

Trial Delay Asked On Nixon Donors

10/31/72
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The Finance Committee to Re-elect the President took two separate steps yesterday to delay trial of a suit seeking to force the committee to name people who gave the committee money before April 1.

The committee:

- Asked Chief Justice Warren E. Burger to stay the trial, scheduled to begin today before U.S. District Judge Joseph C. Waddy.

- Filed a suit in U.S. District Court asking for an injunction against enforcement of certain provisions of the law under which the disclosure suit was brought.

The original suit, filed in September by Common Cause, asked the court to compel the Finance Committee to reveal the source of more than \$10 million in contributions made before the April 7 effective date of a new campaign finance reporting law.

Unsuccessful in having that suit delayed before Waddy

and the U.S. Court of Appeals, the Finance Committee asked Burger to delay it until the Supreme Court decides whether it should be heard by a three-judge federal panel.

In its action in District Court aimed at blocking enforcement of certain provisions of the 1925 law, the finance committee argued that those provisions did not require reporting of the financing of primaries.

The Finance Committee contends that the contributions made before April 7 were to aid in President Nixon's re-nomination.

The Finance Committee's suit also asserts that to require it to disclose the identity of persons who made contributions would violate the anonymous status they were previously given.

Forcing such disclosure, the suit contends, would violate First Amendment rights of free speech and association. The suit also asks for the convening of a three-judge panel.