



CITY OF EL CENTRO

Press Release

For Immediate Release

New 442 Area Code Overlay

El Centro, CA - Starting **October 24, 2009** all telephone calls made from the Imperial Valley's 760 area code zone will have to include the area code as well as the seven-digit number. The new 442 area code that will become effective on October 24, 2009 is the reason for the change. The good news is that if you already have a 760 area code, it will not change. Only new numbers will be assigned the new 442 area code. The bad news is we will have to learn to dial a little differently.

What can you do? You can prepare now by dialing 1-760-XXX-XXXX (using 1 from landlines). This will help get you into the habit. Other suggestion to help the transition is to make sure your fax machines, Internet dial-up, some modems, call forwarding and speed dial numbers are all re-programmed to reflect the new dialing method. Remember that burglary alarms may also need to be reprogrammed. The landline phone system is already set-up to allow for the new dialing features.

The area code change will not affect 9-1-1 calls.

Cell phone users will not have to dial a 1 before making calls, but the area code must be present in order to complete the call after the October 24th deadline.

For more information please visit: <http://keep760.org>

