

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: March 25, 2009

SHERIFF ARPAIO VOWS TO NOT BACK DOWN ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ARRESTS

108 Arrested in the Past 14 Days

(Phoenix, AZ.) Twenty-three (23) more illegal aliens were arrested by Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies last night in two separate traffic stops in the valley, Sheriff Joe Arpaio says, bringing the total number of illegal immigrants arrested in just the last two weeks to 108. Half of those arrested in the past 14 days were booked in to jail on felony charges.

"My promise to the taxpayers of this county is this: as illegal aliens continue to pour into this county from Mexico, and they do, my deputies will meet them head on within the borders of this county with an equal degree of determination to stop them in their tracks," Arpaio says.

Arpaio, whose law enforcement agency remains the only one in Arizona to enforce all aspects of the state human smuggling laws, says he is will not be intimidated by the March 10, 2009 announcement of an investigation into racial profiling by the U.S. Justice Department.

He has ordered his deputies to continue to crack down during the last two weeks – by raiding business establishments which knowingly hire illegal aliens, enforcing the Arizona anti-human smuggling laws, finding and shutting down drop houses, and enforcing the 287 G immigration laws which ultimately has resulted in the deportation of hundreds of illegal aliens.

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News Release

He has also expanded his Tent City jail complex to make room for an increase number of arrests related, in part, to illegal immigration.

“I would be remiss in duties as Sheriff if I would succumb to the pressures of those fighting me on this issue,” Arpaio says.

“Murder and kidnapping are a direct result of human smuggling traffic, though few politicians will admit it or even talk about it.”

Despite the controversy, they seem to generate by protestors, elected officials and critics, Arpaio also says his deputies are making plans for a new crime suppression operation soon in a location that will be announced at a later time.

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