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# Fezell Hires Attorney; Announces For 2nd Term

By CAMELIA FOSTER

District Attorney Vic Fezell announced Wednesday afternoon he has hired well-known Austin attorney Roy Minton to represent him in the current federal grand jury investigation going on in the state capitol.

Minton has represented State Attorney General Jim Mattox and former Speaker of the House Billy Clayton.

At the press conference, Fezell termed the grand jury investigation "serious" and said he felt he should have an attorney to represent him. "I am just a country lawyer and this is high level stuff."

He has also stated that he felt he would be indicted by the grand jury, but called grand jury indictments "only finger pointing and accusations." He cited that Mattox had been indicted and following a trial was found innocent.

Fezell also announced his plans to seek re-election to the office of district attorney.

"I am here today to announce for re-election," Fezell said, "I want to put to rest any rumors that, number 1, I am resigning, or number 2, that I'm not intending to run for re-election, or that I'm intending to run for any higher office at this time."

"I am not going to be run from office," Fezell said, "when I leave office it will be because of the voters."

Fezell was accompanied by his campaign treasurer Milton Wilson and McLennan County Democratic Chairman, Gene Evans.

Asked if he was supporting Fezell, Evans said, "Vic is a friend of mine, but I will support whoever is elected in the 1986 May democratic primary as the choice of the voters."

"I have a record to be proud of," Fezell said.

"My office has—drinking while



**MAKING A POINT**—District Attorney Vic Fezell flanked by Gene Evans, Chairman of the McLennan County Democratic Party and on the right by his campaign treasurer, Milton Wilson, makes a point about his offices accomplishments during a press conference held in the county commissioners' courtroom Wednesday afternoon.

intoxicated conviction rate higher than Dallas or Tarrant Co. we have solved the lake murders and have gotten two death sentences and four life sentences; we have put Eroy Brown back in prison; my office looked into the problems with child abuse and child sexual abuse in McLennan County. My office has increased hot check collection to the point where our merchants are proud of the department; and my office looked into sexual molestation of children in the Waco Independent School District. We did something about that where in the years past that was a subject that everybody else was afraid to broach."

Fezell also said his office would continue to protect citizens from street criminals and police abuses. "I have been a police officer before and I know about abuses when police are taking confessions to get convictions."

In response to a question, he said, "There are some excellent

police in the county, and the voters shouldn't be concerned about my feelings with Waco Police Chief (Larry Scott) but should be concerned about the council members who elected him to the position."

Although Fezell referred all questions concerning the grand jury investigation to his attorney in Austin, he did say, "for the past two years I have been doing the job I was elected to do and the problem didn't begin until I started stepping on big toes."

Fezell, who is reportedly under investigation by the Waco Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety and the FBI, stated he had not been subpoenaed.

Jan Patterson, federal prosecutor based in Waco, confirmed Monday the grand jury is hearing information on Fezell's activities.

Fezell said he believed if the election were held today he would be re-elected. "I am receiving support daily on the street."