

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: December 16, 2008

Sheriff's Ongoing Investigation Targeting Golfland **Brings Sheriff Back to Mesa**

(Phoenix, AZ.) More suspects from the Sheriff's June 2008 investigation of Mesa's Waterworld/Golfland employer's sanctions case were arrested today by Sheriff's detectives.

Detectives, who were conducting follow up in Mesa today by doing undercover surveillance on seven homes, located two suspects wanted for identity theft and forgery charges. Also found in the homes were five other illegal immigrants, all of whom were arrested.

Sheriff detectives began investigating Waterworld/Golfland for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants. In June, nine employees were arrested for ID theft and one was arrested for being here illegally.

Waterworld/Golfland is one of 12 employer sanctions investigations launched by the Sheriff's Office. In those 12 cases, 159 people have been arrested, including 87 on ID theft and forgery charges.

County Attorney Andrew Thomas and Sheriff Arpaio say the employer sanctions investigation into Waterworld/Golfland is continuing as detectives are culling through records and documents to determine if the business was operating in violation of the Arizona employer sanctions law.

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News Release

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