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Texas
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CBS-TV'S '60 Minutes' To Broadcast Report On Central Texas D.A.

WACO — The Central Texas District Attorney who uncovered the Henry Lee Lucas confession fraud and in turn became the target of a state and federal investigation himself, will be the subject of a CBS-TV "Minutes" report this Sunday evening, December 29th, at 6:00 p. m.

Vic Fezell, District Attorney of McLennan County, launched an investigation into the confessions of self-professed mass murderer Henry Lee Lucas in late 1984. Fezell's investigation of Lucas angered the Texas Rangers which had assigned a special task force to assist Lucas in his hundreds of confessions throughout the country. Soon after Fezell officially began his Lucas investigation, the Department of Public Safety and the F.B.I. began an investigation into Fezell. Col. Jim Adams, who heads the DPS and the Texas Rangers and is the former Associate Director of the F.B.I. under J. Edgar Hoover, ordered the DPS investigation of Fezell.

CBS News Correspondent Harry Reasoner spent several weeks in Texas researching the Fezell story, along with a crew from "60 Minutes", during September and October. The "60 Minutes" report is believed to deal with the connection between Fezell's Lucas investigation and the subsequent state and federal investigations into Fezell. Fezell has called the DPS and FBI investigations retaliation for his "stepping on the wrong toes."

The 34-year old Fezell, who was elected to public office for the first time as District Attorney in McLennan County in 1982, launched a grand jury investigation in April to investigate Lucas confessions in his county. Attorney General Jim Mattox assisted Fezell in the investigation which concluded that Lucas could not have committed the three McLennan County murders to which he confessed. Attorney General Mattox is presently preparing a report on the Lucas probe which is expected to present evidence that Lucas could not have committed the hundreds of murders to which he, with the assistance of the Special Texas Ranger Task Force, confessed.

Roth Fezell and Mattox have characterized the DPS and federal investigation as "retaliatory" in response to Fezell's investigation into the Rangers' mishandling of the Lucas confessions.

Fezell and his wife Berni were interviewed by Reasoner about the DPS and FBI investigations. Fezell and his wife told Reasoner that their telephone has been illegally wire-tapped, that they have both been followed and that their son's dog had been poisoned.