

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: July 3, 2007

PATRIOTIC SONGS AND MARCHES WILL SERENADE ALL INMATES, INCLUDING 1900 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AS SHERIFF'S JAILS CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

(Phoenix, AZ) It may be ironic to celebrate July 4th Independence Day in the county jail where independence is routinely denied to incarcerated inmates.

But in the Maricopa County Jails, Sheriff Joe Arpaio operates differently.

This year the Sheriff wants his 10,000 inmates to remember what freedoms and privileges they are missing by being incarcerated for various crimes.

While Arpaio will not permit grilled hot dogs and hamburgers to be served to inmates, he does have plans for a nice jailhouse celebration.

This year, inmates will enjoy dozens of patriotic songs and marches played over and over again, all day and all night in every jail.

Inmates, including the nearly 1900 illegal immigrants in the jail, will be serenaded with such patriotic songs as Lee Greenwood's "*Proud to be an American where at Least I know I'm Free*" and Bruce Springsteen's "*Born in the USA*" as well as civil war marches and tunes like "*My Eyes Have Seen the Glory*" and "*When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again*."

For the past year, Arpaio's inmates have been listening to both the "*National Anthem*" and "*America the Beautiful*" when they awaken in the morning and when they go to sleep at night.

"Today we will expand their musical repertoire," Arpaio says. "All inmates, including

News Release

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the illegal aliens, must be reminded of what this country is all about – freedom within the boundaries of our laws and our brave military men and women who fight to keep us free.”

The Patriotic musical program will also be played in the Sheriff’s Tent City, which currently houses almost 2000 men and women in Korean War tents.

Arpaio says, “I don’t expect that the music will distract inmates enough to ignore the temperatures in the Tents. Inside each tent may be as hot as 130 degrees on Independence Day. But inmates have to realize that the men and women who are fighting in the Middle East right now are enduring even hotter temperatures so these inmates should stop complaining.”

The Sheriff will stop in on the 4th Avenue Jail inmates on July 4th at 10AM to see if they are enjoying the music. Interested media can join them by meeting an Officer in the sally port of the 4th Avenue Jail on Madison Street just west of 3rd avenue at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday. Contact the on call Media Relations Officer at SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov for more information.

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