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Fezell's complaint still under review

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The U.S. Justice Department in Washington, D.C., has nearly completed review of a complaint lodged by McLennan County District Attorney Vic Fezell, and will soon notify Fezell as to whether it will launch a formal probe.

John Wilson, assistant director of public affairs for the Justice Department, said Friday that the criminal section of the civil rights division has "just about completed" review of Fezell's allegations, and that a response will be mailed to Fezell in about a week.

In the complaint, Fezell alleges that representatives of the U.S. Justice Department, FBI, Texas Department of Public Safety and Waco Police Department conspired to violate his civil rights.

Fezell said that the conspiracy was developed under the direction of DPS Director Jim Adams in retaliation for Fezell's involvement in a grand jury investigation that raised questions about the Texas Rangers Homicide Task Force's probe of murder confessions made by Henry Lee Lucas.

Adams has denied Fezell's allegations, and while he failed to deny he had ordered a DPS investigation of Fezell, denied he order a "retaliatory" investigation.

Fezell also said that Assistant U.S. Attorney Jan Patterson, Waco Police Chief Larry Scott, DPS in-

telligence officer Ron Boyter and an unknown FBI agent "conspired to suborn perjury by offering a convicted felon money and federal protection to falsely testify to a federal grand jury against me."

Ms. Patterson and Scott have declined comment.

Wilson said the criminal section will either decide to begin a formal investigation, determine there was no violation of federal law, ask Fezell for more information, or refer the matter to another agency for consideration.

"They're taking this information supply and trying to look at various federal laws and see if they match up," Wilson said.

Wilson told the *Tribune-Herald* on Monday that Fezell's complaint had been assigned to the criminal section for investigation. On Friday, Wilson said "investigation" was not the correct word to use.

"When I say investigation, I mean we've sent the FBI out to talk to people and pick up records, and that's not happened yet," Wilson said.

Ms. Patterson is leading a federal grand jury investigation of Fezell in Austin. Fezell alleges that Ms. Patterson has offered Clyde Kelly Jr., a Waco man police say was responsible for around 100 burglaries in 1984 and 1985, money to falsely testify against him to the grand jury.