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McLennan DA says federal investigation is witch hunt

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forcement official was supposed to have predicted in May that Feazell would be shot or have his car blown up.

"You're talking to a potential political prisoner. I might as well be in Poland preaching (for) Solidarity," Feazell said.

Feazell said that in recent months he has been followed and his phone has been "illegally tapped." He said telephone company security personnel had determined that wire-tapping equipment had been used

on a telephone pole near his house, although the equipment was not there when the phone company checked.

In response to Feazell's charges, Adams said in a statement, "Any allegation that the Department of Public Safety conducts 'witch hunts' has no basis in fact. The department does not conduct an investigation unless there is a sound basis for one." He declined to specify whether the department was assisting in a federal investigation of Feazell's conduct in office. Adams

earlier had declined to confirm reports that the agency is conducting its own investigation of Feazell.

Feazell claimed that the department's agents "were ordered to get something on Vic Feazell or else" and that the agency had been working closely with the FBI in the investigation of his conduct in office.

Feazell said a department intelligence agent has been serving subpoenas for the federal grand jury. The agency declined any further comment on Feazell's charges. Federal grand jury subpoenas are not

public records.

"I know the FBI has been out talking to almost everyone I ever met in my life, asking them, what do you know on Vic Feazell," the prosecutor said.

He said allegations of misconduct by district attorneys usually are handled by the Texas attorney general's office. "But not this one — for this one they brought in the FBI . . . accompanied every step of the way by the DPS," Feazell said.

Feazell and Attorney General Jim Mattox are friends; Mattox support-

ed Feazell's call for an investigation into the credibility of Lucas' confessions, and his office helped in that investigation.

Mattox told reporters in June that he was concerned that a Department of Public Safety investigation of Feazell might be retaliation for Feazell's inquiry into actions of the Texas Rangers' Homicide Task Force. Mattox said the agency was investigating Feazell's handling of drunken driving cases and other allegations that he would not enumerate.

Dallas television station WFAA has been reporting on allegations concerning the Waco prosecutor for a number of weeks.

Because of those stories and the FBI and Department of Public Safety investigations of him, Feazell said, "My wife has cried herself to sleep every night for three months." When people "accuse you of being a crook and a felon and putting contracts on people and letting drugs run rampant . . . it's been pretty bad," he said.