

Kalmbach Loses Plea To Practice

The state Supreme Court turned down yesterday a plea by former President Nixon's one time personal attorney that he be allowed to resume the practice of law.

The court referred back to the State Bar all disciplinary proceedings involving Herbert W. Kalmbach.

Kalmbach was suspended from the practice of law last July 3 because of his conviction in federal court of bartering U.S. ambassadorships and violating federal campaign contribution laws.

Kalmbach appealed to set aside the suspension and dismiss all State Bar proceedings against him, arguing that his convictions may not have involved "crimes of moral turpitude" — grounds for disbarment or suspension in California.

In sending the matter back to the State Bar, the Supreme Court asked for a recommendation on what kind of discipline to mete out to Kalmbach for his criminal convictions.

The Kalmbach matter will go through the normal State Bar disciplinary channels and will eventually be sent back to the Supreme Court for a final resolution.

The court has sole discretion to disbar or suspend California lawyers.