

NEWS RELEASE

Office of the District Attorney
600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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After 9:00 A.M.

STATEMENT OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY EVELLE J. YOUNGER

Immediately following the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy on June 5, 1968, District Attorney Evelle J. Younger and all law enforcement agencies involved in the investigation concluded that public interest and national security required an exhaustive inquiry into the circumstances of the offense and the background and associates of the defendant. Of particular concern was the possibility that the accused was a member of a conspiracy whose objectives were not satisfied by the elimination of one political leader. It was agreed that full disclosure of the results of the investigation should be available to the public at a time when the constitutional rights of the defendant could not be jeopardized by the attendant publicity.

Under the direction of Chief of Detectives Robert A. Houghton, the Los Angeles Police Department established a special task force constituted of specially qualified detectives selected from the various divisions of the department.

pending the determination of the case on appeal, the Los Angeles County Clerk will prepare duplicate copies of documentary evidence and photographic representations of exhibits which will be available for inspection by interested members of the public at the Office of the County Clerk, Criminal Division, on the fourth floor of the Hall of Justice.

Inspection of the original exhibits will be permitted by order of the Superior Court, for good cause shown.

Duplicate copies of the exhibits on file may be obtained by proper application to the County Clerk by order of the Court upon payment of the fees provided by statute.

The Los Angeles Police Department has agreed without reservation that the interests of the public and law enforcement are best served by full disclosure of the results of the comprehensive investigation which they have conducted.
Los Angeles Chief of Police Roger Murdock will arrange that the Sirhan case record will be made available to the public to the fullest extent that security precautions and administrative resources will permit.

Deputy Chief Jack Collins representing Chief Murdock is present and will explain the procedures established for the review of the material compiled by SUS.

In many respects the problems and pressures incident to the successful prosecution of Peoole v. Sirhan are