

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: November 21, 2007

### ACTIVISTS' "BLACK FRIDAY" THREATS TO BE THWARTED BY ARPAIO'S PATROL PLANS

#### *Sheriff's Office Arrests Twelve Illegal Aliens Near Pruitt's Furniture Today*

(Phoenix, AZ) Illegal immigration activists threatening to kill business at Pruitt's Furniture Store in central Phoenix on Friday, the business shopping day of the year, will be disappointed by the fact that Sheriff Arpaio will be expanding the mall posse patrol operation to include the 36<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road business district.

Illegal immigrants continue to flock to the area, Arpaio says. Twelve more today were arrested today making a total of 36 arrests in the last six weeks. The 12 were arrested by Sheriff Arpaio's deputies under federal immigration law.

The Sheriff's most recent operation comes as local business merchants near 36<sup>th</sup> Street and Thomas Road have all but given up hope that City of Phoenix officials will step forward to resolve the crime problems affecting the businesses and neighborhoods there.

Complaints from the local merchants center on the proliferation of day laborers who are seeking employment in the area. Problems cited include trespassing and loitering, littering, urinating in public and the harassing children.

According to a media release distributed by activist Salvador Reza, two days ago, pro-illegal immigration activists and community leaders will ensure that the larger community does not shop at the Pruitt's furniture store the day following Thanksgiving, "Black Friday."

Arpaio says, "These demonstrators are attempting to destroy the livelihoods of these merchants through intimidation and interference of traffic flow which disrupts commerce all in the name of promoting illegal immigration."

The activists have stated that demonstrators will continue to protest on city property.

News Release

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The Sheriff adds, “This should never happen in the United States. And now, it appears that those that are supposed to enforce city ordinances are failing to act upon violations brought to their attention by the citizens they serve.”

Phoenix City noise ordinance Section 23-10 has yet to be enforced by city officials. The ordinance makes it unlawful for any person upon any public street, or public place within the City, to make any loud or unusual noise for the purpose of influencing any person to refrain from purchasing merchandise at a place of business.

The Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office will continue to enforce all violations of state law and immigration law.

Arpaio says those violating any laws on the Pruitt’s store property will be arrested and taken to jail. Arpaio maintains that the only way to stop the influx of illegal aliens is to arrest violators of both state and federal immigrations laws.

This Friday, Sheriff Arpaio will launch the annual Posse Mall Patrol, and during the holiday season the Sheriff’s volunteer armed posse will also patrol the businesses along Thomas Road in the area of 36<sup>th</sup> Street.

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