Facing six felonies, ex-Maypearl chief named in federal suit

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2015 Cop Pedophile Police Chief Kevin Coffey

WAXAHACHIE – Kevin Coffey, the former police chief of Maypearl, now faces a federal lawsuit alleging he committed illegal search and seizure, civil rights violations, and wrongful death while he's already jailed on a half-dozen felony charges of sexual assault of a child.

On Wednesday, relatives of a man named James Meyer filed the lawsuit against Coffey, 49, asking for \$1.5 million from the former police chief and the city of Maypearl.

Meyer took his own life in June after being driven into depression and paranoia from harassment and intimidation by Coffey, the lawsuit states.

According to the complaint, Chief Coffey harassed Meyer in retaliation for blowing the whistle to authorities about his alleged behavior with underage girls.

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"[Meyer] hired me in October of last year to start investigating things," said Andrea Hunter, a Fort Worth attorney who now represents Mallory Meyer, 18, the plaintiff.

It all began when James Meyer got "credible information from his daughters" in 2013 that Chief Coffey was having inappropriate contact with local teenage girls," the lawsuit explains.

"Specifically," it says, "Meyer had knowledge that Kevin Coffey had sexual contact with at least one girl high school girl and exchanged inappropriate text messages and phone calls to other high school girls."

According to the petition, Meyer reported the allegations to another Maypearl officer – Shannon Bachman – but no action was taken against the police chief.

Instead, the lawsuit alleges, Chief Coffey began to harass and intimidate Meyer.

"Chief Coffey has made death threats, threats to frame Mr. Meyer for criminal acts, illegally spied on Mr. Meyer, permitted and participated in constant drive-bys, stalked James and his family, sent police presence outside his Maypearl home, and following him throughout Maypearl. In addition, Chief Coffey, has also intimidated family members of James Meyer by following them throughout the city or directing other law enforcement officers to follow them and use ... traffic stops to question them."

Coffey's alleged retaliation against Meyer led to anxiety, mental anguish, physical pain and suffering, Hunter wrote in the complaint.

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"James Meyer ... became obsessed with the fear that he would be falsely accused and imprisoned for criminal acts he never committed. The stress became so great that it ultimately led to Mr. Meyer committing suicide to escape the harassment by Chief Coffey."

Meyer took his own life on June 13.

A month later, Texas Rangers charged Coffey with four felonies, including indecency with a child and sexual assault of a child.

Two additional charges have been filed against him in neighboring Johnson County for sexual assault of a child and indecency.

The City of Maypearl fired Coffey on July 22. He remains jailed in Ellis County on \$650,000 bond.

Kevin Coffey has declined requests by WFAA for an interview.

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