

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

July 2, 2009

Illegal Aliens and Cockfighting:

Earlier this week Sheriff's deputies received a call and responded to the scene of an alleged cock fighting ring located at 3220 S. Harquahala Valley Road in Harquahala Valley, Arizona . Upon further investigation during a traffic stop near the same location, deputies located and arrested three blood-covered suspects who were found with several roosters, many of them dead.

Many of the roosters were also covered in blood showing signs of distress and were taken to the Estrella Equine Practice by the deputies where the remaining roosters were euthanized as a result of their degraded condition.

Eriberto Cuellar (28), Hector Rivera (31), and Jose Martinez (19) were all booked into jail for animal cruelty and cock fighting charges. The suspects admitted to deputies that they owned the roosters and held cock fights for profit. Martinez and Rivera have also had immigration holds placed on them for being in the country illegally.

“My Office will continue to crackdown on all forms of animal cruelty!” Sheriff Arpaio says.