

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

*October 1, 2007*

***Arpaio Travels to Canada to Testify in Trial of Would-Be Assassin***

In an unusual move for any elected official, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio is in Toronto today testifying in a Canadian courtroom against a Canadian native who threatened to murder Arpaio last year. Arpaio is under high security there provided by the Toronto Police Department.

A 37 year old convicted felon named Matthew Carl Sanderson (7-10-69) threatened to kill the Sheriff and his family through a sophisticated web of communications from computers located in Canada and the United States in June of 2006.

Sanderson emailed the Sheriff telling him to "get his affairs in order" because Arpaio and his family would die within the next 24 months. Sanderson said the Sheriff was "scheduled for termination in a dramatic and memorable fashion" by "a bullet in the head or heart, poison, blow up your car or burn you alive," according to the email.

Detectives from the Sheriff's Office worked with communications and Internet provider companies in the U.S. and Canada. Together they determined the threat was made from inside Canada but made to look as though the crime originated from an Iowa school district.

Sanderson was taken into custody by Toronto police on July 12, 2006, ten days after the email threat was made. Sanderson was charged with threatening and intimidating and if convicted, faces six months in jail, ankle bracelet monitoring and community service.