

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: January 4, 2009

### ***FORMER IMMIGRANT TO SWEAR IN SHERIFF FOR ARPAIO'S 5<sup>TH</sup> FOUR-YEAR TERM***

(Phoenix, AZ.) In the past, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio has often had prominent people to perform his swearing-in ceremonies. In 2004, John Walsh, host of 'America's Most Wanted' a nationally known fugitive finding television program, performed the oath of office for Arpaio.

This year, Arpaio said he wanted to look beyond personalities and focus more on the issues facing his administration to find someone to perform the ceremony.

"Illegal immigration is an important issue facing his office and this community," Arpaio said. "I have tried to inform the public that I support and encourage immigrants to come to this country provided they do so legally. That's why I wanted to find someone who took all the steps necessary to become a citizen to swear me in as Sheriff."

The person who will perform the ceremony on Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 is Jose Bello, a native of Mexico City who became a U.S. citizen just last month.

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Bello came to the U.S. 24 years ago on holiday, met a woman who was a resident alien already, and married her 17 days later. Today they are U.S. citizens and have two adult children, both of whom work as detention officers for the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

"I am honored to have the chance to swear this Sheriff into office," Bello says. "I understand Arpaio's position on illegal immigration and believe that enforcing the laws of this state is his duty to the people."

Media is invited to attend the ceremony on Monday January 5, 2009 at 3 PM at the Sheriff's Training Academy, located on the northeast corner of 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road.

Contact Media Relations @ [sheriffsmediarequests@mcs.maricopa.gov](mailto:sheriffsmediarequests@mcs.maricopa.gov).

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