

Gremillion Loses 2 Rulings in Bid To Oust O'Hara

Louisiana Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion lost two court decisions in his removal-from-office proceedings against Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

The State Supreme Court directed Gremillion to produce on or before Feb. 21, a copy of an affidavit signed by Baton Rouge Teamsters Union official Edward G. Partin.

★ - ★ - ★ - ★ - ★ - ★ - ★

ABOUT THE same time, Federal District Judge Lansing L. Mitchell refused to allow any witnesses who testified in a Federal Grand Jury proceeding, involving alleged efforts to have the convictions of Teamsters Union president James R. Hoffa and local builder Zachary A. Strate overturned, to testify in federal court.

The Supreme Court order was brief and contained the same deadline as that asked by counsel for Judge O'Hara, whom the state seeks to have removed for efforts in behalf of Hoffa and Strate.

Called to the stand in Judge Mitchell's court today were Edwin M. Baldwin, attorney and friend of Judge O'Hara; Julian Levy, clerk of court for O'Hara, and O'Hara himself.

Judge Mitchell said the Louisiana attorney general should bring his case before the Louisiana Supreme Court, where witnesses in a state proceeding must testify. He said the state supreme court has subpoena power of all of the witnesses who appeared before the Federal Grand Jury.

Judge Mitchell commended both the state of Louisiana and the Louisiana Supreme Court for their efforts in the O'Hara matter, but said he could not allow the secrecy of the Federal Grand Jury to be violated, "no matter how serious the implications may be."

HE SAID that, "I, like
See O'HARA— Page 4

O'Hara--

Continued from Page 1

Judge O'Hara, must be like Caesar's wife."

Earlier Henry Roberts, assistant attorney general, had told Judge Mitchell he was unable to serve subpoenas for Partin, Strate and James H. Gill, and that Gill and another witness, he understood, had moved to Miami, Fla.

In denying the petition for the grand jury records, the judge observed that the state has subpoena powers over the people involved and could call them as witnesses. He said the proper forum for questioning the witnesses is the Supreme Court of Louisiana.

The motion on behalf of Judge O'Hara stated the affidavit signed by Partin Oct. 17, 1965, gives a narrative under oath of a meeting between the judge, Partin and James H. Gill in Baton Rouge and which is referred to in the state's suit against O'Hara.

A PARAGRAPH in the suit alleged that early in 1967 the judge arranged a meeting to afford Partin an opportunity to change his testimony given in the trial in Tennessee. His testimony reportedly was instrumental in the Hoffa and Strate convictions.

Attorneys for Judge O'Hara said they desire to examine and copy the affidavit for use in his trial before Commissioner Michael M. Irwin. They asked the court to order Gremillion to make it available on or before Feb. 21.