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## Ward Is Sworn In To Replace O'Hara

Charles Ray Ward was sworn in today as a Criminal District Court judge, replacing retired Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, Ward's former boss and one-time political foe, showed up to speak some kind words for the new judge and some unkind ones for the federal government.

Garrison, who defeated Ward in the DA's election in 1969, said his former first assistant "will not be a good judge. He will be a great judge."

The DA, who is under federal indictment for public brib-

ery and gambling, said, "The state courts are our last and best hope for justice at a time when the federal judiciary has become corrupt."

Ward was sworn in at an en banc session of the criminal judges in the Section H courtroom of senior Judge Bernard Bagert. Administering the oath was Joe D. Sanders, associate justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

Sheldon Beychok, executive counsel to Gov. Edwin W. Edwards, represented the governor and said Edwards "could not be happier and more pleased to see his good friend on the bench." Ward was appointed as one of the last official acts of outgoing Gov. John J. McKeithen.

Judge Bagert said Ward will be a "young, vigorous and intellectual addition to the court."

City Attorney Blake Arata, representing Mayor Moon Landrieu, cited Ward's work in his office where he had been serving as an assistant. Ward quit as first assistant DA in 1969 after a dispute with Garrison over a previous court appointment.

Ward said, "Public confidence in the judiciary must be restored . . . I want to be a judge all of us will be proud of."

Watching Ward take the oath were his wife and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ward. The two Mrs. Wards were presented bouquets of roses by Master of Ceremonies Charles Elloie.