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HOWARD COMING TO TESTIFY HERE

T-P 2-26-68
Volunteers to Appear in
Garrison Probe

An unemployed California welder who was successful in his fight against being extradited as a witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination probe has volunteered to come here to testify.

Lawrence Howard Jr. of El Monte, Calif., left Los Angeles Saturday night bound for New Orleans and a scheduled testimony session with the Orleans Parish Grand Jury.

Howard was subpoenaed by Garrison and said he would come to New Orleans but later changed his mind.

Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer denied Garrison's extradition request on Jan. 27 after a short hearing.

"Now that I don't have to go," Howard said, "I am willing and want to go. I am hoping this will show people that I have absolutely nothing to hide."

In his subpoena, Garrison said Howard was registered at the Young Men's Christian Association in Dallas the day President Kennedy was killed. But Howard said he was in Los Angeles that day.

Howard said, "I am hoping that if Mr. Garrison is on the right track, and I assume he does have something, that I can perhaps enlighten him or help out in some way . . . bring certain facts to light."

"I am not saying I have anything I can help with, but in any way I can, I will."

He did not say when he is to appear before the grand jury.