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3, LA., WEDNESDAY MORNIN

## KOHN SAYS SUIT A 'HARASSMENT'

Defamation Action Hit by MCC Director

Aaron Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans Inc., said Tuesday that a \$75,000 defamation of character suit filed against him Monday by a former bail bondsman was "calculated harassment."

In a statement Kohn said, "We believe this latest law suit in the name of Nick Christiana fits into the pattern of calculaed harassment to divert our energies away from documentation and public disclosure of organized crime in this area.

"However, we also value the opportunity for such proof before an impartial judge in an open courtroom."

The suit stems from statements made by Kohn during a June 25 television interview in which, Christiana says, Kohn stated that Christiana was believed to be connected with the Cosa Nostra and that his history "ties him up with the Carlos Marcello organization."

Christiana seeks \$50,000 damages for embarrassment and mental anguish and \$25,000 for business losses resulting from the broadcast.