Kidnap Charges Delayed in Murphy Case

A Georgia prosecutor said today the state would delay a decision on filing state kidnaping charges against the couple held in the abduction of John R. (Reg) Murphy until federal authorities decide whether to press charges.

Dekalb County District Attorney Richard Bell said he would meet with federal authorities this week to discuss possible charges.

Federal agents are attempting to establish whether Murphy—editorial page editor of The Atlanta Constitution—was transported across a state line, a necessary condition for a federal kidnap charge.