

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: July 22, 2008

THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE... YET IT WAS.

Arpaio's Office Comes in UNDER Budget – Returns Money to County

(Phoenix, AZ) For days last November, local newspaper headlines berated Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio as reporters predicted a huge budget shortfall. The papers and other media outlets repeatedly reported that the Sheriff was allowing overtime expenditures for patrol deputies to run amok and he would be over \$3 million dollars in the hole by the time fiscal year 2008 ended.

Fiscal year 2008 did end on June 30 and Sheriff Joe Arpaio not only came in under budget but even returned approximately \$5 million back to the county.

Arpaio said, "Balancing a \$295 million dollar budget is an immensely complicated task and we did it at great sacrifice by everyone in the Sheriff's Office. They have my thanks for their dedication and professionalism."

According to Loretta Barkell, Chief Financial Officer for the Sheriff's Office, "In this economic climate where government entities are routinely over budget, Sheriff Arpaio's leadership and experience from his years as a top law enforcement manager with the federal government, helped us to come in under budget."

Arpaio, who has been Maricopa County Sheriff for 16 years, has consistently managed his budget and been in the black.

On March 17, 2008, County officials commended the Sheriff and his staff for their fiscal leadership on a complete financial turn around.

The economic downturn has forced the County government to impose budget restrictions on all county offices. The Sheriff's Office fiscal year 2009 budget is approximately \$14 million less than fiscal year 2008.

However, Sheriff Arpaio promises to continue to enforce all the laws, including illegal immigration laws, and manage an economical jail system. <end>

News Release

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Phone: (602) 876-1801 Fax: (602) 258-2081

Media Contact: SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov