

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 19, 2009

WEEKEND CRIME SUPPRESSION OPERATION CONCLUDES *Deputies Turn Over 19 Suspected Illegal Immigrants to Federal Authorities Without Incident*

(Maricopa County, Arizona) This weekend's crime suppression operation conducted by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office netted the arrest of 66 suspects, 30 of which were suspected of being in the country illegally.

As the operation was getting underway, Sheriff Arpaio stated at a news conference Friday that despite the fact that the federal government has taken away the ability of over 100 of his deputies to act as federal immigration agents, he would continue to enforce all aspects of illegal immigration laws.

During day two of the operation, Sheriff's deputies raided the "On Your Way Carwash and Quick Lube" in Peoria as part of an employer sanctions investigation where information was received indicating that employees of the company were engaging in identity theft. Nine suspects were arrested during the raid.

During the two-day operation, deputies turned over a total of 19 of the 30 suspected illegal aliens who were not charged for any state violations to Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials without incident.

Also present for the operation was the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, who arrived unannounced and attempted to gain access into the news conference without being detected by Sheriff's officials.

Sheriff Arpaio stated that this latest crime suppression operation proves that the removal of the ICE agent authority to his deputies under the 287g agreement will not keep him from doing his job and enforcing all aspects of illegal immigration laws.

The Sheriff also stated that another major crime suppression operation will be conducted in the near future.

News Release

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