

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: March 20, 2008

### ***NORTH AND CENTRAL VALLEY BUSINESSES CRY FOR HELP FROM SHERIFF'S OFFICE***

### **ARPAIO'S DEPUTIES AND VOLUNTEER POSSE WILL BEGIN PATROL EFFORTS IN THESE PHOENIX AREA NEIGHBORHOODS**

(Phoenix, AZ) Written requests for additional police presence and protection were sent to Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio this week from business owners in two separate areas of Phoenix. Owners are complaining of increases in crime and other problems largely related to illegal immigrants and day laborers there.

As a result, Sheriff Arpaio is sending hundreds of volunteer armed posse men and women along with several ICE trained deputies to saturate the two areas beginning Friday, March 21, 2008.

"Businesses owners in these two parts of Phoenix have indicated to me that they are extremely frustrated with the growing problems associated with illegal immigration," Arpaio says. "They say they feel that only this Sheriff's Office will provide the kind of law enforcement help they want and need to reduce the problems."

Arpaio says nearly 200 Sheriff's posse men and deputies will patrol the areas looking for any and all criminal activity there. It is a repeat of the Thomas Road operations that occurred late last year when owners of the Pruitt's Furniture Store appealed to the Sheriff for help with their day laborer related problems. Over the duration of that operation, Arpaio says, over 134 of people were arrested and booked into jail, 94 of whom were determined to be illegal aliens.

"Any illegal immigrant whom we come across in the course of our crime suppression program in these two valley areas will be arrested and taken directly to jail," Arpaio says.

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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

Media Contact: [SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov](mailto:SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov)

Arpaio says the operation will also include the enforcement of the new employer sanctions law which went into effect in January.

Last week alone, seven people in various parts of the valley were arrested by Sheriff's deputies for illegally gaining employment through fake documentation.

Additionally over last weekend alone, 127 illegal aliens were booked into Fourth Avenue Jail on crimes *unrelated* to being illegal.

The new operation will begin at 4PM on Friday, March 21, 2008 with a briefing to the posse and deputies by the Sheriff. The command post and jail wagons will be posted at the northwest corner of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and Thomas Road. For more information, contact the Sheriff's Media Relations Unit at [SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov](mailto:SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov) .

<end>

100 West Washington, Suite 1900, Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
Phone: (602) 876-1801 Fax: (602) 258-2081  
Media Contact: [SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov](mailto:SheriffsMediaRequests@MCSO.Maricopa.Gov)