

DA Fee Petition Denied by Court

The Louisiana Supreme Court has refused to review the question of whether a special prosecutor's fee should be set in advance for the trial of Thomas Bethell, charged with unauthorized use of movable property.

Bethell, former aide to Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, is accused of making available to attorneys for Clay L. Shaw certain documents Garrison had for Shaw's recent trial on charges of conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy. Shaw was acquitted.

Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff recused Garrison in the Bethell case on grounds he had a personal interest and attorney Robert Zibilich was appointed special attorney to try it.

Bethell's lawyers contended since Garrison has power over the payment of Zibilich's fee he maintained some control.

The high court, in refusing a review yesterday, said prosecution fees are payable from a fund created under state law.