

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 16, 2007

ASU POLL SHOWS 80% OF REPUBLICANS APPROVE SHERIFF ARPAIO'S FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION ...

EVEN THE MAJORITY OF ARIZONA DEMOCRATS SUPPORT THE SHERIFF

(Phoenix, AZ) In what is bound to be a huge disappointment for illegal alien advocates and some elected officials, a new poll taken by Cronkite/Eight pollster Dr. Bruce Merrill shows that 80% of all Republicans statewide and 72 % of those Arizonans with an opinion on the subject think Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio is right on target with his lone stance on local enforcement officials enforcing the federal and state anti human smuggling laws. The 72% figure represents people from all political parties.

Arpaio has taken an increased amount of criticism recently from activists, politicians, even local police chiefs and other critics who publicly vocalized that the Maricopa County Sheriff should not be in the business of enforcing immigration laws. Arpaio disagrees with his critics and oversees the only law enforcement agency in the state of Arizona to enforce all aspects of the human smuggling laws.

"Maybe these police chiefs and politicians should hear the voice of the people they are sworn to protect and serve," Arpaio says. "They are public servants too and clearly their public is saying they want these illegal immigration laws enforced wherever possible."

The Sheriff also takes issue with the police chiefs on another matter they've spoken about publicly. In a press conference late last week, some police chiefs said their officers must concentrate on the apprehension of violent criminals rather than focusing on arrests of illegal immigrants.

However, a snapshot of jail bookings from October 9 to October 15 2007 shows that 50% of all people booked into the Maricopa County Jails by all valley police agencies

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are booked on misdemeanors only.

“So much for the argument that police are only going after felons when statistics show half of the people they are arresting are misdemeanants only. That tells me they do, in fact, have the time and resources to join the fight against illegal immigration,” Arpaio says.

Further study of the illegal immigrants incarcerated in Arpaio’s jail today show that 2100 illegal aliens who are in jail today have committed a total of approximately 11,000 crimes against our community including 8500 felonies (96 counts of murder, 473 counts of kidnapping, 122 count of sex crimes, 1465 counts of armed robbery, 187 counts of child abuse and child sex abuse, 737 counts of assault, among others) and 1678 misdemeanors.

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