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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE  
HOT-CHECK AMNESTY WEEK**

**Hot-Check Writers still can Avoid Arrest by Paying by Friday**

El Paso County Attorney José R. Rodríguez announced today that more than 300 hot-check writers took advantage of the amnesty week.

Since Friday October 3, 2008, when the amnesty week was announced, more than 300 El Paso residents took advantage of the program paying \$50,088 in outstanding hot-checks. Individuals who paid by today's deadline will have their names deleted from the list of hot-check writers that will be published in the local newspapers on Sunday October 19, 2008. The list will include more than 4,200 names of individuals who owe local merchants almost 4 million dollars.

Although the amnesty period is over, individuals with outstanding hot-checks still can avoid arrest in the upcoming warrant roundups by paying by this Friday October 17, 2008. However, their names will still appear in the hot-check warrant list that will be distributed inside Sunday's El Paso Times and Diario de El Paso.

At any time after the publication of the list, Officers from the El Paso Sheriff's Office, the US Marshals, Texas DPS rangers, and investigators from the County Attorney's Office will conduct hot-check warrant roundups, arresting individuals at their homes and place of employment.

Residents still interested in paying their outstanding hot checks by this Friday October 17, 2008 can make their payments at the El Paso County Attorney's Office, 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the County Courthouse, 500 E. San Antonio, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Forms of payment accepted include most credit cards, money orders, cashiers checks, and cash, however those paying cash would have to bring the exact amount (cashiers can't give change).

For more information regarding hot check payments and balances please contact the El Paso County Attorney's Office Hot Check Unit at **546-2051**. The complete and updated list of individuals with theft by check outstanding warrants will remain posted in the El Paso County web site at: [www.epcounty.com/CA](http://www.epcounty.com/CA).

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