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2nd Felon Freed In Bid to Protect Presser's Work

Los Angeles Times

CLEVELAND, Oct. 9—The Justice Department agreed today to free admitted felon Jack Nardi rather than submit to a new trial at which it might be forced to detail the role of Teamsters union President Jackie Presser as an FBI informer.

Immediately after the court proceeding, Nardi reiterated that he had taken \$109,800 illegally in a "ghost employe" scheme engineered by Presser.

The sudden freeing of Nardi, 43, marked the third government loss in the three-year investigation because the Justice Department failed to disclose that Presser was a long-time secret informer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In July, the government decided to drop the probe without bringing charges against Presser after learning that FBI agents had condoned the payroll-padding scheme to enhance his abilities to provide information on organized crime.

Another ghost employe—Allen Friedman, Presser's uncle—was freed last week in Akron after the department requested that charges against him be dropped.