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Volkers threatens legal action after child sex claims aired

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Reporter: Louise Willis

LINDA MOTTRAM: Swimming coach, Scott Volkens, says wants to be left alone to get on with his life, despite new pressure on Queensland authorities to reinstate child sex charges against him.

He's threatening legal action after ABC TV aired the story of Julie Gilbert, one of the three women who accused Volkens of indecent dealing.

Volkens' employer, Australian Swimming, is standing by its head women's coach, but it's closely monitoring events.

Louise Willis reports.

LOUISE WILLIS: Julie Gilbert was coached by Scott Volkens in the mid-1980s, and this week she told the Australian Story program how he'd massaged her chest, and between her legs when she was 13.

Scott Volkens has now hired defamation lawyers.

SCOTT VOLKERS: I mean you can't go round with your name just being plastered with incorrect facts and, and, and some made-up stories or exaggerations of the truth.

LOUISE WILLIS: Scott Volkens was committed to trial last year to face indecent dealing charges involving three women but then Queensland's Director of Public Prosecutions dropped all charges after a briefing from Mr Volkens' legal team.

That decision is still the subject of an investigation.

Now 32, Julie Gilbert is fighting for the charges to be reinstated but Scott Volkens just wants the matter to go away.

SCOTT VOLKERS: Oh, of course. I just want to get on with my life and do my job and get out and help people.

LOUISE WILLIS: Soon after the charges were dropped, Scott Volkens was chosen as Australian Swimming's new head women's coach.

He's been told to keep doing his job, but the body's Chief Executive, Glenn Tasker, says Australian Swimming is closely watching events.

GLENN TASKER: We, as somebody that uses his expertise, are interested in his

welfare and wellbeing.

LOUISE WILLIS: Why at this point is there no need to review his position?

GLENN TASKER: Well, right at this point in time, Scott has absolutely done nothing but accusations made against him. Two government, two government agencies, the police, and the DPP have been investigating Scott and they have decided that there is no case to answer and Australian Swimming is happy enough to go along with the decisions of those bodies at this stage.

LOUISE WILLIS: What if the charges were reinstated?

GLENN TASKER: Australian Swimming would have to reconsider that if that was to happen.

LINDA MOTTRAM: Australian Swimming's Chief Executive Glenn Tasker speaking to Louise Willis.