

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: August 23, 2011

MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES ARREST ILLEGAL ALIENS AND SEIZE SEVERAL POUNDS OF COCAINE AND ASSAULT WEAPONS (LOPEZ PREVIOUSLY DEPORTED)

(Maricopa County, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies last night arrested three illegal aliens in Avondale following an undercover investigation into drug smuggling and illegal aliens. The investigation resulted in the arrest of Jose Antonio Lucio-Vega, Jesus Joel Rivera-Vizcarra and Miguel Eduardo Leyva-Lopez for selling drugs to undercover sheriff's deputies. Lopez was deported in 2009 for felony drug charges and shoplifting.

The arrests are the result of a continued effort by Sheriff Joe Arpaio and his office in their crackdown on illegal immigration and illegal drug trafficking.

The three suspects who are in the U.S. illegally from Mexico had 4.4 pounds of cocaine with a street value of nearly \$200,000. During the arrest, Sheriff's deputies also discovered 4- 'AK47' assault rifles and 1- 'AR15' assault pistol.

As a matter of policy, the Maricopa County Sheriff's office will be notifying the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms for the

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Media Contact: MediaRequest@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov

origin of these firearms.

Sheriff Arpaio says “The illegal aliens arrested Sunday for kidnapping and holding ransom a local business woman and now another large drug and assault rifle seizure indicates how pervasive the illegal immigration problem is.”

Sheriff Arpaio also says “regardless of the Presidents recent Policy on illegal immigration, Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office will continue to enforce all aspects of federal and state Immigration laws including crime suppression, human smuggling, and employee sanction/false ID investigation and raids in the work place.

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