

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: April 16, 2008

Here are the comments made today, April 16, 2008, by Sheriff Joe Arpaio in a press conference about Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon and the fabricated statements the Mayor repeatedly puts out to the public at large:

I do not understand why Mayor Gordon continues to lie to the public.

All week Phil Gordon has been on TV, radio and speaking before citizens of this county spitting out his vomit against this Office, against me and against the fight against illegal immigration.

He lied when he said my crime suppression operations go into Hispanic neighborhoods. Are Cave Creek and Bell and 32 street and Thomas Hispanic neighborhoods? I don't think so.

He lied when he said we sweep up brown skinned people, take them to jail and determine if they are illegal. Not True. Only half of the people arrested in our crime suppression operations were illegal aliens. The rest were US citizens of various races who broke the law.

Furthermore, we do not take those arrested to jail to determine their residency status. We take them to jail for breaking the law. Residency status of anyone stopped can be determined by an ICE trained deputy. In that case, the detainee is turned over to ICE for deportation. If they broke the law, they do go to jail and an immigration hold is put on them. They do their time and then are deported.

He lied when he said this Office gave no warning of our operations to

News Release

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police. Not true. We have written proof showing we contacted Phoenix days before these operations.

He lied when he said the Sheriff has 40,000 warrants sitting on his desk waiting to be served. Gordon and his Police Chief know a large number of those warrants belong to the Phoenix police and that every agency is responsible for serving warrants.

He lied when he said I used 200 paid deputies on these operations. Not so. Each operation averaged between 30 and 40 deputies. The rest was free assistance provided by the posse.

He lied when he said Phoenix PD has turned over 5 times as many illegals to the federal government as the Sheriffs Office has - Baloney. Phoenix turned over 2000 and we've turned over nearly 12,000 illegals to federal authorities. Maybe he needs to go back to math class.

And now today... during his state of the city address and before members of the business community he continued to smear my office and lie about my operations.

He lied when he said that I am creating a sanctuary county for felons...of those 40,000 warrants...12,209 belong to Phoenix.

He lied when he said I have a selective political enforcement unit that targets police chiefs and elected officials. I do not have such a unit. The Sheriff and the county attorney have a MACE unit that investigates corruption. I have a dedicated group of detectives who investigate threats against the lives of government officials, including my own.

He lied when he implied I enforce the law only to gain favor with the

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public.

As an elected official, my job is to listen to the people and take direction from them. That's what being elected is all about. The people of this county have repeatedly said in poll after poll that they want local law enforcement to be involved in fighting the increasing problem of illegal immigration.

Their voices are what I listen to – apparently Mayor Gordon does not listen to his constituency. He is more interested in furthering his own political agenda.

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