

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: October 7, 2009

SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES ARREST ILLEGAL ALIENS JUST HOURS AFTER SHERIFF ARPAIO ANNOUNCES THAT FED'S STRIPPED HIM OF IMMIGRATION AUTHORITY

(Phoenix, AZ) Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies arrested ten more illegal aliens just hours after Sheriff Arpaio held a news conference vowing to continue his enforcement of immigration laws despite the federal government's move to strip deputies of their Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) status.

Sheriff's deputies arrested and booked the ten illegal aliens on state human smuggling charges, a class four felony, in the North Valley during a traffic stop resulting from a human smuggling investigation.

A top official for ICE based out of Washington D.C. met with the Sheriff on September 22nd advising him of their plans to remove his law enforcement status granted under the previous 287g agreement which will terminate on October 15th.

Sheriff Arpaio stated that he plans to conduct another crime suppression operation in the Valley on October 16th.

The Sheriff stated that his office will continue to be the only local law enforcement agency to enforce all aspects of state and federal immigration laws despite politically motivated attempts to curtail his authority by the federal government.

Tuesday's arrests bring the total number of illegal aliens booked under felony smuggling charges by deputies to 3,432.

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