

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



SHERIFF ARPAIO DEBUTS NEW CHAIN GANG DAY AFTER ALL STAR DAY GAME

ACTIVISTS THREATEN TO DISRUPT CHAIN GANG

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio introduced the male and the first and only in the country female chain gangs to this community in 1994 and 1996.

Arpaio is sending out both of his chain gangs along with a new chain gang tomorrow following the All Star Baseball game. The New chain gang will send a strong message about the hazards of driving under the influence coupled with the fact that all the chain's inmate participants are illegal immigrants. This Chain Gang is expected to cause anger among pro illegal immigration activists. The New anti-DUI chain gangs is made up of those serving sentences for DUI offenses committed after entering Maricopa County illegally. This all volunteer chain gang will be on the streets of Phoenix to send a twofold message: "Drive drunk in Maricopa County-earn a trip to jail *and* a trip home!"

Wednesday morning, July 13, 2011 at 8AM, the chain gangs, attired in pink t-shirts with lettering to indicate the crime they were convicted of, will be cleaning littered or trashy areas of downtown Phoenix, and other areas close to downtown which was heavily congested with All Star baseball traffic.

Arpaio is well known for his unconventional methods of getting his messages across. On Super Bowl Sunday in 1995, his pink neon **Vacancy** sign at Tent City was turned on for the first time as a way to convey that no criminal entering Arpaio's jails would be turned away due to overcrowding.

And two years ago, Arpaio had dozens of inmate and transportation vehicles

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Media Contact: MediaRequest@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov

equipped with signage saying *Do Not Illegally Enter* as a way to say illegal immigrants should not enter this county.

“The Sheriff’s methods sometimes cause his critics to publicly go against him, “says Lisa Allen, Director of Media Relations for the Sheriff’s Office. “Despite the fact that participants on this particular chain consist of illegal immigrants who volunteer to be part of a chain gang, we have heard that the Sheriff’ Office and this chain gang may to be targeted by protestors who disagree with Sheriff Joe Arpaio’s stance on illegal immigration.”

The Sheriff is undeterred.

“Pro illegal immigration activists have a long history with the Office, protesting our actions every chance they get,” says Sheriff Arpaio .

The three 15 person chain gangs will be in two different locations and will perform this community service during the hours of 8am to 1PM. Media interested in covering the chain gang as a news story can contact the on call PIO at the Sheriff’s Office for the locations where the chain gangs will be working.
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