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Lack of Waco prosecutions draws fire of police chief

WACO (AP) — Police Chief Larry Scott said he would bypass District Attorney Vic Feazell and take his cases to assistant U.S. Attorney Jan Patterson when possible in hopes of getting more aggressive prosecution.

"We haven't been getting any prosecution locally, and we have been receiving very good cooperation from the feds in cases that the DA's office has refused to take," Scott said Thursday.

The police chief told the *Waco*

Tribune-Herald that Feazell's office had refused to prosecute numerous cases and had returned them to the Police Department with claims of insufficient evidence or poor search warrants.

Scott said Ms. Patterson had obtained convictions in federal court on cases that Feazell refused to prosecute.

Feazell and members of his staff disputed Scott's claim. They said they refused to prosecute because of shoddy police work by the drug enforcement unit.