

Tippit Fund Suit Asks Distribution

A friendly suit to determine distribution of \$642,592 in donations to members of the family of Mrs. J. D. Tippit has been filed in Judge Dee Brown Walker's 162nd District Court.

The suit was filed Tuesday by the City of Dallas and the Board of Trustees of the Dallas Policemen's and Firemen's Welfare Fund. It names Republic National Bank, Mrs. Tippit and her three children as respondents.

Called a bill of interpleader, the suit asks the court to "decide the proportions to be distributed to or for the benefit" of members of the Tippit family and how distribution should be carried out.

Mrs. Tippit's husband, a police officer, was slain late Nov. 22 as he attempted to halt accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald on an Oak Cliff street. Oswald was charged with murder in the deaths of Officer Tippit and President Kennedy.

Contributions to the widow and her children—Charles Allen, Brenda Kay, and Curtis Glenn—poured in from 42,000 donors around the world. According to the suit, donations totaled \$627,809. The money has been held in Republic National

Bank and is accruing interest at the rate of 3.81 per cent yearly. Interest since December has pushed the total to \$642,592, an increase of \$14,783.

The Dallas Policemen's and Firemen's Welfare Fund was organized Nov. 26, 1963, to oversee the donations.

Serving on the fund board and listed as petitioners in the suit are James W. Aston, city treasurer; Mayor Erik Jonsson; Fire Chief C. N. Penn; James F. Chambers Jr., president of The Times Herald; and Joe M. Dealey, president of the Dallas Morning News.

The petitioners say they are impartial as to the proportionate distribution of the funds to members of the Tippit family.

City Attorney Henry P. Kucera and his assistant, N. Alex Bickley, filed the suit.

All attorneys connected with the case have waived their rights for compensation, the suit states.

Mrs. Tippit is represented by the law firm of Locke, Purnell, Boren, Laney and Neely.

The Internal Revenue Service has declared that all donations received by the Tippit family will be tax free.