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Abductors' Nemesis

GOING THROUGH HIS MAIL one day, Mark Miller came upon a "Have you seen me?" missing-child leaflet, and he wondered about it. He called the organization and asked if it investigated cases of missing children. The answer was no. "So I decided to start looking for these kids," he says.

Miller, a resident of Houston, Texas, founded the American Association for Lost Children, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding abducted children at no cost to the parents. He then began studying for a private investigator's license. His main criterion in taking a case is that the alleged abductor must have a felony warrant out for his arrest. Since 1987, Miller has helped locate 33 missing youngsters.

A recent success story came when he found two Texas children

who had been missing for 20 months: Emily, three, and her sister Anna, two. After searching for five months, Miller discovered the girls living with their father in a mobile home.

Sheriff's deputies arrested the man and charged him with abducting the children in violation of a court order.

"I knew God would deliver them home eventually," says Jackie, the girls' mother. But she credits Miller and his assistant, Mike Kramer, with the legwork. "They're the only ones who would get in the car with me and actually go look," she says.

When he made his commitment to missing children three years ago, Miller gave up a comfortable business career. "Now," he says, "my car's been repossessed and I've lost just about everything."

Why did he decide to go looking for abducted children? The answer, he says, is simple. "I wanted to help people."

— Al Brumley in *Dallas Morning News*