

MESSAGE FROM PROSECUTOR SHERRI BEVAN WALSH

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Man sentenced to prison for criminal non-support

On January 12, 2009, Judge Paul Gallagher sentenced Michael E. Townsend, 40, of Rittman, OH, to eight months in prison for the crime of nonsupport of dependents. At the time of sentencing, the Defendant owed \$25,796.36 in child support arrears.

This Criminal Nonsupport case involves one child who is six. The Custodial Parent, of Akron, and the Defendant were never married. In 2003, the Summit County CSEA issued an administrative child support order in the amount of \$459.06 per month.

The Defendant failed to meet his financial obligation to his child and was charged with criminal nonsupport in 2006. The Defendant pled guilty to one count of nonsupport, a felony of the fifth degree. The Defendant was placed on community control for a period of two years.

The Defendant continued to fail to meet his obligation to support his child and on January 12, 2009, the Defendant pled guilty to violating the terms and conditions of probation and was sentenced to eight months in prison. At the time of sentencing the Defendant had not made a payment on probation since May of 2007.