

Judge Hearing MCC Plea on Records Issue

Federal District Judge Herbert W. Christenberry was hearing a plea today by the Metropolitan Crime Commission for a temporary restraining order to prohibit Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison from enforcing subpoenas calling for commission records.

Under the subpoenas, records of the crime panel showing the names of confidential informers, are to be presented before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury tomorrow.

YESTERDAY the MCC and four of its officers filed suit for an injunction against Garrison; James O. Sanders, grand jury foreman, and Criminal Dist. Judge Matthew S. Braniff. Petitioning were Aaron M. Kohn, MCC director, and members James W. Mills Jr., E. C. Upton Jr. and Philip L. Frank Sr.

Garrison, acting alone and in concert with others, said the suit, has entered into a conspiracy to deprive the members of the crime commission of their constitutional rights, it is claimed. The others include assistant district attorneys, said the petition.

Meanwhile, the Louisiana Supreme Court yesterday agreed to hear the case involving a contempt citation against Kohn who refused to answer a grand jury question last month.

The court granted Kohn's application for extraordinary writs, with an order staying all proceedings until the March 27 hearing. Kohn spent the night of Dec. 14 in jail after refusing to answer a grand jury question about an informant before Judge Braniff.

IT WAS the fourth time Kohn had been cited for contempt, but he was released the next day by action of the Supreme Court, which then ordered Judge Braniff to answer Kohn's application for writs by Jan. 15.