

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: July 2, 2008

### SHERIFF'S OFFICE CONTINUES FELONY HUMAN SMUGGLING ARRESTS

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's Human Smuggling detectives arrested 12 more illegal aliens in the North Valley last night, bringing the total number of immigration arrests made under the Arizona felony Human Smuggling law to 1,015.

Sheriff's detectives working in the Anthem area stopped a smuggler, Jose Juan Ortiz Aguilar (DOB 4/19/72), along with his co-conspirators, on a civil traffic violation, as they were traveling to destinations including Alabama, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

On May 13, 2008, Arizona's governor redirected \$1.2 million dollars appropriated by the Arizona State Legislature for the Sheriff's Office to fund human smuggling/immigration investigations. Since the money was taken, Sheriff's Office arrests total 59 illegal aliens, including 10 smugglers.

"Despite roadblocks by the Governor, Mayors, other public officials, and open borders groups, I have directed my deputies to continue enforcing all aspects of illegal immigration laws," says the Sheriff. "My deputies have been diligent and professional, as evidenced by the results, which clearly show how large the illegal immigration problem is in Maricopa County."

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office continues to be the only Arizona law enforcement agency arresting illegal aliens under all aspects of the relatively new anti-human smuggling state law. A violation of this law is a class 4 felony, a non-bailable offense.

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News Release

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
Phone: (602) 876-1801 Fax: (602) 258-2081  
Media Contact: SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov