

Testify Monday, In O'Hara Case Partin Is Told

Edward Grady Partin, Baton Rouge labor leader, showed up without an attorney again today at a hearing into alleged wrongdoings by Criminal District Court Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

The controversial Teamster Union representative, who was the Justice Department's chief witness in its jury tampering case against James A. Hoffa, Teamsters national president, was dismissed as a witness for today and told to return with an attorney Monday.

A closed hearing is being conducted for the state Supreme Court by Michael W. Irwin, the appointed commissioner.

IRWIN IS COMPILING a record which will be submitted to the state Supreme Court. The Supreme Court will hold a trial May 3 on the state's suit to remove Judge O'Hara from office.

Walter Sheridan, who was an investigator for the Justice Department in the Hoffa case, is also scheduled to appear before the commission Monday.

Partin showed up at the hearing yesterday, but said at that time he would not testify without an attorney.

PARTIN SAID HIS attorney from Washington was unable to get to New Orleans for the hearing yesterday or today.

O'Hara testified before a federal grand jury in Chicago that he participated in an attempt to get Partin to change his testimony in regard to Hoffa.

Others on hand for the second day of the closed hearing were the judge, who was questioned most of yesterday; Zachary "Red" Strate, a contractor, and Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney Sargent Pitcher.

PARTIN ANNOUNCED when he arrived at the Supreme Court Building today that he was "going up and ask to get excused . . .

"My lawyer will be in Monday, and I understand they have to continue the case for Sheridan anyway."

Partin arrived at the court at 10 a.m. and a half-hour later he had been released.

THERE WAS A recess in the hearing at about the same time that Partin left the building. The recess was apparently called so that Pitcher could be summoned to testify.

The hearing is for the presentation of evidence on a charge that O'Hara improperly tried to obtain evidence to reverse the conviction of Hoffa, who is now serving time in the federal penitentiary.

O'Hara testified in a Chicago federal court hearing last year that he was a "messenger" in an effort to help get Partin to sign an affidavit that illegal wiretapping was used to convict Hoffa on the jury tampering charge for which he is now serving time.

O'Hara was closely associated with Strate, who was convicted along with Hoffa on an earlier fraud charge.