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Father Sentenced to Prison For Not Paying Child Support

AKRON, Ohio (Wednesday, September 07, 2016) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today that Summit County Common Pleas Court Judge Lynne Callahan sentenced David Godbee, 36, of Douglas Street in Akron, to 18 months in prison for failing to pay over \$60,000 in child support.

Godbee's case dates back two years, to September of 2014, when he was indicted by a Summit County Grand Jury for failing to pay child support to two women he had children with. Since then, Godbee has had several run-ins with law enforcement, including drug possession, driving under suspension, and failure to report.

In January of 2016, Godbee was convicted on two counts of Non-Support of Dependents, felonies of the 4th degree, and sentenced to 18 months in prison, which was suspended. Godbee was ordered to pay just over \$400 in monthly child support. Even though Godbee was working, he failed to pay the court ordered amount.

"This is a man who never paid a dime in child support even after receiving numerous opportunities to do so. These families struggle for everything they have and many times desperately need the additional support," said Prosecutor Walsh. "This is one of the reasons why my office is aggressive in tracking down non-custodial parents who owe more than \$5,000 or who haven't paid in at least six months. We work hard to ensure the children receive the support they deserve."

As of August 31, 2016, Mr. Godbee owed a total of \$62,126.06.