

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



Date: December 30, 2008

Another Successful Year for Sheriff Arpaio's Posse Mall Patrol

(Sheriff Arpaio Not Intimidated by Open-Border Activist Groups)

(Phoenix, AZ)

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio concluded the 16th annual posse mall patrol with over 2,400 man hours provided by Posse volunteers at no cost to tax payers. The Posse accounted for fourteen criminal arrests, three recovered stolen vehicles, and \$3,580.00 worth of stolen property recovered.

The Posse Mall Patrol was started in 1993 by Sheriff Arpaio as a result of violence at local malls and to make local consumers feel safe while shopping during the holiday season. The solution avoids diverting costly resources from regular patrol functions. This innovation of law enforcement sets the tone in an economic environment where budgets are tight and consumers should not be afraid of shopping in their own communities.

The operation was a success despite the call for local open border activist groups who called on citizens to ban shopping at malls this season where the Posse patrolled. The groups demonstrated at the malls claiming that the mall operation had a secondary aim to intimidate illegal aliens from shopping at the malls. The Sheriff answered the claim by stating that his entire purpose for utilizing the mall patrol was to make consumers feel safe while shopping as he has for the past 16 years. "People who are out breaking laws at the mall are the only ones who should feel intimidated by the Patrol" stated Sheriff Arpaio.

News Release

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