

STATES-ITEM

OCTOBER 6, 1967

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O'Hara Ouster Action Spurred By McKeithen

State Attorney General Jack P. F. Gremillion is going ahead with ouster proceedings against Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara at the request of Gov. John J. McKeithen.

Gremillion said he hopes to be able next week to file impeachment motions against O'Hara with the Louisiana Supreme Court in New Orleans.

Judge O'Hara has been criticized for taking part in an effort to get a prime witness to reverse testimony which was instrumental in sending Teamster boss Jimmy Hoffa to federal prison on a jury tampering conviction.

FORTY NEW ORLEANS citizens filed a petition with Gremillion seeking O'Hara's ouster. Groups of attorneys, ministers and others have also called for his removal.

"I would like to go on record as joining in the request," McKeithen said in a letter to Gremillion.

"I have no alternative but to comply," said Gremillion.

JUDGE O'HARA contends he was merely a messenger in the alleged effort to get Edward Grady Partin, Baton Rouge Teamster official, to change his Hoffa trial testimony.

Zachary Strate, New Orleans contractor, told a Chi-

cago federal court that O'Hara tried to get Partin to give him an affidavit that Hoffa was convicted with illegal wiretap evidence.

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Crime Commission, which has led the way in seeking O'Hara's ouster, filed a legal document supporting its motions that District Attorney Jim Garrison be recused from advising the Orleans Parish Grand Jury and that Judge O'Hara be recused from hearing any proceeding which might develop from the case.

In the same document, filed with the state Supreme Court, the MCC charged Garrison

"has no purpose" in seeking the organization's records except to "harass, scuttle and destroy."

Garrison is attempting to force the group to take its records before the grand jury, and the MCC has appealed to the Supreme Court.