



**COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY**  
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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 15, 2013**

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**MCSO and DRO sweep nets 37 deadbeat parents in 72 hours to help 52 children**

Norristown, Pa., (November 15, 2013) – An overnight raid and search has yielded a total of 37 targeted deadbeat parents who owed \$374,078 to 52 children according to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department (MCSO) and the Domestic Relations Office (DRO) at a press conference in the Courthouse on Friday, November 15, 2013.

“We want to say thank you to the media and the public in their cooperation in assisting us apprehending these subjects over the previous three days,” said MCSO Sgt. Adam Berry.

The DRO was able to resolve 12 percent of outstanding bench warrants for delinquent child support payments during that time.

Representatives from the MCSO and DRO credited the cooperation of the media and the public, which resulted in many tips that led to more suspects following the raid. Nineteen more parents were either arrested or turned themselves in within 48 hours of media broadcasts covering the sweep, in addition to the initial 18 captured during the raid. Of the \$33,953 total purge amounts for the 37 delinquent parents, \$16,530.00 has been collected and will be distributed to the families in need.

“The media coverage and the cooperation from residents has been tremendous,” said MCSO Warrants Division Dep. Joanne Plasterer. “The departments will continue to work together on pursuing the remaining DRO case defendants using all new technologies that are available.”

Those that have active warrants are strongly encouraged to turn themselves in, in order to avoid being seen on television or the Internet.

DRO Enforcement Unit Assistant Director Rebecca Colantuno said, "We have started a new mass texting initiative. Every defendant that has a registered cell phone number with the DRO and has opted-in to receive messages from our office has received a message this week stating that 'You have an active bench warrant.'"

The MCSD and DRO ask for the public's continued help in their efforts to help more children waiting for child support funds.

Four of the most targeted offenders are still at large due to the amount of money they owe and their failure to appear in court:

- Daniel Darden of Norristown, Pa., owes \$50,878
- Alphonse Defrancesco of Blue Bell, Pa., owes \$37,192
- Francis McLaughlin of Lower Merion, Pa., owes \$54,788
- Londun Ricketts of Royersford, Pa., owes \$24,935

Anonymous tips may be reported by calling the Sheriff Department's TIP LINE at 610H 278H 3340 or by filling out the online "Submit a Tip" form at <http://www.montcopa.org/FormCenter/Sheriffs-Department-8/Submit-a-Tip-45>, or by sending an email to [sheriffwarrant@montcopa.org](mailto:sheriffwarrant@montcopa.org).

The "Domestic Relations Most Wanted for Child Support" list is available at [www.montcopa.org/sheriff](http://www.montcopa.org/sheriff) by clicking on the link "Wanted Persons."

