

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Joe Arpaio, Sheriff
News Brief

November 10, 2007

SHERIFF'S OFFICE RESPONDS TO CRITICS' MISLEADING COMMENTS

(Phoenix, AZ) Responding to a press release issued by opponents of his illegal immigration policies, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio reaffirms his belief that only through enforcement can the problems of illegal immigration be stopped.

In their release, pro-illegal immigration activists accuse the Sheriff of abusing his power, as his deputies continue enforcing immigration statutes throughout Maricopa County. Also, Arpaio is falsely accused of spending tax payer dollars to have his deputies guard the private property of Pruitt's furniture store at 3425 East Thomas Road to intimidate protesters demonstrating against the enforcement of immigration laws by his Office.

Arpaio's Office continues to be the only Arizona law enforcement agency enforcing all aspects of state and federal immigration laws.

Sheriff Arpaio called the release blatantly false, noting that the off-duty deputies are being paid by the business owner.

Immigration activists will protest today in front of the Pruitt's store, where in a 'ceremony' they plan to symbolically release doves as an expression of their belief that all undocumented aliens should be free to migrate where ever they choose.

"Their misleading statements, misguided beliefs and personal attacks upon me are truly for the birds," says Arpaio. "I will continue to do my job and arrest any and all violators of the state and federal immigration laws."

The Sheriff will arrive at 12 noon today to check on the welfare of his off-duty deputies.