout the county, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said we had a 5 acres vegetation fire in Hesperia, California that was fireworks related, we had a burn injury to a juvenile in Fontana, California that was fireworks related, we had a burn injury to a 2 year old female in San Bernardino, California that was fireworks related, and unfortunately we had an 8 year old male fatality who was struck by a firework – pronounced deceased at the hospital. So to kind of compare and contrast how dangerous fireworks can be.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle then spoke about their application for your computer or phone where people can report 24/7 anonymously illegal fireworks in their area, which a total of 3,147 reports came in via the prevention application.

Next, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle spoke about their interdiction operation which was set up at the agricultural inspection station along Interstate 15 in the couple of months leading up to 4th of July; four weekends in May, June and July (2021) of a total of 10 days.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said that over those 10 days, they issued 99 citations, over 18,000 pounds of fireworks were confiscated and issued \$123,000 in administrated fines.

Next, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle spoke about their fire prevention officers and their patrol operations they did in high targeted areas like in the San Bernardino Valley and Victor Valley areas.

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said we had a fire prevention officer team up with a law enforcement officer and they did targeted patrols in those high targeted area – their main mission was to provide safety as well as educate and provide awareness.

Through those programs, Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said they issued 17 citations, over 59 pounds of fireworks were confiscated and issued \$20,000 in administrated fines just on 4th of July (2021).

Assistant Chief Scott Tuttle said to members of the Needles City Council and Needles Public Utility Authority and the public that this summary makes you all aware of the seriousness of fireworks and that we take it seriously here at the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District.

To report illegal fireworks or for more information on fire prevention, education and awareness, please check out the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District's website at:

<https://sbcfire.org/>

Thanks to all of the firefighters, paramedics and emergency personnel who service our community, and help to protect and save lives.

<https://zachnews.net/2021/10/06/needles-ca-san-bernardino-county-fire-protection-district-provides-a-presentation-on-local-and-countywide-incidents-and-firework-related-incidents/>