

Child-support delinquents targeted

Deputy teams seek Dallas County parents who've flouted the law

By IAN McCANN
Staff Writer

Of the Dallas County parents who owe child support, Eugene Nottingham Jr. is among the worst, officials say.

In the 11 years since he was ordered to pay support for his daughter, now 17, he complied for just a few months before he disappeared from law enforcement and his ex-wife, Marla Tipton. Back payments and interest he owes total more

than \$20,000, Ms. Tipton said. Now Mr. Nottingham is on a list of nearly 800 parents sought by Dallas County sheriff's deputies for unpaid child support. Beginning Tuesday and continuing through Thursday, 14 pairs of deputies will work to find Mr. Nottingham and the other parents in the county who owe support payments.

"He's here in town," Ms. Tipton said. "He doesn't have a job, doesn't have a driver's license. He doesn't have anything in his name. It's hard to trace him."

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott, who was in Dallas on Tuesday, said such roundups lead to payment of support and send a

message to other parents who don't pay.

"The only way we can have compliance is to show parents that there will be consequences," he said.

In Texas, Mr. Abbott said, about 20 percent of child support payments go unpaid. Parents who do not pay face up to six months in jail.

Back payments totaling several thousand dollars can seem insurmountable, especially for a parent without a job, but Mr. Abbott said the amounts are high because the parents allowed them to add up.

"We're asking you to go out and get a job so you can own up to your responsibilities," he said.

While Dallas County deputies don't expect to find every parent who owes support payments, they do expect to make a significant dent in the number of open cases.

Deputies had arrested at least eight parents on Tuesday.

Deborah Marlowe, whose ex-husband owes about \$48,000 in child support for her 13-year-old daughter, said the money isn't the only reason she wants him found.

"She needs her other parent," Ms. Marlowe said of her daughter. "The \$48,000 doesn't mean anything to me. But it's the principle — paying it is what's right."

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Tycoon, rancher Rex Cauble dies at 89

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quite loyal to them."

Mr. Cauble was a former cutting-horse champion who became chairman of the Texas Aeronautics Commission and an honorary Texas Ranger. He had interests in banking, petroleum, ranching, construction and real estate.

"He knew a broader spectrum of people than I ever met in any other human being in my life — everybody from [former Gov.] John Connally and the wealthiest men in Texas to horse traders and ranchers," Mr. Trantham said. "People in Denton knew him on a first-name basis."

The son of a cotton farmer, Mr. Cauble was born Aug. 15, 1913, in Vaughan in Hill County. As an oil-field roughneck who developed a Midas touch, he struck oil when he was 31.

By 1964, Mr. Cauble was a world champion nonprofessional rider. He purchased a prize horse, Cutter Bill, for \$2,000 and parlayed his investment into a mil-

lion-dollar stud. In March, Mr. Cauble attended Cutter Bill's induction into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame.

Mr. Cauble was known as a Texas-size businessman who wore a 5 1/4-carat diamond ring. He would take visitors on tours of his Denton ranch in a Mercedes coupe that had its paint rubbed off by brush. A coat hanger replaced an antenna that had run into one too many mesquite trees.

Two of his most famous holdings were his Cutter Bill's Western wear stores in Dallas and Houston, where country and Western stars could be seen shopping for cowboy chic.

At one time, he owned 8,900 acres in Denton County alone.

In 1978 he received the American Medical Center Research Center Humanitarian Award for his efforts in finding a cure for cancer. Mr. Cauble was also a friend of Mr. Connally, whom he had known since the late 1940s. He was made an honorary Texas Ranger and loaned his private airplane to the

Texas Department of Public Safety to use for anti-drug activities.

But by the late 1970s, Mr. Cauble and his Cutter Bill moniker were synonymous with the Cowboy Mafia and federal charges. He would use his private jet to fly to the federal prison in Big Spring.

After his convictions, the government seized an estimated \$12 million of Mr. Cauble's assets under the federal Racketeering Influenced and Corruption Organizations Act, known as RICO.

After his release from prison, Mr. Cauble rebuilt his life trading cotton futures. He remarried nine years ago.

"If you have that much, and you are doing that much with your life and have that many employees, things happen," Ms. Cauble said. "Up until the day he died, I would swear he did not do it."

Ms. Cauble said her husband's side of his story will be released in an autobiography he completed before his death.

"He did a lot of things his way," Mr. Trantham said. "He made a lot of money and was one of the most outstanding gamblers I ever saw in my life. He was a gentleman with absolutely perfect manners. He led a tragic life in a lot of ways at the end."

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home, 7405 W. Northwest Highway in Dallas. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday. Burial will be private.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Cauble is survived by Ms. Cauble's daughter, Sonya Hartley of Dallas, and two grandchildren.

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Construction of Force Protection and Parking Lots at Army and Air Force Exchange Service Headquarters Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) proposes to construct force protection around the AAFES Headquarters and two parking lots located on AAFES property.

An environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared to determine the environmental impacts in the areas of air quality, earth resources, water resources, infrastructure and utilities, hazardous materials and wastes, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomic resources, land use, and environmental justice. This analysis is being accomplished pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the Act (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), Department of Defense Instruction 4715.9, Air Force implementing regulation for NEPA (Title 32 CFR 989 as amended) and other applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Based on the analysis documented in the draft EA, AAFES has prepared a proposed Finding of No Significant Impact.

The document is available for public examination at the Dallas City Library - Central Branch, in the Government Documents Section, 1515 Young Street. Please provide written comments related to this document to Mr. Greg Smith, RE-E, 3911 South Walton Walker Boulevard, AAFES HQ, Dallas, TX 75236-1598. The phone number is 800-856-7652. The public comment period will end on July 9, 2003 and comments must be received by AAFES by that date.

PRIVACY ADVISORY

Your comments on the draft EA are requested. Any submitted letters or other written comments may be published in the final EA. As required by law, comments will be addressed in the final EA and made available to the public. You need not provide your name or address to submit comments. Any personal information provided will be used only to identify your desire to make a statement during the public comment portion of any public meetings or hearings, or to fulfill requests for copies of the final EA or associated documents. Private addresses will be compiled to develop a mailing list for those requesting copies of the final EA. However, only the names of the individuals making specific comments will be disclosed. Personal home addresses and phone numbers will not be published in the final EA.

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