

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: November 19, 2007

SHERIFF WILL HOUSE FORMER HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION TYSON IN TENT CITY

PAST CONVICTIONS AND VIOLENT HISTORY MAKE HIM A HIGH RISK INMATE

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio expected to have renowned boxer, Mike Tyson, housed in his jails for a much longer time than the 24-hour sentence that Tyson received today for driving under the influence.

Despite the short sentence, Arpaio has ordered the former heavy weight champion of the world to do his time in Tents, wearing pink underwear and a black and white striped uniform and eating the 18 cent dinner commonly referred to by inmates as "gruel."

Tyson will be treated like other convicted inmates with one exception.

"Because he has served time in prison for a violent offense, I will not house him with over 1500 other inmates in Tent City," Arpaio says. "Fortunately, there is a small area of tents that is currently unoccupied and that's where he will go."

Tyson will be immediately processed and taken to tents. Arpaio says that despite his celebrity status, Tyson will serve the full 24 hour sentence.

"We don't house celebrities for 84 minutes like they do in Hollywood," Arpaio says.

This will not be Tyson's first time in Tent City. In 1999, Tyson came into Tents to talk with a number of convicted juvenile inmates at Arpaio's request. Tyson was there to impart a message of staying out of trouble and obeying the law to the youngsters.

"Apparently he didn't listen to his own advice," Arpaio says.

Court documents show that Tyson is scheduled to self surrender to the Sheriff on the morning of Tuesday, November 20, 2007.

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News Release

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