



CITY OF ARANSAS PASS

November 8, 2022

WHY THE CITY ISSUED AND THEN TERMINATED A NO TRESPASS ORDER

On September 6, 2022, the Aransas Pass City Manager and City Attorney issued a criminal trespass warning to Jason Followell forbidding him from entering onto certain city administrative facilities (i.e. city hall, civic center, library, etc.). The NO TRESPASS ORDER allowed Followell:

- to conduct official essential city business by directly contacting the City Manager to coordinate the services;
- to participate in City Council meetings via video, telephone, social media, or written communication;
- to his attend his criminal court hearing dates in Municipal Court; and
- to vote at the Civic Center.

The City issued the NO TRESPASS ORDER because the Aransas Pass Police Department received reliable and credible information from confidential informants that Jason Followell **expressed his hatred for everyone on the City Council and some city staff and his desire to kill them.** Followell also allegedly solicited two individuals to secretly smuggle a firearm into a city council meeting. This action by Followell came after his disagreement with the City about a fire inspection of his business property.

Other publicly known evidence includes but is not limited to:

- On a social media site, Followell posted a meme of a man holding a firearm and entered text directing the meme towards City Officials of Aransas Pass. The meme further stated, “People will provoke you until they bring out your scary side then play victim when you go there.”
- On a social media site, Followell posted “City Council Meeting Tuesday at 530-630 who is with me to come up with our 2nd Amendment Right and Protect OUR CONSTITUTION?”
- On a social media site, Followell, who refers to himself as a Freedom Fighter, defined it as a person who takes part in an armed rebellion against the constituted authority (especially in the hope of improving conditions) synonyms; insurgent, insurrectionists, rebel. 2nd Amendment is our right to protect from both Foreign and DOMESTIC!
- Followell showed up dressed in ballistic body armor during a city council meeting.

Followell’s live threats triggered other federal and county law enforcement personnel to assist APPD in protecting the public during a city council meeting. Additionally, when it came time for Followell to vote, an election official requested heightened police security because of Followell’s threatening behaviors. APPD provided unseen security to alleviate those concerns.

City Manager Gary Edwards stated, “The NO TRESPASS ORDER was issued as a preventive measure for the duration of the live threat on the lives of city officials. Since September 6, 2022, the City has implemented enhanced, strong security measures inside its city facilities. Followell’s threats have been mitigated as much as possible. Consequently, the City lifts the trespass order against Jason Followell effective immediately.”

