

## McCord, Liddy Appeal, Seek Bond

By Lawrence Meyer  
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A lawyer for James W. McCord charged yesterday that chief U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica, committed at least nine errors providing grounds for reversing McCord's Watergate bugging trial conviction.

The lawyer Gerald Alch, formerly requested Sirica to release McCord from the D.C. jail on bond pending appeal of his conviction Tuesday on charges of conspiracy, burglary and illegal wiretapping and eaves-dropping.

Lawyers for G. Gordon Liddy, a former White House aide who was convicted with McCord, also asked Sirica to release Liddy pending appeal.

Both McCord and Liddy

were officials of the Nixon re-election committee at the time of the Watergate bugging June 17.

In a related action, the judge trying three civil suits growing out of the break-in and bugging of the Democratic National Committee's Watergate headquarters says he plans to expedite the proceedings now that the criminal trial is over.

The civil suits include a \$3.2 million damage suit filed by former Democratic National Chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien against Nixon campaign finance chairman Maurice Stans, a libel suit and an abuse of process suit filed by Stans against the Democrat. They were stayed on Sept. 21

by a U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey pending the completion of the criminal trial.

The criminal trial ended Tuesday with the conviction of McCord, former security director of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, and Liddy, former committee finance counsel, on all charges. Five other men, including former White House aide E. Howard Hunt Jr., pleaded guilty to the charges against them early in the trial.

In court papers filed yesterday, McCord's attorney said Sirica erred in denying defense motions for a mistrial after the guilty pleas were made by Hunt and the other four defendants.

Other alleged errors cited by Alch include Sirica's questioning of prospective jurors, his refusal to allow Alch to argue that McCord had a legal right to bug the Democrats, two statements made by Sirica during his final instructions to the jury, Sirica's interruption of Liddy's lawyer during his opening statement to the jury, Sirica's reading to the jury of testimony taken out of its presence without deleting dialogue during a bench conference and Sirica's interruption of Alch during his closing argument to the jury.

In addition, Alch asserted that "throughout the trial," Sirica had by comments he made "expressed (his) desire See WATERGATE, A29, Col. 1