

Memphis Press-Scimitar

He Will Preside At a New Trial Is Ordered

By ROY B. HAMILTON
Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

Criminal Court Judge Arthur C. Faquin Jr. today was named to succeed the late Judge W. Preston Battle as the presiding judge in the James Earl Ray case.

The announcement was made shortly before noon by Judge Perry Sellers, senior member of the Criminal Court bench in Shelby County, following a meeting of the four judges.

"Pursuant to the method used by the judges of the Criminal Court in assigning the James Earl Ray case to the Hon. W. Preston Battle, Judge Arthur Faquin was selected as the alternate or substitute judge in the event that Judge Battle became incapacitated or unable to hear the case," Judge Sellers said.

MOVING UP as the presiding judge in the historic case, Judge Faquin will conduct all post-trial hearings, including Ray's motion for a new trial made in two letters sent to Judge Battle shortly before his death Monday.

Judge Faquin, who presides over Division 2 of the Criminal Court, would also be the trial judge, should a new trial be ordered in having his own court.

Mr. Faquin, 47, earned his law degree from the Law School of the University of Central High School and the University of Tennessee and formerly was associated with the old law firm of Evans, Enix, Moriarty & Petree. He left the firm to become an assistant

JUDGE ARTHUR FAQUIN To Handle Ray Case

ney general and was appointed to the General Sessions bench in 1963 after winning a bar primary.

He was appointed by Gov. Clement, following the recommendation of the Memphis-Shelby County Bar Association, to the Criminal Court bench in May 1965.

He's a quiet man with a courteous manner and keen sense of humor. He has served as West Tennessee vice president of the Episcopal Churchmen of Tennessee, is married and has three children and lives at 1891 Mignon.

COURT OBSERVERS describe Faquin as a friendly outgoing man, who, like Judge Battle is extremely conscientious about the duties and responsibilities of the Court.

Said one attorney, who has practiced before his Court, "He has a very good judicial temperament. I've seen him everywhere in his Court. He is a little more liberal than it was in Judge Battle's court, but is certainly no leniency case."

*orig. + me fwd
Bureau
4-9-69*

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE /

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

MEMPHIS, TENN.

Date: 4-3-69

Edition:

Author: CHAS. H. SHREVE

Editor: CHAS. H. SHREVE

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: MEMPHIS

Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

44-1987-Sub-M-372

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....

SERIALIZED *llh* FILED *llh*

APR 7 1969

FBI - MEMPHIS

JM