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## Court Ousts Clay Shaw Judge Over His Arrest at Stag Party

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 23 (AP)—Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr., who presided at the Clay-Shaw conspiracy trial, was ordered from office today by the Louisiana Supreme Court in a ruling stemming from a stag party arrest.

The court, by a 6-to-1 ruling, ordered Judge Haggerty's seat on the Criminal District Court declared vacant. Chief Judge Joe B. Hamiter dissented.

The State Judiciary Commission had recommended Judge Haggerty's dismissal after he was arrested Dec. 17, 1969, while attending a party at a motel. That was several months after his court found Mr. Shaw not guilty of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy.

Judge Haggerty was acquitted by a fellow judge, Matthew S. Braniff, of charges of soliciting for prostitution, obscenity and resisting arrest.

The Judiciary Commission said that Judge Haggerty should be removed "on the grounds of willful misconduct relating to his official duty and willful and persistent failure to perform his duty."

Judge Haggerty argued that there was no indication that his off-bench activity ever affected his behavior on the bench.

The Supreme Court said that "on the whole, the respondent judge's public misconduct off the bench is so seriously delinquent as to bring disgrace and discredit upon the judicial office and a loss of public respect and confidence in his ability to perform his official duties impartially and conscientiously."

In dissent, Judge Hamiter said, "While I do not and cannot approve or condone the alleged illegal and perhaps immoral conduct of Judge Haggerty, I do not find that it has



Associated Press

Edward A. Haggerty Jr.

interfered in any manner with his handling of the dockets and cases" under his jurisdiction.

Judge Haggerty, 56 years old, was one of 17 persons formally charged in connection with the party.

A witness testified that the judge had brought some sex films, and that when he discovered that the "chairman of the girlie committee" had fallen down on the job went out and brought back three women.

The witness also testified that the judge, after watching several sex movies, cried, "Why go on watching film when we have the real thing?"

The witness said that he had a tiny radio transmitter with which he sent the police a broadcast about the party, but Judge Braniff, who heard the case without a jury, said that the radio transmissions could not be admitted as evidence.