

Summers jurors ask prosecution of investigator

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SAN BERNARDINO — Nine jurors who recently acquitted a murder defendant are asking the district attorney's office to consider filing perjury and other criminal charges against the chief investigator in the case, The Sun has learned.

In a letter submitted to the DA's office late Monday afternoon, former San Bernardino Police Detective Don Meyer is accused of knowingly giving false information to court officials and badgering witnesses to change their testimony.

The allegations stem from the trial of Roy Summers who was acquitted Oct. 27 of the 1977 murder of Beverly Wise and the kidnap of two of her children. Summers was jailed for three years pending the outcome of the trial.

Also signing the letter prepared by Summers' defense attorney Timothy Guhin, are three private investigators and a public defender.

San Bernadino County District Attorney Dennis Kottmeier was asked to respond to the letter in 10 days. Otherwise an identical letter would be sent to the county grand jury and the state's attorney general's office, Guhin said.

Meyer, who resigned from the police force in August, was not available for comment. He reportedly has moved out of California.

San Bernardino Police Chief Ben Gonzales said Meyer, a 23-year police veteran, resigned from the force to become a private investigator.

Kottmeier, who had not seen the letter, withheld comment on the letter's contents until he could discuss the case with Deputy District Attorney Michael Smith who prosecuted Summers.

Gonzales said, "If there is enough information then I think we owe it to ourselves to look into it."

The letter states the former police detective knowingly gave false information in 1980 to the county grand jury. He later gave false information at two preliminary hearings related to the Summers' case, it said.

Meyer also signed search and arrest warrants he knew were based on false information, according to the letter.

The letter also states, he "knowingly lied to numerous witnesses in an attempt to get them to tell

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