

# Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

## Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: February 25, 2009

### ***RAPPER DMX CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING SHERIFF'S OFFICER***

(Phoenix, AZ.) Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio said today his detectives re-booked rap star DMX (Earl Simmons) this afternoon on charges of aggravated assault against an officer.

Arpaio said that last Sunday, February 22, 2009, Simmons flew off the handle after being told that the meal he stole from the serving tray during the dinner meal was not his to take.

Because of an earlier jailhouse violation, DMX was placed on a "bread and water" diet and was not allowed to partake yet in regular jail food.

DMX returned the food by throwing the tray and its contents at the Sheriff's officer. The officer sustained no injury in the attack.

The rapper has been housed in Arpaio's jails since the end of January 2009 and has been a management problem from the beginning. Arpaio happened on a face-to-face meeting with the rap star at Tent City and warned him not to misbehave and certainly not to carry through on his threats of assaulting officers.

DMX was arrested five separate times by this Sheriff's Office for various crimes from animal abuse and neglect to drug possession and defrauding of a local hospital of about \$7500.00 in services. Additionally, the rap singer fled Maricopa County and twice had to be extradited back to Arizona at taxpayer's expense to face charges.

"This inmate has a serious anger management issue and shouldn't be allowed out of jail or prison until he has it under control," Arpaio says.

News Release

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If a judge determines that DMX violated his terms of probation by assaulting this officer, the rap singer may be sent to state prison to serve out a much longer sentence, Arpaio says.

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