

*Maricopa County Sheriff's Office*  
*Joe Arpaio, Sheriff*  
*News Brief*

**July 19, 2010**

**\*\*\*Media Advisory**

Effective today, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio has officially suspended the search for three Utah men presumably lost in the Superstition Mountains on their quest for gold associated with the Lost Dutchman's Mine.

The three men ages 49 to 66 apparently entered the wilderness with very little water, hiking experience and two of the three had reported medical conditions.

They were last seen on Tuesday July 6th after telling their family members that they would return no later than July 10<sup>th</sup>.

The hiker's vehicle was found on July 11th at the First Water Trailhead by Maricopa County Sheriff's deputies.

According to Arpaio, the search by his deputies and posse volunteers was extensive. It covered seven days, 96 square miles, and consisted of 99 search and rescue missions utilizing 311 volunteers and approximately 40 deputies.

Four helicopters and one fixed wing aircraft equipped with thermal imaging equipment were utilized for the search.

Sheriff Arpaio says "We are the leading search and rescue agency in the state and are experience is leading us to believe that these men succumbed to the summer heat. However, we must consider all possibilities and that they could be alive and located somewhere other than the Superstition Mountains."

We are asking for the public's help in locating these three men.