

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



SHERIFF LAUNCHES 19TH HOLIDAY MALL PROGRAM

November 23, 2011

(Phoenix, AZ) It's that time of year when valley malls turn to Sheriff Arpaio's all-volunteer posse to offer law enforcement protection to shoppers at major malls throughout the entire valley. This year's kickoff will be Friday, November 25th, at 5:00 pm at the Paradise Valley Mall.

Since 1993, when Sheriff Arpaio sent the posse to the malls in response to a series of violent car-jackings that year, the volunteer posse has contributed thousands of hours of nearly free law enforcement protection to almost every major mall in Phoenix and the surrounding areas.

Holiday shoppers have come to count on the Sheriff's uniformed posse patrol to protect them as they make their way into the malls with money in their pockets and as they exit the malls with presents and packages in hand.

The 3,000 manned posse is an all-volunteer force of qualified and trained men and women who work under the authority of the Sheriff.

Since its inception, Sheriff Arpaio says, virtually no acts of violence have occurred in the malls on the posse's watch, a fact which makes Arpaio proud.

Sheriff Arpaio is especially concerned this year. The dire economy and continued low unemployment could cause an increase in theft during this holiday season.

With posse resources being diverted to mall patrols, Sheriff Arpaio says he will still be able to have additional volunteers available to concentrate on upcoming illegal immigration and drug operations.

Media is invited to attend kickoff on November 25th at 5PM at the PV Mall.

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Media Contact: MediaRequest@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov