

*J. Burton*

*1-6-69*

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF ORLEANS

AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, Notary Public for the Parish of Orleans, personally came and appeared:

FRED M. GARRISON, SR.

who after being first duly sworn, did depose and say as follows:

That I am the undersigned persons who appeared on the NBC national broadcast entitled "The J.F.K. Conspiracy: The Case of Jim Garrison" Monday, June 19, 1967.

While appearing on the program I stated that a member of Jim Garrison's staff offered me \$2,500 for my testimony in the case. I refused my turkish headscarf that on the program I used the name Clay Bertrand. I further stated that I attempted to get me to the city of New Orleans to see Shaw to the house of the late Senator.

I now state I did not receive any money without any promise of reward or payment made on the NBC program related to the case. I was a bribe for the money involved.

My making this statement was the result of a long deliberation principally by me, Robert E. Lee, former Assistant District Attorney, and the office of Jim Garrison from the time accounting for my whereabouts would not affect the character of the case.


I would like to state that I appeared on the program and did not cooperate with the District

*[Handwritten signature]*

Attorney's office. First, I received numerous anonymous threatening phone calls relative to the information that I had given Mr. Garrison. The gist of these calls was to the effect that if I did not change my statement and state that I had been bribed by Jim Garrison's office, I and my family would be in physical danger.

In addition to the anonymous phone calls, I was visited by a man who exhibited a badge and stated that he was a government agent. This man informed me that the government was presently checking the bar owners in the Slidell area for possible income tax violations. This man then inquired whether I was Mr. Leemans involved in the Clay Shaw case. When I informed him that I was, he said that it was not smart to be involved because a lot of people that had been got hurt and that people in powerful places would see to it that I was taken care of.

One of the anonymous callers suggested that I change my statement and state that I had been bribed by Garrison's office to give him the information about Clay Shaw. He suggested that I contact Mr. Irvin Dymond, Editor of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, and tell him that I gave Mr. Garrison the statement about Shaw only after Mr. Lee offered me \$2,500. After consulting with Mr. Dymond by telephone and in person, I was introduced to Walter Sheridan, Investigative Reporter for NBC, who was then in the process of preparing the NBC show. Mr. Dymond and Mr. Sheridan suggested that I appear on the show and state what I had originally told Mr. Dymond about the bribe offer by the District Attorney's office.




I was informed by Mr. Dymond that should the District Attorney's office charge me with giving false information as a result of my repudiating the statement I had originally given them, he would see to it that I had an attorney and that a bond would be posted for me. In this connection Mr. Dymond gave me his home and office telephone numbers and advised me that I should contact him at any time of day or night should I be charged by Garrison's office as a result of my appearing on the NBC show.

My actual appearance on the show was taped in the office of Aaron Kohn, Managing Director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, in the presence of Walter Sheridan and Irvin Dymond.

  
FRED H. LEE MANS, SR.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 1969.

  
BYRON P. LEGENDRE, Notary Public