

# Child rapist leaves another state



DEMING, N.M. (AP) — After neighbors rallied in protest and an arson fire destroyed his home last week, convicted child rapist Joseph Gallardo fled Washington state.

Gallardo came to this farming community of 12,000 in southwestern New Mexico hoping to learn a trade and find counseling, his brother Pierre Gallardo said.

But Deming residents, many of whom were still upset over a teacher's child molestation conviction earlier this year, made it very clear that Joseph Gallardo was not welcome.

Gallardo and his brother left Deming about 12:30 a.m. Sunday, ahead of a crowd of about 100 who marched on Pierre Gallardo's rental home later that morning.

Protesters marched from an elementary school to the home carrying placards reading: "Washington Doesn't Want You, Neither Does Deming," "We Are Protecting Our Kids" and "Gallardo Go Home."

The group found police surrounding the residence and Deming Police Chief Michael Carillo waiting to deliver a message.

"They are not at the residence," Carillo said. "I do not know where they went."

Pierre Gallardo, 50, a merchant and Unitarian minister, told KING-TV in Seattle that he and his brother were leaving Deming for good, but didn't say where they were bound.

Joseph Gallardo arrived in Deming last Wednesday from Lynnwood, Wash., after being released from Twin Rivers Corrections Center in Monroe. He had served two years and 10 months of a four-year sentence for first-degree statutory rape of a 10-year-old girl.

The Snohomish County Sheriff's Office distrib-

uted fliers in Gallardo's Lynnwood neighborhood warning of his release and calling him "an extremely dangerous untreated sex offender with a very high probability for re-offense."

Carillo said he had been bombarded with phone calls from residents since Gallardo arrived in Deming last week.

Carillo said Pierre Gallardo called him at home Saturday night and expressed concern about staying in Deming.

"We discussed the situation here," Carillo said. "I told him the community did not want him (Joseph Gallardo) to remain here and said it would be very difficult for him here."

"He (Pierre) was very concerned about the community. It was a difficult decision to make, but he felt it was best if they leave," Carillo said.

Pierre Gallardo said he and his brother would not be coming back to Deming, but the house will be watched, Carillo said.

Carillo and District Attorney Anthony White had an impromptu town meeting with protesters in the local civic center Sunday.

"It was a very, very good meeting as far as the community was concerned," Carillo said. "They asked a lot of questions."

"They wanted to know why the system allowed him to serve so little time, why he was allowed to be released under unsupervised conditions and what they could do if he returned to Deming."

Carillo said a committee will be formed to lobby legislators for a sex offender registry in New Mexico. In Washington state, Gallardo was required by law to register with local authorities as a convicted sex offender.

Zolia Sapien, an organizer of the march Sunday, said Deming residents would not feel completely safe until they knew where Gallardo had gone.

# Torture inspires center for victims

(AP) — A nun's pain and suffering under torture in Central America has inspired an Oregon woman to open a center to help torture survivors heal their wounds and spirits.

Gordie Albi, founder of Friends of the Survivors, is a 65-year-old management consultant who has long been active with the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission in the United States.

Albi decided to organize the center after a visit with an old friend, a U.S. nun named Sister Dianna who could not recall her life before she became a torture victim.

The nun was kidnapped two years after Albi lived with her during a stay in Guatemala in 1987. Government security

forces acting as a death squad were alleged to be the kidnapers.

Before her escape, Sister Dianna suffered sexual assaults, beatings, extensive burns and was placed in a rat-infested pit filled with dead bodies.

Albi met her at a human rights conference last fall and was shocked to find the nun could not remember her life before her ordeal. She told Albi she wanted to know everything that Albi could recall about her, such as, "Was I dedicated? How was I with the children?"

Helping Albi establish the Eugene center, called Amigos de los Sobrevivientes in Spanish, is Dr. Antonio Martinez of the Marjorie Kovler Center for torture victims in Chicago.

Martinez says an estimated two million victims have fled an "international epidemic" of torture to come to the United States, which has only a handful of treatment centers.

The Chicago center has treated more than 7,000 victims of torture from 35 countries, said Martinez, a psychologist.

Organizers of the Eugene center are enlisting medical and legal experts to help survivors recover so they can find a job or resume their careers.

"Right now we're seeing a lot of refugees who not only want to find a way to make a living but also a way to get rid of nightmares," said Magdaleno Rose-Avila of Amnesty International, the worldwide organization that monitors human rights abuses.

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