

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



February 21, 2012

**FBI AGENTS RAID PORTLAND RESIDENCE
SEEKING SUSPECT WHO
THREATENED SHERIFF JOE ARPAIO**

Careful Execution of Plan Needed as Suspect Deemed Unpredictable

(Phoenix, AZ) The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office says agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Portland, Oregon conducted a raid at the request of Sheriff's detectives on the residence of the TargetingCops.com blogger who threatened to kill Sheriff Arpaio last month.

An FBI SWAT team entered the house around 6AM Monday morning seizing evidence found in the home which may tie suspect, Clifton Dawayne Brooks 35, to the blog posts threatening Sheriff Arpaio's life. At one point during the raid, agents became concerned and evacuated the area after discovering what appeared to be an improvised explosive device. A bomb squad later determined the device to be a "prop".

Authorities say as many as eight people were suspected to be living in the home that had been under surveillance for a number of days in preparation for Monday's SWAT entry. FBI in Portland chose Monday as the day for the raid because of the fact that it was a holiday and a nearby elementary school would be closed, in case the raid became violent.

Maricopa County Sheriff's detectives have been investigating Brooks since

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January when they became aware of TargetingCops.com, an internet website that hails all cop killers as ‘heros.’ The site and its author even posted a photo of slain MCSO deputy William Coleman with the internet vernacular LOL (laugh out loud) emblazoned over it. The website gleefully celebrated the untimely death of the deputy with gruesome descriptions of the shooting, calling Coleman a ‘Gestapo pig’ and his killer, 30 year old Drew Ryan Maras, a ‘hero.’

The author of the website then posted a picture of Sheriff Arpaio with textual references claiming he was next to die. Photos of the Sheriff are on the site with the words, “Wanted: Dead or Alive. You’re next Joe, watch your back, bitch.”

The investigation also revealed that Brooks was federally convicted in 2001 of making a bomb threat in interstate or foreign commerce.

Maricopa County Sheriff’s detectives recently travelled to California to Google headquarters in order to serve search warrants on the internet giant to determine the IP address from which the threats originated.

Arpaio says the entire website is beyond description as to how deeply offensive it is towards all law enforcement and particularly towards those who died in the line of duty, like MCSO Deputy Bill Coleman who was killed on January 8, 2012 in a shootout in Anthem.

At the request of the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office, Google headquarters removed the site from the internet. END

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