

# Geer family says Torres indictment should have come sooner

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FAIRFAX, Va. (WUSA9) -- The family of the Fairfax County man who was shot and killed by a Fairfax County police officer is happy the officer is facing charges but believe the indictment should have come sooner.

Adam Torres, who is no longer with the department, was indicted Tuesday on a charge of second-degree murder in the shooting death of John Geer. The indictment comes nearly two years after Torres shot Geer in 2013.

Torres is scheduled to be arraigned on Wednesday.

"It's ridiculous that this had to take two years for this to happen," Don Geer, John Geer's father said.

Don Geer was a witness to the shooting that killed his son in the doorway of his Springfield home. Police were at the home after John Geer's longtime girlfriend called them. She told police that there were guns inside the home.

Torres told investigators that he saw Geer move his hands to his waist. Other officers and witnesses, including Geer's best friend Jeff Stewart, say Geer's hands only dropped only slightly to his shoulders.

**PREVIOUS STORY:** [Former Fairfax Co. officer indicted in John Geer shooting](#)

"Adam Torres deserves to be held accountable for his actions. The collateral damage is incredibly unfortunate and it's going to create huge hardships for his family. But it's something that needs to take place," Stewart said.

For Don Geer and his wife Ann, John Geer's death was a second tragedy. They lost their only other child and first son Donald to leukemia when he was 11.

However, Don Geer believes Torres isn't the only person at fault in his son's death. An investigation into the shooting revealed Torres had just recently had a heated argument with his wife.

"He made a very serious mistake, but he's not the only one who made a mistake. I think that the other people within the police department are somewhat responsible for this happening. He should have never been there," Don Geer said.

The criminal case stalled when Fairfax County police refused to turn over information. It took a judge's order to get the department to release that critical information.

"I had never been in a situation where I was denied access to evidence that I thought was pertinent to a criminal case. And it was pertinent," Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh said.

Ann Geer told WUSA9 she hope Torres is convicted and spends the rest of his life in prison. Don Geer has a different view.

"I think he needs to be penalized some. He's got a family and I get a little concerned about their well-being," Don Geer said.

Don Geer says he expects, and would be OK, if Torres is offered a plea deal, as long as the deal requires him to spend some time in prison.

The maximum punishment for second-degree murder, if convicted, is 40 years in prison.



*Adam Torres*

*(Photo: Fairfax County Sheriff's Office)*