

## Belli Can Still File Ruby Pleas, Lawyers Say

Melvin Belli could file legal pleas for Jack Ruby even though fired as chief defense attorney, lawyers here said Thursday.

They said Belli could file them as a "friend of the court."

It is optional with judges of higher courts whether they accept these pleas, but they usually do so.

The Dallas News revealed Thursday that Ruby and his family had dismissed Belli from the defense team.

Phil Burleson, another defense lawyer who was retained, conferred with Ruby Thursday morning and told reporters that Ruby, himself, made the final decision to replace Belli.

Meanwhile, George Senator, Ruby's former apartment mate,

said the slayer felt he did not get the best possible defense during the month-long trial which ended with jurors condemning him to the electric chair.

"He has been feeling pretty low lately," Senator said.

Burleson said he found Ruby "pretty composed" when he talked to the slayer in the county jail for 35 minutes Thursday.

Burleson also emphasized that, like Ruby and his family, he does not concur with Belli in his caustic criticism of Dallas.

"I do not endorse Mr. Belli's remarks," Burleson said. "They were his, not mine. This is my home."

### WADE REFUSES ANY COMMENT

Dist. Atty. Henry Wade declined comment Thursday on the dismissal of Melvin Belli and the selection of Percy Foreman as chief defense attorney in the Jack Ruby case.

"That's a matter for Ruby and his family," Wade said.