

Common Cause Subpoenas Dean But His Compliance Is Uncertain

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The Justice Department yesterday "certified receipt" of a subpoena directing presidential counsel John W. Dean III to appear and give a deposition in a lawsuit involving President Nixon's campaign financing last year. A Justice Department official in the civil division signed

a receipt on Dean's instructions, but it was not clear whether Dean would honor the subpoena.

The subpoena was issued in connection with a suit filed by Common Cause, a citizens' organization, seeking to force the Nixon campaign to disclose the source of funds received prior to April 7, 1972, when the new campaign financing law went into effect.

The subpoena, issued by U.S. District Court, directs Dean to appear in the offices of the lawyers of Common Cause at 10 a.m., April 9 with all letters and other records pertaining to campaign financing and give a pre-trial deposition.

The Senate Judiciary Committee invited Dean to testify in connection with its consideration of the nomination of L. Patrick Gray III to be FBI director. Dean declined to do so, and President Nixon has said he would invoke executive privilege to prevent White House staff members from testifying before congressional committees.