

Sheriff Scores With "Rope A Dope"

Anne Arundel County Sheriff Ron Bateman told attendees at the February meeting of the Pasadena Business Association that he is continuing his efforts to reduce the backlog of outstanding arrest warrants in the County.

To that end, Sheriff Bateman took advantage of the state holiday in mid-January - the courthouse was closed - and put more deputies on the streets to serve warrants without using overtime. Bateman's office dubbed the event 'Operation Rope a Dope.'

"I thought this would be a great way to target these criminals," said the Sheriff, adding, "Ali's 'Rope a Dope' phrase was a perfect fit for the operation since it denotes a winning strategy, and conveniently includes the drug

slang word dope."

Deputies and County police officers served both felony and misdemeanor drug related warrants. According to Sheriff Bateman over 80% of all crimes are in some fashion drug related. The warrant sweep took place in the early morning hours and netted 27 arrests and cleared 36 Warrants.

"We called a felony warrant a 'Heavyweight' and a misdemeanor warrant a 'Welterweight.' Anyone arrested for multiple warrants is called a 'Golden Glove,' shared Deputy Harry L. Neisser.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of wanted persons residing in Anne Arundel County, or any other location, should call the Sheriff's Office at 410-222-1490.

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