

STATES-ITEM

Bribery Trial Begins After Eight Delays

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BATON ROUGE (AP) — The public bribery trial of Dalton Smith, which had been delayed eight times, got under way here today with jury selection.

The disappearance of a key state witness had raised speculation that the trial might be delayed again. But the witness, Aubrey Young, a former aide to Gov. John McKeithen, was in court this morning when attorneys started choosing the five-man jury.

An arrest order had been issued Tuesday after attempts to find Young and subpoena him failed.

Smith was accused of offering Young a \$25,000 bribe to set up a meeting with Edward Grady Partin, boss of Teamsters Local No. 5 in Baton Rouge.

The alleged purpose of the meeting was to attempt to get Partin to change his key testimony at the jury tampering trial of Teamsters Union president James R. Hoffa.

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