

TOTAL ACCIDENTS

KOHN DECISION STANDS--COURT

T-P 645768
Tribunal Denies Rehearing of April Ruling

The Louisiana Supreme Court Tuesday denied a rehearing of its April decision clearing Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, of a contempt of court judgment and parish prison sentence.

Kohn was sentenced to jail by Criminal District Court Judge Matthew S. Braniff after refusing to disclose to a grand jury the name of a confidential informer who gave him information concerning local gambling operations.

The sentence was to end whenever Kohn decided to answer the question, but after spending the night of Dec. 14, 1967, in jail, Kohn was released by a stay of sentence by the Supreme Court.

The Orleans District Attorney's office sought the rehearing, contending the proceeding in which Kohn was cleared was moot because the grand jury seeking the information was out of office.

The majority of the court then rejected the allegation that the case was moot, holding that insofar as the record shows, Kohn could have ended his sentence by furnishing the information to a succeeding grand jury.