Russo Guilty Of Possessing Stolen $1 Key

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Perry Raymond Russo, star witness in the Kennedy assassination trial of Clay Shaw, was convicted in Criminal District Court last night on a charge of possession of stolen property.

He will be sentenced Oct. 5. The stolen property was a safety deposit box key valued at $1.

Russo, 29, became nationally known when he testified he witnessed conspiracy plans to assassinate the late President John F. Kennedy and appeared as chief witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's unsuccessful attempt to convict Shaw.

Russo's conviction grew out of an incident involving Alvin E. Fontenberta, 6711 Dorchester, owner of the deposit box key.

Prosecuting Assistant District Attorney Harry Wheeler charged the key was stolen by Russo Aug. 22.

Russo also was arrested and booked with simple burglary of property valued at $8,400 which was found at a former address of Fontenberta's but the DA did not accept charges against him.