

Sirhan Trial Won't Be TV Taped

Los Angeles

A judge denied yesterday a request that the trial of Sirhan Sirhan be videotaped and preserved for the "benefit of history."

Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian, is charged with murdering Senator Robert F. Kennedy last June 5 just after Kennedy announced he had won the California Democratic presidential primary.

Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker said he is "definitely of the opinion" that video-taping the trial "would be in direct violation of . . . the rules of the judicial council."

Walker said he could "thoroughly appreciate" the request from county supervisor Kenneth Hahn, adding he would make a copy of the daily transcript of the trial available to Hahn or to the county clerk.

Sirhan's trial is scheduled to start January 7.