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Haggerty Fails to Obtain Identity of Informants

Judge Will Go on Trial Monday Morning

Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. Tuesday lost his last chance before going to trial to obtain the names and addresses of any police informants who may have been present at an alleged stag show at the DeVille Motel, 3800 Tulane Ave., on Dec. 17.

Judge Haggerty will be tried at 10 a.m. Monday before a fellow judge, Matthew S. Braniff, on charges of soliciting for prostitutes, resisting police officers, and obscenity by exhibiting obscene movie film. Both judges preside in sections of Criminal District Court.

Judge Braniff has ruled that the state does not have to identify its informants. Tuesday, he overruled an objection by Robert J. Zibilich to the ruling.

Judge Haggerty and 13 other persons, including three women, were arrested during a vice squad raid on the party, described by Zibilich as a before-the-wedding bachelor party for one participant.

OTHERS ARRESTED

Three other men were arrested subsequently.

Zibilich Tuesday also moved that evidence against Haggerty be thrown out on the grounds that illegal search and seizure were made; that no search or arrest warrants were issued; that there was no probable cause to believe that a crime was being committed, and that the arresting officers did not properly identify themselves or

announce the purpose of their arrest.

In response to another of Zibilich's motions, Judge Braniff ordered that officials of television station WDSU-TV produce films taken during the raid to be exhibited at the trial Monday.

Zibilich also argued that Haggerty's arrest occurred outside of a private room in the motel, but that the search "and subsequent battery upon the defendant occurred within the private room in the motel.

Such a private room is not a "public establishment" under law, he said.

TO FILE MOTIONS

Zibilich said he will file motions Wednesday to quash the bills of information which contain the charges against Haggerty. Judge Braniff said the motions to quash and to suppress evidence will be heard during the trial Monday.

Zibilich and assistant district attorney John P. Volz disagreed over the status of the informant reportedly present at the party.

Volz contended that such an undercover agent need not be a police officer.

Zibilich is expected to file names of defense witnesses Wednesday.

One bit of information previously requested by Zibilich was who had "tipped off" newsmen about the motel raid.

The state has answered that Sgt. William Nolan, police information officer, had done so as he usually does on "important" police raids.

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