



# TEXAS' MOST WANTED CHILD SUPPORT EVADERS

by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott

LAST MONTH WE VISITED FIVE TEXAS cities to announce the Child Support Division's new **Top Ten List of Texas' Most Wanted Child Support Evaders**. The parents on the list owe a combined \$681,518 in overdue child support and have gone underground to allude officials and avoid arrest.

Within one week of issuing the new list, three of the top ten Evaders were located, arrested and put behind bars for violating court orders to pay child support. The public can help locate the remaining seven Evaders on the list by calling **1-866-EVADERS (382-3377)** to report any information that may lead to the apprehension of:

- **John Vines**, who owes \$130,796 for one child in Austin;
- **Kenneth Bone**, who owes \$94,107 for one child in College Station;
- **Andres Gomez**, who owes \$61,691 for two children in San Antonio;
- **Anthony Hooper**, who owes \$57,857 for two children in Orange;
- **James Dickens**, who owes \$37,028 for one child in Azle;
- **Adam Cardenas**, who owes \$28,933 for one child in San Angelo; and
- **Jason Bass**, who owes \$25,734 for one child in Overton.

The first Evader arrested following the unveiling of the new Top Ten List was Jesus Silva, who owes \$94,880 for three children in Houston. The second arrest occurred when Child Support Evader Ricardo Gonzalez, who owes \$109,747 for two children in Elsa, was taken into custody by the McAllen Police Department. Stanley Estala was nabbed in El Paso for owing \$40,745 to two children in that city.

I had the privilege of meeting with five parents to whom Evaders owe support. I admire the good job they are doing to raise their children without assistance from the other parent. However, they made it clear that life is much easier for children when both the mother and father participate in their upbringing.

Regular child support can make a big difference in the life of a child. That is why it is so crucial that the public contact my office with any information that could lead to the location and arrest of these Child Support Evaders. It is only right that they be held accountable, not only for breaking the law, but also for violating a sacred trust that should be every child's birthright. Please visit the Attorney General's main Web site at [www.oag.state.tx.us](http://www.oag.state.tx.us) to view photos and specific information about individual Evaders.

For a parent to be named a Most Wanted Child Support Evader, court-ordered delinquent support must be in excess of \$5,000 and an arrest warrant must have been issued. The location of the parent must be unknown, and no child support payments made in the last six months. In addition, the parent must not be involved in bankruptcy proceedings or receiving welfare benefits. To make information public, the parent who has custody of the children must sign a confidentiality waiver.

The Attorney General's Office works with local law enforcement to arrest and incarcerate parents who are delinquent in their child support payments. Those parents face jail time and monetary penalties for failing to pay child support.

The Child Support Evaders on the Top Ten List are being singled out because they have the ability to take responsibility for their children but refuse to do so. Incarceration is the only option for parents who flagrantly ignore a court's order to pay child support.

Since taking office in December 2002, we have arrested or located 75 Evaders. With your help, we can increase this number and collect the child support that is due to Texas children. Please contact my office with tips or information you have that may lead to the arrests of Texas' Most Wanted Child Support Evaders.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER



## CHILD SUPPORT EVADERS

### CRITERIA: For a parent to be named as a Most Wanted Child Support Evader:

- Court-ordered delinquent support must be in excess of \$5,000
- Arrest warrant must have been issued for non-support
- Location of non-custodial parent is unknown
- Parent has not made any payments in the last six months
- Non-custodial parent must not be involved in bankruptcy proceedings
- Non-custodial parent must not be receiving welfare benefits

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