

Department of Justice

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<u>Former Grand Forks Man Sentenced for</u> <u>Failure to Pay Child Support</u>

FARGO - United States Attorney Drew Wrigley announced that on

November 13, 2008, Kurt Dean Johnson of Lubbock, Texas, was sentenced before United States District Court Judge Rodney S. Webb on a charge of willful failure to pay a legal child support obligation.

Johnson, 43, pleaded guilty to the charge on September 15, 2008. Johnson, the father of three children, has child support obligations for children with two women, which have remained unpaid since May of 1999. As of May 2008 the amount of arrears for one child support obligation was \$72,973.23, and the other was \$54,891.75. Johnson's children live in Grand Forks; Johnson currently resides in Lubbock, Texas.

Following the change of plea hearing, Johnson made a payment of \$70,000 towards his arrears.

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Judge Webb sentenced Johnson to three years' probation and to pay restitution in the amount of \$66,116.12. Johnson was also ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

The case was investigated by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Klemetsrud Puhl prosecuted the case.

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