

5 missing Louisiana children tracked to Kauai

□ A non-profit group finds the youngsters and notifies police

By Rod Ohira
Star-Bulletin

Five children were reunited with their legal guardians this week after private investigators tracked them to Kauai, where they were living with the ex-spouses of a Louisiana man and woman.

Buddy Hall of the Houston-based American Association for Lost Children, a non-profit organization that specializes in recovering children taken illegally in custodial cases, said Louis Aguilar and Louise Wilson returned to the mainland yesterday with their children.

Aguilar has two sons and a daughter, and Wilson a son and daughter.

The children were staying in the Kawaihau District with Louise's ex-husband Mark Wilson and Cynthia Aguilar Wilson, who Hall said is married to Mark Wilson but not legally divorced from Louis Aguilar.

The irony of this drama is that Mark Wilson and Cynthia Aguilar apparently did not know each other while they were still with their ex-spouses.

"This is only the second case that we know of where the two abductors met in marriage," Hall said. "The other case occurred last year."

Hall said Louis Aguilar once knew Mark Wilson "but that was years and years ago and they didn't keep in touch after they parted. Neither knew who the other had married or anything about their families until now."

"Louis didn't know it was Mark until he saw him on Kauai."

Kauai police Tuesday night charged Wilson, 28, with interference of child custody and obstruction of a court order.

A Kauai District Court judge set bail for Wilson, who is fighting extradition to St. Charles, La., at \$10,000;



By Craig T. Kojima, Star-Bulletin

Louise Wilson, left, and Louis Aguilar yesterday flank their respective children: from left, top: Andre Aguilar, 4, Kimberley Wilson, 4, and Mark Wilson Jr., 5; and Tony Aguilar, 7, and Rachel Aguilar, 2.

Louisiana authorities had asked that he be held without bail.

Cynthia Aguilar was not charged but Hall said she has five outstanding felony warrants in Louisiana. The county where the warrants were issued cannot afford to extradite her, Hall said.

Chief investigator Mark Miller of the American Association for Lost Children contacted Kauai police for assistance a week ago after the Houston-based organization tracked down the children.

Louise Wilson allowed the children to visit her former in-laws Bob and Charlyne Wilson on Kauai after a Louisiana judge ordered the couple to guarantee their return by purchasing a return airline ticket.

When the children did not return as scheduled, Louise Wilson contacted Louisiana authorities and also the lost children association.

"We heard from Louise Wilson about a month ago and she told us that her ex-husband's new wife had also taken kids from Louisiana," Hall said. "Louis Aguilar had also contacted us about finding his kids but we hadn't put two and two together yet."

The non-profit organization had not begun working on Aguilar's complaint because it only gets involved in cases where there are felony warrants listed in the National Crime Information Center data bank.

The picture to the puzzle, however, became clearer in time and the organization contacted Kauai police once

it confirmed where the children were. Capt. Dennis Higashi said Kauai police moved in to make the arrests Tuesday after verifying documents presented by Miller.

While in Hawaii, the organization also helped to reunite two boys, ages 13 and 8, with their mother. The boys, who were taken from the Tennessee home of their grandparents, had lived with their father for two years on a boat moored outside Keehi Lagoon.

The entire story will be featured on the national television program "Primetime" in October, said Hall, who noted that the American Association for Lost Children is basically a three-man operation.

"We don't charge the parents a fee, and survive on donations."

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