

Courtroom Shield Approved in Marin

Construction of a bullet-proof, floor-to-ceiling shield in one superior courtroom of the Marin County Hall of Justice was approved "in principle" today by the county's board of supervisors.

The 3 to 2 vote came at the

request of Marin County superior judges, and in anticipation of indictments expected as a result of the Aug. 21 San Quentin escape attempt in which George Jackson, three guards and two convicts were killed.

Supervisor Michael Wornum, who with John F. McInnis and chairman Louis Baar voted for the shield, added that he wanted assurances the screen would replace some of the security force now stationed at the Hall of Justice.

The county is spending some \$500,000 annually to maintain security for the Civic Center complex.

Superior Judge Henry Broderick, who spoke on behalf of the judges, said all members of the bench regretted the necessity for such a precaution.

Broderick said he had investigated the use of shields, and had been assured by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Walter Calcagno that the one erected in the Hall of Justice here had "more than paid for itself."

Its value, Calcagno told him, was demonstrated during the courtroom demonstration at the arraignment of John Clutchette and Fleeta Drumgo, fellow defendants of Jackson, after the San Quentin shootings.

Voting against the plan were supervisors Peter Arri-
goni and Arnold Baptiste.