



NEWS



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CHP investigating crash after driver catches himself on fire on the I-15

Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News

Posted: April 12, 2020



One person was transported in critical condition to a trauma center. (Gabriel D. Espinoza, Victor Valley News)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) – California Highway Patrol officers are investigating a crash that left a driver with severe burns on Easter Sunday.

At about 1:15 pm, on April 12, 2020, **San Bernardino County Fire** Department was dispatched to reports of a crash with fire on the northbound 15 freeway between Oak Hill and Rancho Roads.

When emergency personnel arrived they found the van off the freeway and along Mariposa Road with major front-end damage. The driver was not in the vehicle.

CHP logs indicated that the driver of the van was attempting to flag down drivers while standing in the #2 lane of traffic. CHP arrived on scene and detained the driver.

County Fire Battalion Chief Bill Mahan told Victor Valley News the driver of the van caught his clothing on fire, including parts of his hands and legs.

“There was some flammable chemical container visible from the outside sitting on the seat,” stated Mahan. “It sounds like he jumped out of the vehicle before putting it in park so it went off the freeway and on Mariposa Road”.

Mahan said that due to thick fog near the top of the Cajon Pass the patient was transported by a county ambulance, instead of a helicopter to the burn center at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.

“A passerby tow truck driver used his extinguisher on what was left smoldering in the van and you could see burn marks on the driver window and a melted steering wheel,” stated Mahan.

According to Mahan, an investigator would interview the driver. The incident is under investigation by the Victorville CHP and anyone with information is asked to call 760-241-1186.

<https://www.vvng.com/chp-investigating-crash-after-driver-catches-himself-on-fire-on-the-i-15/>

San Bernardino County Fire Crews Deliver Baby Girl at Hesperia Home

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: April 11, 2020



(San Bernardino County Fire)

HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Firefighters from Hesperia helped deliver a baby girl at a home Wednesday morning.

On April 8, 2020, EMS personnel on Medic Ambulance 302 responded to a report of childbirth /contractions at a private residence.

Upon arrival, MA302 personnel found a female in living room couch experiencing frequent contractions. Deeming childbirth to be imminent, EMS personnel quickly prepared for a delivery at the scene.

At approximately 9:55am, Mom gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. Both mother and newborn baby were quickly assessed then transported to Desert Valley for further care.

A few hours later, MA302 personnel followed up to Desert Valley Labor and Delivery Ward to deliver a bouquet of flowers and congratulations card to the new parents.

MA302 is proud to serve the community of Hesperia with professionalism. Congratulations to the new parents!

Family gave consent to **San Bernardino County Fire** Department to share their story and photograph.

MA302 personnel: AO/PM Jake Gallagher & AO/EMT Frank Campos

<https://www.vvng.com/san-bernardino-county-fire-crews-deliver-baby-girl-at-hesperia-home/>

Two injured in crash on Bear Valley Road Thursday

Staff Writer, Victor Valley News

Posted: April 10, 2020



HESPERIA, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Two people from a sedan were transported with non-life threatening injuries to a hospital after a two-car crash Thursday, April 9th, 2020.

It happened at 5:54 p.m. on Bear Valley Road and Second Avenue in Hesperia and involved a white 2018 Dodge Durango and a black 2017 Infiniti Q50.

San Bernardino County Firefighters had to extricate at least one person from the black Infiniti.

The Durango sustained major front-end damage, however, the driver did not require medical transportation to a hospital. The passenger of the Durango was accessed on the scene by medical personnel.

A nearby bench at a VVTA bus stop was damaged as a result of the crash, leaving parts of the bench mangled.

The cause of the crash is under investigation at this time.

<https://www.vvng.com/two-injured-in-crash-on-bear-valley-road-thursday/>

San Bernardino and Riverside counties reverse course, allow drive-up church this weekend

Brian Blueskye, Palm Springs Desert Sun

Posted: April 10, 2020, 3:38 pm



Joshua Springs Calvary Chapel senior pastor Jerel Hagerman delivers a sermon for a drive-in church service in the church's parking lot in Yucca Valley, Calif. (Photo: Courtesy of Jerel Hagerman)

Over the past three Sundays, Joshua Springs Calvary Chapel's senior pastor Jerel Hagerman has done a drive-in service in the parking lot of their Yucca Valley church.

He stands by one of the buildings that's elevated by 6 feet, delivering his 50-minute sermon on a loudspeaker system. Three people are spread out in the parking lot when cars come in and are guided where to park. Cars are parked on the first two rows and trucks and SUVs on the back row so everyone can still see and hear. There is no physical interaction between congregants.

"It gives people a safe opportunity as a family to be able to do something that's essential and important to them, and that's worship without having any possibility of spreading the coronavirus," Hagerman said.

But after an order by the county of San Bernardino's Public Health Officer Dr. Erin Gustafson was issued on Tuesday calling for religious services to be conducted electronically only, as well as requiring face coverings, the service for this Sunday was uncertain.

Meanwhile, on Saturday Riverside County's top public health official had ordered the county's residents to wear face coverings in public and explicitly restricted gatherings of any number of people, outside of family members residing in the same home. All houses of worship were restricted from holding all in-person gatherings, including drive-in religious services

On Friday morning, a public information specialist for Riverside County said the order was still intact and was issued to protect the community. But by Friday afternoon, the county changed its position, allowing drive-in church services in the county to continue as scheduled, but only for this weekend.

San Bernardino County had already eased its restrictions on Wednesday morning, electing to allow drive-up services after all, for this weekend and beyond.

Earlier in the week, Hagerman took part in a conference call with **San Bernardino county** city managers, the sheriff's office, the **fire** departments, the health department and a number of pastors.

"I was able to explain how we have done it and one of the leaders on that phone call said 'That is so innovative' and asked if I'd write something up and send pictures of it," Hagerman said.

San Bernardino County public information officer David Wert said that most health orders give lead time, and drafting an order to go into effect immediately wasn't fair in hindsight.

"The problem with that was the county was moving too quickly," Wert said. "We didn't take into account that we were a few days away from a major religious weekend and there may have been a lot of churches thinking the drive-in churches were OK. They'd already made plans, extended resources, communicated with their flocks and made all kinds of plans for these things."

The Center For American Liberty, a charitable organization created by attorney Harmeet Kaur Dhillon to fight against growing anti-free-speech and anti-civil liberties trends, sent demand letters to both Riverside and San Bernardino counties on Thursday. They also gave both counties until 5 p.m. to reverse their orders in full or make accommodations for religious liberty or face a lawsuit.

"There's a large volume case law, that says from the United States Supreme Court on down, that the government cannot impose restrictions on religious organizations that do not apply to other types of organizations," Dhillon said. "The two counties in question have a different standard for religious organizations than they do marijuana shops, alcohol shops, take-out convenience stores, restaurants that offer take-out food services and other (types of) business."

Wert said that once the county allowed services to resume, there's been no action from the organization. "For now, all that's on hold," Wert said.

Eugene Volokh, a UCLA Law School professor and First Amendment expert, told the National Catholic Reporter last month that religious organizations could make constitutional claims being singled out by laws that approach religious activity differently. But with coronavirus, Volokh said, courts are likely to find "there's a compelling interest in preventing death through communicable disease."

Hagerman will deliver three services on Sunday at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., with a special service on Sunday at 7 p.m. where cars will be instructed to put on their hazard lights so the entire church parking lot will flash red and yellow lights. The church will not hand out bulletins, opting to use an app called Bulletin Plus with information and words to all the church songs performed during services.

The services are popular with families who attend the church.

"The other thing is we make it fun. When I'm preaching I'll say Amen and Hallelujah and people will honk their horns. For people who have little kids in the cars, they get to sit on mom or dad's lap and on cue with an Amen or Hallelujah get to honk the horns. I know we had one mom with a daughter in second grade called me and said, 'Oh my, car church is the highlight of my daughter's week,'" he said.

But during these times, he agreed people need to stay safe and do what they can to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

"This is a time where all of us need to work together and when we do that, I think we can make things better," Hagerman said.

<https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/health/2020/04/10/riverside-and-san-bernardino-churches-differ-drive-churches-during-pandemic/5133027002/>