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New Orleans (AP)- (rewrite of Novel's suit against Garrison).

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Meanwhile, the District attorney subpoenaed Juan M. Valdes, a self-described Latin playwright to appear in his office today. The issues about which Valdes will be questioned were not disclosed.

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SF Examiner

25 May 1967

\$50 Million JFK Probe Suit Filed

NEW ORLEANS — (AP) — A fugitive witness in the President Kennedy assassination probe has filed a \$50 million damage suit in federal court here, naming District Attorney Jim Garrison and the private group financing his investigation as defendants.

Gordon Novel, 29, a former French Quarter bar owner described by Garrison as an important witness in the probe, contends the district attorney's accusations have ruined his "reputation as a man of honesty, honor and probity." The suit seeks \$10 million in damages for Garrison and \$1 million from each member of Truth and Consequences, Inc., the group formed in March by 50 businessmen who agreed to put up \$100 a week each for as long as necessary.

Novel says he has no "knowledge of a conspiracy to assassinate Kennedy."

Novel is free on \$10,000 bond at Columbus, Ohio, where he was arrested on a warrant from Garrison's office charging him with conspiring to burglarize an explosives bunker at Houma, La. He is fighting efforts to return him to Louisiana.

Carlos Quiroga, 30, a Cuban exile, testified before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury yesterday in connection with the probe.

He refused to comment after leaving the jury room, butpreviously he said he has no knowledge of any plot to kill President Kennedy.