

Haggerty Case Hearing Friday

Defense Recusal Motion Will Be Considered

A hearing scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday in Criminal District Court will determine which of two colleagues will preside over the trial of Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. on charges stemming from a Dec. 17 vice-squad raid on an alleged stag show at the DeVillie Motel, 3800 Tulane Ave.

Judge Haggerty, who presides over one of the 10 criminal court sections, is charged with soliciting for prostitutes, resisting police officers, and obscenity, all misdemeanors.

The District Attorney's Office filed the charges Dec. 31, and the cases were allotted to Judge Alvin V. Oser. Judge

Haggerty was scheduled to be arraigned at 9 a.m. Friday.

MOTION FILED

However, Wednesday, Judge Haggerty's attorney, Robert J. Zibilich, filed a motion with Judge Oser asking that he recuse himself from hearing the cases.

Zibilich claimed that Judge Oser is a material witness in the Haggerty cases as a result of having signed arrest warrants for several persons arrested as a result of the same raid.

Another judge, Matthew S. Braniff, will preside over a hearing on the recusal motion at 10 a.m. Friday. If he decides there are no grounds for recusal, the case will go back to Judge Oser.

However, if Judge Braniff rules that there are grounds for recusal, then the cases remain with Judge Braniff.

17 ARRESTED

Of a total of 17 persons arrested as a result of the raid, Judge Haggerty and three other men are the only ones charged.

James Alcock, first assistant district attorney, announced Wednesday that, with the possible exception of one other man, none of the other arrested persons will be charged.

The possible exception is Kenneth Brouillette, 33, 2000 David Dr., Metairie, who was arrested Dec. 19 on a charge of pandering.

Alcock said he had not received the police report on Brouillette's arrest.

One of the other persons who will not be charged was booked with allowing gambling at the motel. He was Henry J. Smith, 60, 2341 N. Galvez, a bartender.

The others were booked only with conspiracy to commit obscenity. They included three women, an attorney, and Judge Haggerty's minute clerk.

In addition to Judge Haggerty's charges, the folk charges were filed again

ing police officers:

Joseph G. Zarza Jr., 26, 3800 Tulane Ave., Apt. 105, identified as the manager of the DeVille, and Max Williams, 36, 1931 Farmington Pl., Gretna, obscenity by exhibiting allegedly obscene motion picture film.

named individuals:

Victor M. Soto, 39, 926 E. William David Pkwy., two gambling charges and one of resist-

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