

*The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office learned that Superior Court Judge Barbara Mundell has stated to other judges and news organizations that she believes the Sheriff's Office is monitoring people she hired to renovate her home in an effort to intimidate her and determine whether she is hiring illegal aliens.*

*Furthermore the Sheriff's Office has also learned that a second judge, Judge Gary Donahoe, has made good on his intention to politically attack Sheriff Joe Arpaio's crime suppression and illegal immigration enforcement efforts by publicly stating that Joe Arpaio is misusing his resources on those efforts to the detriment of inmate court transportation responsibilities.*

*The following are the Sheriff's Office official responses to both allegations.*

**Sheriff's Office staff has been directly told by Presiding Judge Gary Donahoe that he intends to publicly and politically attack Sheriff Joe Arpaio to influence the voters of Maricopa County.**

**His accusations that the Sheriff's crime suppression operations are the reason for the failure to transport inmates to court in a timely way is making good on Donahoe's promise made to the Sheriff's staff to discredit the Sheriff. Donahoe openly criticized the Sheriff's crime suppression operations and has made known his dislike for anti illegal immigration efforts. Judge Donahoe knows there is no relationship between transporting inmates to county courts and crime suppression and/or illegal immigration enforcement.**

**Donahoe also knows the Sheriff's Office is currently providing 55 more deputies and officers to the court transportation effort than has been budgeted for by the Board of Supervisors. Judges Mundell and Donahoe have unilaterally and with no consideration whatsoever to the county's budget woes continuously added more courts and proceedings.**

**If Judge Barbara Mundell truly said that Sheriff's deputies have been parked outside her home in county vehicles for purposes of intimidation or to determine if the people she hired to renovate her home are illegal aliens, then Mundell's accusations are not only ludicrous, they are irresponsible and most concerning, unethical. Her recent statements, as well as other actions that the Sheriff's Office has become aware of in past months, raise serious concerns regarding her ethical conduct.**

**These statements by Judges Donahoe and Mundell over the past months are grossly irresponsible. It is clear they have learned the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office is in the process of preparing a formal judicial ethics complaint against Judges Donahoe, Baca and Mundell. Their latest action is a clear attempt to tactically defuse the formal ethics complaint as well as other legal actions pending by this Office. All of them should immediately recuse themselves of any future involvement of Sheriff's investigations concerning the Board of Supervisors, the Court Tower construction project and potential leaks from the Maricopa County Grand Jury.**

**Signed,  
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office**