

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: July 28, 2009

### **CAFÉ RAIDED BY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

#### **TWO ILLEGALS ARRESTED ON FELONY CHARGES . . . MANAGER ADMITS TO KNOWINGLY HIRING ILLEGALS**

(Phoenix, AZ) Sheriff Joe Arpaio reports that the owner/manager of the Pepper Sauce Café spoke to a Sheriff's deputy and inadvertently made her company the target of an employer sanctions investigation by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

In April of this year, Denise Kimball, owner/manager of the Pepper Sauce Cafe, located at 3937 East Anne Street in Phoenix, approached a table full of law enforcement customers, one of whom was a Sheriff's deputy sergeant, and blurted out the fact that her cooks and dishwashers working in the back were all illegal aliens.

That statement prompted a quick response by the Sheriff's Employer Sanctions Unit to investigate her claims.

At 6:30 this morning, Sheriff's deputies descended upon the business, quickly detained two illegal aliens (Erika Lopez 9-5-83 and Jose Plascencia 4-4-77), who were later arrested and booked into the county jail for identification theft, a class four-felony. Deputies are continuing today to review employee records.

Today's case marks the 22<sup>nd</sup> employer sanctions investigation conducted by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office since 2008, the 8<sup>th</sup> in the city of Phoenix.

Sheriff Arpaio says "Despite the lack of cooperation from ICE and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on the 287g program during the recent weekend's crime suppression operation, I will continue to enforce all immigration laws."

In an odd twist, manager Kimball is the wife of a former Maricopa County Sheriff's deputy sergeant who resigned years ago. <END>

News Release

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