

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 4, 2007

Sheriff Arpaio Goes After Day Laborers

(Phoenix, AZ) Today, Maricopa County Sheriff's Joe Arpaio's Office Illegal Immigration Interdiction Unit (Triple I), responding to Queen Creek citizen complaints regarding day laborers harassing school children at a bus stop, arrested 16 more illegal aliens under the federal immigration laws.

Citizens complained that day laborers are shouting at the children and photographing them at the bus stop. Sheriff's deputies contacted the 16 illegals during traffic investigations.

The Queen Creek operation comes on the heels of Sheriff Arpaio's enforcement efforts in Wickenburg, and most recently in Cave Creek where day laborers sought sanctuary at the Good Shepherd of Hills church. Sheriff's deputies trained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement to enforce federal immigration laws arrested 34 illegals in those operations. The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has 160 trained officers who enforce immigration law pursuant to and in the course of their duties.

The Sheriff recently initiated an Illegal Immigration Hot Line (602.876.4154) to help citizens report information regarding illegal immigration. Since the tip line was implemented, over 120 calls of 2,100 have been received specifically about day laborers. Since the hot line began operating, 96 illegal aliens have been arrested by Sheriff's deputies.

"My Office continues to enforce state and federal immigration, not for cosmetic purposes but because I take the problems of illegal immigration seriously," says Sheriff Arpaio. "There is no sanctuary in this county for those who violate the law. As far as I am concerned the only sanctuary for illegal aliens is in Mexico."

"Those elected officials and activists who criticized me and my Office, stating that it was a 'throw back to the Third Reich,' that the illegal immigration hot line would not be a success, and even portraying me as a member of the KKK, might be surprised by our achievements with the tip line," says Sheriff Arpaio.

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News Release

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