

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: July 14, 2009

71 YEAR-OLD SHERIFF'S POSSEMAN SERIOUSLY INJURED **IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ASSISTING** **HUMAN SMUGGLING DEPUTIES**

Sheriff's Human Smuggling Deputies Arrest another 19 Illegal Aliens in North Valley While Utilizing Federal 287g Authority

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff's Posseman James Van Allen was seriously injured yesterday afternoon while assisting the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Human Smuggling Unit in the North Valley near Anthem. The posseman was struck from behind as he was parked on the east shoulder of I-17 under the Daisy Mountain overpass.

Van Allen was airlifted from the scene to the John C. Lincoln Hospital where he was treated for broken ribs and a concussion. The occupants of the other vehicle were also transported to the hospital via ambulance.

Prior to and after the accident, Sheriff's deputies conducted human smuggling interdiction operations in the area and arrested 19 illegal aliens during three separate traffic stops.

Deputies were able to book seven of those illegal aliens under felony state human smuggling charges, but the remaining twelve were arrested utilizing the deputies' 287g authority.

It is unclear whether or not Sheriff Arpaio's deputies will continue to utilize the 287g agreement with the federal government in light of U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano's announcement that changes are forthcoming in the agreement.

"Since receiving the letter in March from the U.S. Department of Justice announcing their civil rights investigation of my office, my deputies have arrested another 341 illegal aliens. We will continue to enforce all state and federal immigration laws while they continue their investigation" Arpaio says.

Human smuggling operations by the Sheriff's Office are currently taking advantage of the \$1.6 million awarded to the Sheriff's Office by the State Legislature to combat illegal immigration.

News Release

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