

## State Bar

### Ponders

### Probe Leaks

#### Los Angeles

The board of governors of the State Bar met in secret session here yesterday and discussed leaks to the press about their investigation into the professional ethics of President Nixon and five other California lawyers.

Bar President Leonard S. Janofsky, who earlier denied reports of the investigation, announced he will answer questions here tomorrow about the inquiry.

The board's preliminary probe of the lawyers' involvement in the Watergate scandal stemmed from complaints it had received in the past year.

It was learned that bar president Leonard S. Janofsky, who earlier denied reports of the investigation, soon will issue a statement outlining the board's preliminary investigation of complaints about the lawyers' involvement in the Watergate scandal.

Several sources said yesterday that the complaints had come largely from local bar associations, whose

members, one source claimed, "are very uncomfortable that there are so many California lawyers involved in this scandal."

In addition to the President, those under investigation are John Ehrlichman, Herbert Kalmbach, Donald H. Segretti, Gordon G. Strachan and Robert C. Mardian.

The board of governors had voted 11 to 2 on Friday to begin an investigation of unethical conduct. If the initial inquiry reveals enough evidence, secret hearings will be conducted by the State Bar's disciplinary committee.

A transcript of the hearing is then furnished the board of governors, who can recommend that the State Supreme Court either suspend or disbar an attorney.

If the high court acts favorably on that recommendation, an attorney may not practice law in California.

A State Bar spokesman said an attorney does not necessarily have to have been convicted of a crime to be disbarred. Instead, he said, most proceedings stem from charges of "moral turpitude or violations of ethics."

*Our Correspondent*