



Monthly Newsletter

December 2023

Don't miss Dec. 6 public meeting!

Supervisor Rich Desmond will be the featured speaker at WDDNA's annual public meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Barry Gym Welcome Center at Jesuit High School.

Desmond, who currently serves as the chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, is expected to address issues surrounding homelessness, as well as traffic and county road maintenance.

There will be a question-and-answer period following Desmond's remarks. In addition, a WDDNA patrol deputy will speak about the work of patrols in our neighborhood and will answer questions.

There will be a free drawing for a Reolink solar security camera – a \$159 value. Refreshments will be served and an array of informational materials will be available.

The meeting is free and open to all residents of the neighborhood, whether or not they are members of the association. Ample parking is available near the gym and can be accessed from O'Donnell Drive off Fair Oaks Boulevard opposite Arden Hills Resort.



California Intl. Marathon Sunday

The California International Marathon will celebrate its 38th year this coming Sunday, Dec. 3. The race will begin promptly at 7 a.m. near the Folsom Dam in Folsom.

The 26-mile, 385-yard course runs from Folsom Dam to the State Capitol in Sacramento. The bulk of that course is over Fair Oaks Boulevard, which will be closed to traffic at various times along the course to accommodate the runners.

As always, Fair Oaks Boulevard in our area will be closed from around 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The California Highway Patrol mandates the road closures and has ultimate authority over the schedule. If you plan to travel west during that period, it is best to take American River Drive.

While many of us gather along Fair Oaks Boulevard to watch the runners pass, spectators also can congregate at mile 21 near Loemann's Plaza, where there will be a "Breakthrough Zone" viewing area in which you can cheer on the runners.

For details about the course, go to <https://runsra.org/california-international-marathon/>.



Click on image to watch video

Security lighting tips

With the shorter daylight hours this time of year, you may be thinking about adding security lights around your home.

Burglars working at night generally avoid homes with good security lighting. And if they do approach a home at night, lights make it easier for your family, animals, neighbors, passing traffic and security cameras to spot them.

According to first responders, the first line of defense should always be a good porch light that clearly illuminates your house number. This not only may deter a burglar, it ensures that emergency personnel can find you home in a crisis.

[Nationwide Insurance](#) offers the following advice, as well:

Choosing your lights

When purchasing lights, be sure to look for fixtures with long-lasting LED bulbs. Opt for motion-detecting lights because they're more likely to scare away intruders.

Focus on your front and back entrances first

Contrary to popular belief, 34% of burglars walk right through your front door, and 25% slip through your back door. Installing lights and cameras on both sides of each entrance, instead of only one over your door, gives you a clearer view of visitors through peepholes and cameras.

Next, tackle your garage

Your garage provides easy access into your home, and it's another favorite entrance for intruders, so be sure to secure it with motion-detecting spotlights and cameras pointing to your valuables.³

Illuminate your gate or fence

Adding lights with cameras to your main entrance gate lets you know immediately if anyone is on your property. Placing light fixtures on each gate post or pillar adds more security.

Leave no shadows

Consider illuminating dark foliage by attaching lights to trees and under shrubs. The goal is to create a yard where there's no place dark enough for an intruder to hide.

Make them smart

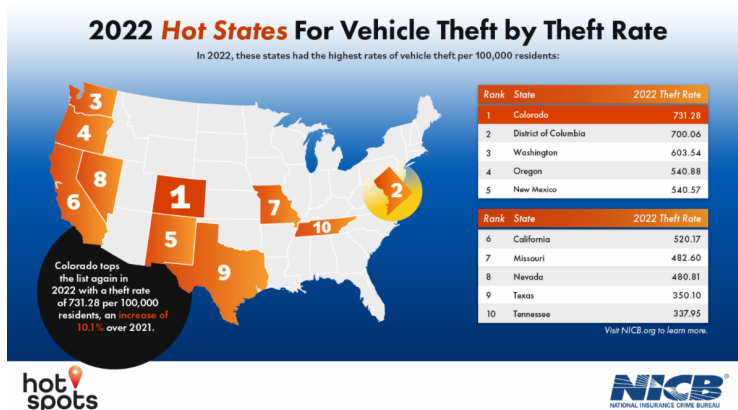
And because you'll want to monitor your property remotely, look for lights with Wi-Fi connectivity that can be controlled from your smartphone.

Leave a visible light on inside your home

Our Sherriff's deputies tell us they notice many dark homes on their evening patrols. Seeing lights on in your window(s) can deter criminals as they scout for unoccupied homes. You can add one or two timers to turn lights on and off at appropriate times while you are on vacation.

Call to have street lights fixed

To report dark or malfunctioning street lights, call 311. If possible, when reporting a problem, have the pole number or property address available. The pole number can be found on a sticker approximately eight feet up the pole. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).



Sacramento auto theft ranking

California is one of the top 10 states for vehicle theft in the country, according to a study by the [National Insurance Crime Bureau](#), a not-for-profit organization that fights insurance fraud and crime.

However, automobile owners in Sacramento are less likely to have their car stolen than the residents of 11 other cities in California. In fact, the Sacramento-Roseville metropolitan area was 41st on the list of cities nationwide for its rate of auto theft in 2022 with just 430 thefts per 100,000 residents. Unfortunately, that rate is up from 351 in 2020.

Surprisingly, the 2022 study revealed that the California city where you are most likely to have your car stolen is Bakersfield. That city's rate of car theft was 1,072 per 100,000 residents, making it the second highest car-theft city in the United States, surpassed only by Pueblo, Colo., which recorded a rate of 1,086 per 100,000 residents.

According to the NICB study, the other California cities with higher rates of auto theft per 100,000 residents than Sacramento in 2022 were:

- San Francisco-Oakland-Berkley, ranked eighth in the nation with 699 per 100,000
- Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, ranked 11th in the nation with 565
- Redding, 557
- Vallejo, 523
- San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, 520
- Fresno, 507
- Visalia, 492
- Yuba City, 490
- Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, 487
- Merced, 453

Other California cities listed in the report with theft rates lower than Sacramento were:

- Stockton, 423
- Santa Maria-Santa Barbara, 421
- San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, 411
- Chico, 407
- Modesto, 391
- El Centro, 391
- Salinas, 312
- Madera, 290
- Santa Cruz-Watsonville, 280
- Napa, 248
- San Luis Obispo-Paso Robles, 185

Where did California rank on the national list?

Following is the study's top 10 states by car theft rates:

1. Colorado
2. District of Columbia
3. Washington
4. Oregon
5. New Mexico
6. California
7. Missouri
8. Nevada
9. Texas

10. Tennessee

While California was not No. 1 per capita, California led the country in total vehicle thefts with 203,018 thefts in 2022.

What cars are most commonly stolen?

According to a previous report from the NICB, the vehicles most commonly stolen in California are:

1. 2001 Chevrolet Pickup (full size)
2. 2000 Honda Civic
3. 2006 Ford Pickup (full size)
4. 1997 Honda Accord
5. 2013 Hyundai Sonata
6. 2015 Kia Optima
7. 2001 GMC Pickup (full size)
8. 2001 Honda CR-V
9. 2007 Toyota Camry
10. 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe

For more information or to download detailed study data, [CLICK HERE](#).

Avoiding charity scams

The holiday season is prime time for charitable fundraising campaigns. As you plan your charitable giving, there are things you can do to avoid being a victim of a charity scam.

The Federal Trade Commission offers tips for protecting yourself from bogus charity solicitations. [CLICK HERE](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/before-giving-to-charity) to read the entire article. <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/before-giving-to-charity>

Search online for the cause you care about, plus phrases like “best charity” or “highly rated charity.” Once you find a specific charity you’re considering giving to, search its name plus “complaint,” “review,” “rating,” “fraud” or “scam.” If you find bad reviews, it might be best to find another organization.

Check out the charity’s website. Does it give you details about the programs you want to support or how it uses donations? How much of your donation will go directly to support the programs you care about? If you can’t find detailed information about a charity’s mission and programs, be suspicious.

Use one of these organizations that help you research charities:

- BBB Wise Giving Alliance. <https://www.give.org/>
- Charity Navigator. <https://www.charitynavigator.org/>
- CharityWatch <https://www.charitywatch.org/>
- GuideStar <https://www2.guidestar.org/>

Find out if the fundraiser and the charity are registered in California.

The California Department of Justice has a registry of Charitable trusts that you can search. [CLICK HERE](#) to access it.

The California Attorney General offers the following advice:

- **Check registration status.** Charities operating in California and telemarketers

soliciting donations in California are required to register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. They are also required to file annual financial reports. Confirm that the charity and fundraiser are registered and up-to-date with their financial reporting by searching the Attorney General's website for their records at www.oag.ca.gov/charities.

- **Give to organizations you trust.** Do research before giving. Review the charity's purpose and its financial records, and find out how it spends donations on the Attorney General's website. Consider how much the charity spends directly on its charitable cause, and how much goes to overhead and employee compensation. Research charities in your community and support those charities that make a positive impact.
- **Ask for written materials.** Ask the charity for information in writing about its programs and finances, and also to confirm the charity's name, address and its nonprofit status.
- **Don't be pressured by telemarketers and ask questions before donating.**
- **Be vigilant when donating after natural disasters or tragedies.**
- **Watch out for similar-sounding names and other deceptive tactics.**
- **Know the difference between "tax-exempt" nonprofit and tax-deductible.** There are many different types of nonprofit organizations, but not all could offer their donors a charitable tax deduction for their contributions.
- **Protect your identity.** Never give your social security number or other personal information in response to a charitable solicitation. Never give out credit card information to an organization unfamiliar to you. Some organizations sell or rent their donor lists to other organizations, including organizations that are not charities. Look at the charity's privacy policy and find out who the charity might share your information with before you provide it.
- **File a complaint with the Attorney General's Office.** If a fundraiser or telemarketer engages in abusive, coercive or threatening behavior, file a complaint with the Attorney General's Office. Similarly, if you suspect that the charity is mismanaged, that there has been a diversion of charitable assets, or that it is a sham charity, file a complaint. The complaint form is available online at www.oag.ca.gov/charities.

Q&A

Q: Do I need to include all members of our household in my WDDNA membership record?

A: When our members sign up to join WDDNA, we ask that they provide the name, phone number and email address for the primary adults in the household. This information is important because our patrol deputies may need to access that information so they can reach you in an emergency. We do not need information about children in the home or for other adults who may be visiting.

However, if there will be visitors in your home while you are away on vacation, be sure to provide information about them, including their contact information, when you set up your vacation watch request.

If there is a major change in your household information, such as the loss of a spouse, it is important to let us know so that we may update our database.

Finally, if you wish to change any of your contact information, such as your email address or phone number, you can do so by logging into your member portal, then clicking on the edit icon to the left of the Membership Info headline at the top of your data. Just make your changes and click on "Update."

To change your password, click on the drop-down menu arrow next to your name in the top right blue field and click on "change password."

HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.
- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via [EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com).

Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association | 761 Cortland Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864

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