

OFFER OF BRIBE TO DA CHARGED

T-P 11/11/67
Marcello Made Proposal,
Chandler Alleges

Sworn statements were entered Friday in federal court that Carlos Marcello offered Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison a \$52,000 bribe to present a test slot machine to a "particular court" where "arrangements" were made to call it legal.

The allegations were made an affidavit by Life Magazine reporter David L. Chandler, who is seeking to reopen a three-judge court case on testimony he heard Garrison once tell him of receiving the bribe offer from the Jefferson Parish rackets figure.

Chandler offered the notarized statements to federal court after stating in a hearing Wednesday he wanted to ask the DA's office why Garrison had "never prosecuted" Marcello for allegedly offering Garrison a year-long \$1,000-a-week bribe. Chandler's Friday statement did not mention the "particular court" to which he referred.

The court has taken under advisement the case on whether Chandler will have to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, but through his move Friday the Life reporter seeks to introduce the new testimony and have Garrison appear under oath in federal court.

Thursday Garrison issued a denial that he or his office received the bribe proposal from Marcello, who lives out of his jurisdiction in Jefferson Parish.

According to Chandler's affidavit, the reporter asked the DA "if he was going to prosecute Mr. Marcello and he said no, because there were some friends acting as intermediaries."

Chandler stated to the court that he and another person—unnamed in the affidavit—were present when Garrison outlined the bribe offer, which involved protection for a proposed slot machine system in New Orleans.

"Carlos Marcello wanted to install several hundred electronically operated coin slot

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BRIBE OFFER IS CHARGED

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machines in restaurants and bars and other businesses in Orleans Parish," Chandler's statement read.

"He wanted Mr. Garrison's investigators to seize one of the machines but not to damage it, and present it to a particular court where Mr. Marcello said he had made arrangements for the machine to be declared legal and then the machines could operate without further interference from the district attorney's office or the police in Orleans Parish, and for this service Mr. Garrison was to receive \$1,000 a week for a year," the affidavit continued.

Chandler said the interview occurred in the summer of 1963 in his capacity as a newspaper reporter for the New Orleans States-Item.

"I subsequently verified this information from other sources and believe it to be the incident described in a Feb. 1964 issue of the Saturday Evening Post in an article about Mafia operations in New Orleans and Jefferson Parish," the affidavit concluded.

Chandler contends that the subpoena for him to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, which he is seeking to block by court order, is an instrument intended by Garrison to trap him into a charge of perjury. Garrison said he had no such intention.

The reporter and the DA have been at odds since Life's series

of articles claiming that organized crime flourishes in Louisiana. Garrison contends there is no organized crime in New Orleans.

There is no indication when the federal court will rule on Chandler's appeal.

Chandler Allegedly Has Changed Story

Chief Assistant District Atty. Charles R. Ward Friday claimed in a memorandum to District Atty. Jim Garrison that Life Magazine reporter David Chandler "has now changed his story."

The Ward memorandum accompanied an alleged transcript of Ward's questioning of Chandler Jan. 27, 1967.

In testimony in federal court Wednesday, Chandler said that Ward in January asked him about a 1962 case involving alleged extortion by David Ferrie. Chandler said he knew nothing of it, and was puzzled by Ward's line of questioning.

In his memo to Garrison, Ward said:

"As you can see from the attached copy of David Chandler's deposition, Chandler has now changed his story. When first he spoke with Louis Ivon (DA's investigator), he alleged that a bribe was offered to a member of the district attorney's office to dismiss the suit wherein David Ferrie was charged with extortion. This suit was dismissed by Frank Klein (then first assistant DA) in December, 1962, when it was ap-

parent the victim would not testify.

"When it became apparent to Chandler that everyone would realize the allegations were false, he then tried to charge that the bribe was offered to release David Ferrie from arrest and charges when he was arrested in 1963 in connection with the investigation into the assassination of President (John F.) Kennedy."