

Joseph P. Busch Jr. Dies at 49; District Attorney in Los Angeles

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LOS ANGELES, June 27— District Attorney Joseph P. Busch Jr., of Los Angeles Courts who oversaw the largest district attorney's office in the country, died in his sleep last night at his West Covina home. He was 49 years old.

A spokesman for the district attorney's office said that the cause of death had not been determined, but it was believed that death came from natural causes.

Mr. Busch was appointed Dec. 1, 1970, filling the unexpired term of his friend Evelle Younger, who had been elected the State's Attorney General. Mr. Busch's appointment capped an 18-year career with the district attorney's office, which began in 1952, immediately following his graduation from the Loyola University School of Law here.

He was born in Chicago on Feb. 12, 1926, and got a B.A. degree from the University of Texas in 1947.

In November, 1972, Mr. Busch was elected district attorney in his own right.

First as a deputy district attorney and then as head of an office with about 600 attorneys, Mr. Busch was associated with a number of headline ca-



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ses. Last year, he drew the attention of the press when he refused pleas from former Representative Allard K. Lowenstein to refire the gun Sirhan B. Sirhan used to kill Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Mr. Busch leaves his wife the former Jennie Rosario; and three sons, Joseph, Steven and David.