

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: February 16, 2011

MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF JOE ARPAIO PLANS CRIME SUPPRESSION OPERATION AS SMUGGLING OPERATIONS SHOW NO SIGN OF SLOWING

Deputies arrest 41 illegal aliens in the last week

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies last night arrested 15 more illegal aliens in the Northeast Valley while enforcing the State's anti human smuggling law which is a class four felony.

Sheriff Joe Arpaio says, "Although people don't seem to be talking about this problem as much as they were before election season, we are continuing to lock up human smugglers in large numbers. In fact, I am again gearing up for another crime suppression operation."

Over the last week, detectives from the Sheriff's Human Smuggling Unit have arrested 41 illegal aliens being smuggled through Maricopa County.

Since the new state anti human smuggling statute was voted into law and put into effect, the Sheriff's 15 person Human Smuggling Unit has locked up over 4,700 illegal aliens in the act smuggling operations and have investigated 53 "drop houses" in the Valley that were being used to harbor human cargo.

Many of the Unit's investigations have also led to the seizure of large amounts of illegal drugs and weapons associated with illegal immigration.

As a whole, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the detection and arrest of over 42,000 illegal aliens that were attributed to patrol, investigations, and jail enforcement.

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Phone: (602) 876-1801 Fax: (602) 258-2081

Media Contact: MediaRequest@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov