



MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

JOSEPH M. ARPAIO
SHERIFF



July 17, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Mundell
Presiding Judge
Maricopa County Superior Court

Judge Mundell,

It has come to my attention that despite our best and most sincere efforts here at the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) to work cooperatively with you and your staff, there are those, including yourself, who do not appear to share the same goal.

Judge Donahoe in a meeting with me threatened to inform defense attorneys to file motions to release their in-custody clients if MCSO was unable to make all of the courts and would then "blame the Sheriff" [Arpaio] for this to media and citizens. Shortly after this, you made a ludicrous statement that appeared in local media that sheriff's deputies were watching those working on your home (May 2009). Now comes Bob James who on Tuesday of this week said to a veteran sheriff's deputy that they (you and your judges) were only going to get one shot at him (Sheriff Arpaio). Clearly these are not the actions or words of a responsible group. They are the work of manipulating and paranoid individuals to which we at MCSO will not sit silently on.

I recently learned that Judge Ryan, working with the Master Calendar, has instructed fellow judges to schedule hearings and trials in accordance with a set time table. This, as I understand, was done to facilitate both the courts and the arrival times of inmates. Many of these judges are ignoring this instruction and are expecting inmates outside of the scheduled times. Deputies are being unfairly questioned and/or chastised by the judges in front of staff and jurors alike. I will instruct deputies that in future incidents of this nature they will respectfully inform the judge that a sergeant or other supervisor should be contacted for answers. I will not allow the dedicated and hard working members of the MCSO to come under such questioning when your court staff, and others in the criminal justice family, are not held to the same standard.

In past months I have instructed deputies attending courts to monitor and note our times of arrival. I did so in an effort to better understand where we could make improvements. While I openly admit that we are late approximately 35% of the time, I discovered that nearly 65% of the time court staff and other members of the criminal justice family (to include judges), were the ones arriving late. I find it hypocritical that judges are now

THE HONORABLE BARBARA MUNDELL
PRESIDING JUDGE

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going "on the record" when we are late, yet no mention "on the record" when their own staff including the elected judges themselves and others are late. Therefore, I am respectfully informing you that I will be researching legal procedures that will permit our deputies to be "on the record" when your staff and others outside of MCSO are late to courts.

I had hoped to rectify and work cooperatively with you and your staff but at this juncture, due to the Court's obvious agenda, I hold little hope of doing so.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Trombi". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

David Trombi
Deputy Chief
Maricopa County Sheriff's Office