

## PRESS RELEASE

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## NEEDLES COURTHOUSE EXPANSION COMING SOON

**NEEDLES, CA**— San Bernardino Superior Court (SBSC) is very pleased to announce its multi-phase plan to expand court services at the Needles Courthouse in 2023.

Phase I, anticipated in January 2023, will provide Clerk's Office services five days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Court users will be able to file any document, make cash payments, and schedule court hearings in the appropriate courthouse. Virtual Self-Help services will be available daily.

Phase II, anticipated in March 2023, will allow court users to appear inperson for court hearings in a variety of case types with a judicial officer presiding remotely.

Phase III of the Court's expansion goals for Needles includes having a judicial officer sitting on-site to preside over hearings. This is contingent upon having increased judicial appointments to fill the 13 current judge vacancies.

New ongoing funding provided through the <u>2022 Budget Act</u> allows SBSC to realize our long-term goal of expanding and improving court services to the Needles community. We thank the Judicial Council, state legislators, and the community for their continued partnership.

Please contact Julie Van Hook, Communications and Public Affairs Officer, for media-related inquiries at <u>courts-pio@sb-court.org</u>.

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R. Glenn Yabuno Presiding Judge

Carmen A. Trutanich Interim Court Executive Officer