

# Bond Forfeiture Decisions Delayed

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Five Criminal District Court judgments ordering United Bonding Insurance Co. to forfeit a total of \$2,500 in appearance bonds were set aside or delayed this week.

Criminal Court Judges Oliver P. Schulingkamp and Matthew S. Braniff rendered decisions in the forfeiture cases.

The \$2,500 was part of a total \$34,500 the district attorney's office is attempting to collect from the bonding firm following bond forfeiture judgments issued when defendants failed to appear in court.

**EARLIER THIS** month, United Bonding Insurance filed a petition in Criminal District Court asking that the district attorney's office be enjoined from collecting the \$34,500 involved in 32 separate cases.

The company's suit charged the DA's office is using inaccurate records in its collection attempt.

United's attorney, Anthony C. D'Antonio, yesterday moved for dismissal of the blanket petition. Judge Frank J. Shea then dismissed the suit without opposition from Assistant DA James L. Alcock.

**D'ANTONIO THEN** said he is filing similar suits in the individual sections of criminal court where the forfeitures concerned were instituted.

This week's action on the bond forfeiture judgments included Judge Schulingkamp's refusal to set aside forfeiture rulings concerning two defendants who failed to appear in his court. The bonds involved total \$1,250.

Judge Schulingkamp did, however, grant permanent injunctions to United in two cases.

Judge Braniff on Tuesday recalled the writs seeking bond forfeitures in two United cases, and set aside a third forfeiture judgment.