



# Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Lawrence G. Brown  
Eastern District of California

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CONTACT: Lauren Horwood

PHONE: 916-554-2706

[usacae.edcapress@usdoj.gov](mailto:usacae.edcapress@usdoj.gov)

## **FAILURE TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT RESULTS IN 18 MONTHS IN PRISON AND \$80,000 RESTITUTION**

*Former Auburn, Calif. Resident Avoided Obligation for 10 Years*

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Acting United States Attorney Lawrence G. Brown announced today that United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton sentenced MICHAEL EUGENE LAMB, 49, of Great Falls, Mont., today to 18 months in federal prison for willfully failing to pay over \$80,000 in court ordered child support, in violation of the Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act. Judge Karlton also ordered the defendant to pay \$80,281.39 in restitution.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Sean C. Flynn, who prosecuted the case, MICHAEL EUGENE LAMB, formerly of Auburn, Calif., was ordered by a judge of the Placer County Superior Court in 1999 to pay \$370 per month in child support for his minor son. For the past ten years LAMB has gone to great lengths to avoid his financial obligations with respect to his child. During that period, the defendant changed residences and jobs frequently, living in at least four different states. LAMB also attempted to conceal his identity and avoid having his wages garnished and applied towards his child support obligation by using at least six different social security numbers when completing wage and tax-related documents with employers. During the past ten years, LAMB's unpaid child support obligation has grown to over \$80,000.

LAMB's penchant for obstructing the administration of justice also led him to verbally threaten a government witness and to flee from authorities, remaining a fugitive for five months last summer. He surrendered to the United States Marshals Service on November 25, 2008.

“With Michael Lamb's crisscrossing states to avoid supporting his minor son, this case amply demonstrates the limited but important role federal law can play in holding parents accountable to support their children,” said Acting United States Attorney Brown.

“We are proud to be a part of the federal team that finally brought Michael Lamb to justice for running from his child support obligations,” said Sarah Allen, Special Agent in Charge of the Office of Inspector General's San Francisco Regional Office. “Parents should be held accountable for the rearing costs of their children and not the taxpayers. The San Francisco Regional Office will continue to aggressively pursue parents who run out of the state to avoid their child support obligations,” said Allen.

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