

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 27, 2010

COUNTY OFFICIALS PROVED WRONG

CLAIMS OF FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT

TO EMBARRASS THE SHERIFF'S

OFFICE INCORRECT

(Phoenix, AZ) For the second time in the last several days, Maricopa County officials have been proved wrong after having made false and misleading claims of financial mismanagement by the Sheriff's top commanders and deputies in their effort to publicly humiliate Sheriff Joe Arpaio and his office.

The misleading falsehoods about financial improprieties stemmed from a very public presentation to the Board of Supervisors in front of the media on September 22, 2010.

Using inflammatory photos of fancy hotels and swimming pools as a means to sway an angry public against the Sheriff, county officials claimed his extradition deputies used government money on the depicted lavish resorts in Belize and Puerto Rico while picking up prisoners, a claim which county officials later admitted was not properly researched before being presented to the public.

Those very same officials also essentially accused a top commander with the Sheriff's Office of using a government credit card for his personal and family use for such things as room service and spa services while attending an FBI Annual Conference at the Disneyworld hotel in Florida. That claim also later proved totally false. (See attached letters and investigative documents of Director Rollie Seibert.)

"Our belief is these county officials knew what buttons to push to inflame the public and the media to get people angry and upset with the Sheriff's Office," said Lisa Allen, Director of Media and Public Relations. "It was an intentional act that caused

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News Release

harm to the reputations of some people inside this Office and to the office as a whole – all for the purposes of retribution in this tiresome battle over who should control the Sheriff’s Office.”

The damage to the Sheriff’s Office by these unfounded insinuations was far reaching – all the way to the national news network level where Arpaio himself was accused of spending government money on luxury hotels in places the Sheriff never even traveled to.

“This bad blood needs to stop,” Arpaio says. “While county officials certainly have the right to question or examine our expenditures, it is not right for them to use that information to mislead the public about the hard working people of this Office. My hope is this will be the end of the mudslinging.” END

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