

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 9, 2007

### **Radio Station Owner Arrested in Latest Illegal Immigration Operation**

#### *National Resolution Demands Shut down of Arpaio's Illegal Immigration Hot Line*

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio's continuing crackdown on illegal immigration resulted in the arrests of six more illegal aliens this weekend. The arrests came during "Operation Mercado" a law enforcement operation which was aimed specifically at under-aged drinking but also netted illegal immigration arrests.

Among those arrested was 44-year-old Armando Zamora, owner of La Raza radio station in Tucson. According to deputies, Zamora was providing alcohol to his under aged nephew who is an illegal alien.

In all ten (10) people were arrested in "Operation Mercado" including the six illegal immigrants at the El Gran Mercado, an outdoor market, located at 1820 South 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

"It's interesting that no matter what we do in patrol," Arpaio says, "whether we are making traffic stops, investigating street food vendor violations, or going after those who sell or provide alcohol to under-aged children, we are finding and arresting illegal immigrants at every turn. That tells me how pervasive the problem is and that our multi-level law enforcement effort is needed to fight the problem."

At the same time that Sheriff's deputies were conducting "Operation Mercado," a national Hispanic group known as the Latino Congreso was meeting in Los Angeles, California. It passed a resolution demanding that Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio immediately shut down the illegal immigration hotline (602 876 4154) calling it racially discriminatory.

The resolution was sponsored by U.S. Presidential candidate and Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

"Kucinich and his political allies ought to stay in their own backyards and leave what happens here in Maricopa County to the people who live here," Arpaio says. "They have no business telling us how to do things."

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News Release

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Media Pager: (602) 238-8097

E-mail: [SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov](mailto:SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov)