



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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**FORMER OAKLAND ATHLETICS FIRST BASEMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
FAILURE TO PAY OVER \$724,000 IN CHILD SUPPORT**

John E. Murphy, Acting United States Attorney, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott and Special Agent in Charge Mike Fields of the Dallas Regional Office for the Department of Health and Human Services–Office of Inspector General announced that in San Antonio, 43-year-old Troy Neel, former Austin resident and Major League Baseball player with the Oakland Athletics, faces up to two years in federal prison after pleading guilty this afternoon to a charge of foreign travel to evade legal child support obligations.

In December, the former Austin resident and Oakland Athletics first baseman was arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on a federal indictment out of the Western District of Texas charging him with foreign travel to evade paying over \$724,000 in owed child support. Neel has traveled in foreign commerce since December 1998 in an effort to avoid paying child support for two children. Neel's last known residence was on the island Republic of Vanuatu in the South Pacific.

This case was investigated by the Department of Health and Human Services–Office of Inspector General and the Texas Attorney General's Office–Child Support Division with assistance from the Travis County District Attorney's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Bud Paulissen is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

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