

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Memorial Fund to Donate \$25,000 to Deputy Who Suffered Terrible Brain Trauma

Date 10/26/11

David Wargo, a seven year employee with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, loved his work as a Sheriff's SWAT Division Canine Handler and the camaraderie that he had with his fellow deputies.

But as fate would have it, on May 23rd, 2003, while conducting an investigation involving a suspicious vehicle, Deputy Wargo suffered a terrible injury which ended his career and life as he knew it.

Wargo, working an off duty job at a west valley Safeway store parking lot, contacted a suspect who Wargo suspected was up to no good. When he approached the driver, the suspect began to flee and Wargo attempted to stop him. In doing so, Wargo was dragged for several yards by the fleeing vehicle.

Wargo fell and his head struck a curb which caused severe head and brain trauma. Since that day in 2003, he has been paralyzed and requires 24 hour care.

His wife, Lisa, also an officer with the Sheriff's Office, was forced to leave her job to help care for her husband of seven years and their three young sons.

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According to the family, Deputy Wargo has recently taken a turn for the worse and his prognosis is grim.

According to the Sheriff, help is on the way from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Memorial Fund.

The Sheriff's fund has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars since it was founded in 1998 and to date, has provided nearly \$200,000 to 23 law enforcement officers from various agencies all of whom died or suffered terrible injury in the line of duty.

Deputy Wargo will be present tomorrow, Wednesday October 26, 2011 at 11AM when Sheriff Joe Arpaio presents him and his family with an additional \$25,000 to help offset their expenses. The family welcomes the media to attend and meet David at the Sheriff's Training Academy, 2627 S. 35th Ave.

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