

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



### **Sheriff's Office Arrests Continue to Highlight The Problem of Drug Smuggling In Maricopa County**

### **Sheriff Arpaio to Utilize Air Posse In the Continuing Fight with Smugglers**

November 22, 2011

(Maricopa County, AZ) The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office conducted a three-day interdiction operation in southern Maricopa County along the Interstate 8 corridor. That operation resulted in the seizure of approximately two tons of marijuana, which is currently being held as evidence by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, the arrest of nine individuals, who have been booked into the Maricopa County Jail, and two vehicle seizures.

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has already seized 27,000 pounds of marijuana so far this year, most of which has been funneled through the Vekol Valley, which has become a primary drug corridor.

Sheriff Arpaio said "This seems to be the normal method of operation for these smugglers, abandoning the marijuana, and fleeing into the nearby desert. I am looking at activating my Air Posse, Jeep Posse and Armed Posse to help my deputies locate smugglers operating in the deserts of Maricopa County in the near future. I also intend on making sure that all of my deputies are well armed for their own safety to include the use of our .50 caliber machine gun."

"My office has not experienced any notable reduction in criminal activity of drugs, illegal aliens and human smuggling from Mexico into Maricopa County," Arpaio says.

**News Release**

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**The following are the names and booking numbers of those arrested by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office:**

**Cruz Ramirez P821008**

**Francisco Amparana P821014**

**Jose Jimenez P821015**

**Miguel Garcia P820635**

**Uriel Parra P820636**

**Felipe Trinidad P821009**

**Francisco Cuevas P820637**

**Juan Lopez P821013**

**Roberto Chaira P820638**

**All mug shots have been uploaded to the MCSO PIO twitter account.**

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