

Jan Patterson Resigns From Justice Department

By CAMELIA FOSTER

U.S. Attorney Jan Patterson, who led the investigation into wrongdoings in McLennan County District Attorneys' office for the past two years, revealed in Waco Saturday that she resigned her position approximately two weeks ago.

She related her resignation when questioned about not being present at the Austin trial. She was attending the Texas Ranger Reunion at Ft. Fisher.

Part of the reason for her resigna-

tion was D.A. Vic Feazell's allegations that she was guilty of prosecutorial misconduct.

Judge James Nowlin, hearing Feazell's trial in Austin, ruled two weeks ago he could not find any evidence of misconduct on the part of Ms. Patterson.

Because of those allegations, Jack Frels was brought in by the Chief U.S. Prosecutor Helen Eversburg of San Antonio to be lead counsel at the trial of Feazell.

Mrs. Eversburg and Frels both declined this past week to comment

when questions were raised on why Ms. Patterson was not present for the trial.

"I have been with the justice department for the past five years and for the past two years have worked in the Waco division," Ms. Patterson said. "I have worked on narcotics corruption and on the prosecution of Vic Feazell."

Ms. Patterson also acknowledged her part in the drug charges filed against a member of the Killeen City Council and two Killeen police department officers.

"My interest in the case and trial

in Austin against Mr. Feazell continues," Ms. Patterson said, "but it is better they have another prosecutor, I will available to help."

"The transition since my resignation has moved smoothly," she noted.

"They are trying the case in a very fine way," she commented.

Ms. Patterson said her plans are to teach in the University of Texas Law School. "I am very excited about the future," she said.

Waco City Manager David Smith introduced Ms. Patterson at the Texas Ranger Reunion Banquet on

Saturday evening and she received a standing ovation from the Rangers and their friends.

Smith could not be reached for comment.

Waco Police Chief, Larry Scott, said, "She has done a real good job for us and has really been a help. If it had not been for her some of our drug cases would not have made it. She picked them up and carried them through for the police department."

Scott said he had heard Frels was "very good" and would do a good job with the trial.

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