

EX-CANDIDATE SUING

I.R.S. IN '72 BREAK-IN

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MIAMI, May 13—Evelio Estrella, a former Republican Congressional candidate whose offices were broken into in 1972, filed a \$1-million lawsuit in United States District Court today against the Internal Revenue Service, saying it was responsible for the break-in and was keeping some of his property illegally.

Also named in the suit were two revenue-service officials, Thomas Lopez and John Harrison, who Mr. Estrella said had supervised the burglars identified in the suit as Nelson Vega and Toberto Novoa. The two men, both of Miami, were informants of the revenue agency in 1972.

The four men have been closely connected with "Operation leprechaun," in which the agency allegedly tried to gather information about the sex and drinking habits of 30 prominent Miamians. Mr. Estrella was not one of the 30.

Late last March, Mr. Vega conceded that he and Mr. Novoa, who has since died, had broken into Mr. Estrella's offices. Mr. Estrella is charging that a filing cabinet with documents stolen from his office were then turned over to the agency.

The I.R.S. could not be reached by telephone for comment.