

Criminalist Sues Over Kennedy Case Charges

Criminalist DeWayne A. Wolfer, acting head of the Los Angeles Police Department's crime laboratory, filed a \$2 million defamation suit in Superior Court Friday against Mrs. Barbara Warner Blehr.

Mrs. Blehr, an attorney, last May 28 publicly accused Wolfer of making errors in the ballistics investigations of the Robert F. Kennedy assassination and in two other murder cases.

Also named as defendants in Wolfer's suit were 15 John Does.

Wolfer's attorney, John LaFollette, who announced the filing at a press conference in his office, indicated that the unknowns were named because it did not seem likely Mrs. Blehr would take it "upon herself to defame a nationally respected ballistics expert."

Mrs. Blehr's accusations

against Wolfer were contained in a letter she wrote to the Civil Service Commission opposing Wolfer's permanent appointment to the crime laboratory post.

Mrs. Blehr's letter raised the question of whether a second gunman might have fired shots at Sen. Kennedy at the Ambassador June 5, 1968, and escaped as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was overpowered and held.

LaFollette called Mrs. Blehr's charges "absurd." He said everybody conceded that only eight bullets were fired, that the Sirhan gun contained eight bullets and that every one of them was fired.

A special inquiry into alleged irregularities in ballistics tests in the Sirhan case was launched recently by Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch Jr. Findings have not yet been announced.

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