

**SPECIAL SESSION  
November 6, 2003**

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, Arizona convened in Special Session at 10:00 A.M., November 6, 2003, at the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Training Academy located at 2627 South 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, with the following members present: Fulton Brock, Chairman; Don Stapley; Max W. Wilson; and Mary Rose Wilcox. Absent: Andy Kunasek, Vice Chairman. Also present: Shanna Spano, Administrative Coordinator, David Smith, County Administrative Officer; Paul Golab, Deputy County Attorney.

**RIBBON CUTTING AND DEDICATION OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TRAINING ACADEMY**

The ceremony commenced with the presentation of the colors by Deputy Academy Class #112, followed by Lieutenant Paul Noble singing God Bless America. Penny Babb, MCSO (Maricopa County Sheriff's Office) Captain, welcomed those present at the dedication ceremony, and recognized special guests who were integral to the development of the training academy: the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors; Joseph Arpaio, Sheriff; Daniel L. Withers, Owner, D.L. Withers Construction; and Dick & Fritsche Design Group. Captain Babb graciously thanked them for coming together to create the facility, the first of its type for Detention Officer and Deputy Sheriff training. She highlighted many features of the center that are required by AZPost, which include a state-of-the-art firearms training simulator, three physical training rooms, a weight room and a running track and obstacle course. The facility also houses office space, classrooms, a computer lab and a mock jail pod for use in rescue training. (ADM3900)

Chairman Brock reported his excitement at having this project completed. He acknowledged the dedication as a well-deserved celebration for the officers and their devoted hard work. He congratulated Sheriff Arpaio and declared his one hundred percent support of the Sheriff, his officers and deputies.

Supervisor Stapley commended the Sheriff's Office on planning and achieving completion of this newest asset to the County's law enforcement organization. He noted the completion of the training facility as the first step in the jail tax progress and indicative of the growth being experienced in the County. Supervisor Stapley stressed law enforcement as a high priority to the Board, and said the cooperation by all involved in the project was a step in the right direction. He announced he was proud the Board had been able to contribute funding, although budget times have been tough.

Supervisor Wilson reflected upon his attendance at the last Sheriff's Deputy and Detention Officer graduation. He was extremely proud of the graduates, who ranged from eighteen to sixty-nine years in age. He expressed excitement that the new facility would provide the training needs for upcoming classes and said he looked forward to attending future graduations.

Supervisor Wilcox stated that with the County's population now at 3.2 million people, there was a growing need for jail facilities and the dedication represented another step toward completing the Criminal Justice Facilities program. She reflected on the nine-hundred million dollar tax initiative approved in 1998 to build jail facilities, the funding approved in 2002 to operate jails and the new formation of the Health Care District to save and improve Maricopa Medical Center facilities. She added that the voters know that Maricopa County manages their dollars wisely and it's been shown by remarkable voter commitment to support needed facilities. She affirmed the training center as an excellent example of maximizing taxpayer dollars while providing a quality facility to train officers and deputies. She stated that this dedication symbolized the County's commitment to ongoing education and excellence in public safety.

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Mr. Withers added how proud he was to have been part of the team that created a gorgeous, functional facility to serve the community. He commented that the team had definitely achieved their goal – getting the Board of Supervisors the best value for their dollar, and expressed his gratitude to the Board for their vision and support during the project. He went on to thank others: the Capital Facilities Development team, Dick and Fritsche Design Group, Hunt Jacobs and others who helped support the project. He made special mention of Sheriff Arpaio and his staff for their leadership, coordination and dedication.

Sheriff Arpaio voiced tremendous thanks to the Board of Supervisors, David Smith and the Sheriff's Office employees. He stated that the Board had supported and partnered with him on many issues and the displays of teamwork were making good things happen. He repeatedly thanked them for their financial support during extreme budget times. He said the best job he's ever had has been running the Sheriff's Office and he is extremely proud of his organization. Sheriff Arpaio extended thanks to the people in Maricopa County for extending the jail tax. Because of them, his people could keep doing a good job serving the citizens. He felt that every person in his organization deserved the state-of-the-art facility to train in.

Captain Babb graciously thanked everyone for being a part of a very special day for the Sheriff's Office. Following the dedication ceremony, all present were invited to take a guided tour of the facility.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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Fulton Brock, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

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Norma Risch, Deputy Clerk of the Board