

INDICTED FOR PERJURY

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Release Barmaid Testimony

The Orleans Parish Grand Jury has released testimony of a 23-year-old barmaid indicted for perjury in the case involving the death of 19-year-old babysitter Susan Goldman.

The barmaid, Miss Betty Louise Jones, was indicted by the grand jury after the district attorney's office said she purposely changed her testimony in the case, which resulted in a manslaughter indictment against ex-patrolman Robert Blanchard, 23, being thrown out.

MISS GOLDMAN was found dead in the apartment of a neighbor for whom she was baby-sitting the day before Mardi Gras last year.

The testimony concerns a conversation Miss Jones supposedly had with Blanchard on the day of the incident.

In one version released by the jury, Miss Jones is quoted as saying Blanchard asked her to go to the apartment

and "check" on Miss Goldman.

"There was an argument at Susie's house and she fell," Miss Jones quoted Blanchard as saying, "and I want you to go over and check and see if she was OK."

IN LATER TESTIMONY, Miss Jones told the jury under questioning by assistant DA Numa Bertel, Blanchard did not tell her anything about an argument or Miss Goldman falling down.

"Did he tell you anything about Susie falling down in her apartment," Bertel asked Miss Jones.

"No," she replied.

"Did he mention the name Susie to you? Susie Goldman?" he further asked.

"No," she said.

"DID HE DISCUSS at all anything with you about the girl having possibly hurt herself in the project?"

"No," she again replied.

"Did he ask you to check

over at Susie's apartment to see if she was alright?"

"No," she said.

THE INDICTMENT against Miss Jones alleges her most recent testimony was materially contradictory and inconsistent with her original testimony following the death.

The DA's office said she changed her testimony because she was fond of Blanchard.