

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Joe Arpaio, Sheriff
News Brief

November 15, 2008

Quick Thinking and Good Investigation Lead to Arrest of Sexual Assault Suspect

(Phoenix, AZ) On 11/14/2008 Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies arrested Juan Thomas Diaz-Avila (03/18/80) on sexual assault charges and booked him in the 4th Avenue jail.

This is the fourth recent investigation by Sheriff's deputies where a suspect, illegally in the United States, sexually victimizes a child.

Deputies were investigating the sexual assault of a minor on 11/13/08 and through quick and solid detective work, were able to track the suspect down and locate him in Tucson.

Deputies learned suspect Diaz was being held by Border Patrol agents in their Tucson detention facility for immigration charges and was awaiting a voluntary return to Mexico.

Sheriff's detectives acted quickly and contacted Border Patrol agents and drove down to take custody of Diaz-Avila.

The suspect was returned to Maricopa County and for questioning by Sheriff's detectives and was later booked into the 4th Avenue Jail on felony charges.

Sheriff Arpaio stated, "Our Sheriff's deputies acted quickly to bring suspect Diaz back to answer for his crime."

Arpaio also stated "Illegal immigration related crime continues to affect our community, and as long it is a problem, I will continue to enforce state and federal immigration laws"

Contact the on call media relations email address for more information. (Mug shot to follow)

SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov

<End>