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McLennan DA lodges rights complaint

WACO — McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell on Tuesday asked the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate an alleged conspiracy to violate his civil rights, stemming from his own probe of Henry Lee Lucas.

In a letter to Assistant Attorney General William Bradford Reynolds, Feazell claimed a conspiracy was developed under the direction of Col. Jim Adams, director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, who he claims was miffed by revelations that some of Lucas' confessions to hundreds of murders were false.

"By uncovering the truth in the bogus Lucas confession spree, I severely rocked the boat of the Texas Rangers and offended the ego of (Adams)," the letter said.

The first-term district attorney said he filed the complaint not only in the hope that the Justice Department will decide to investigate his allegations, but also to bring to light what he called the "increasingly growing, unchecked power of the bureaucracy."