

Won't Handle Prosecution of Haik, DA Says

A special prosecutor will be appointed to handle the case in which a New Orleans attorney is accused of unauthorized use of \$50,000 belonging to the mother of District Attorney Jim Garrison, the DA said today.

Attorney Robert Haik was charged Monday under a law covering unauthorized use of movable property, the property being the money belonging to Mrs. Jane Garrison Gardinier, 70, of Laurel, Miss.

Haik charged yesterday Garrison is using the power of his office to benefit his own family. Today, both Garrison and his mother denied this.

Garrison said:

"The law has established machinery for dealing with cases where the district attorney or his family may have an interest. This law will be followed to the letter.

"A formal request will be made to the court for the appointment of a special prosecutor. Mr. Haik's guilt or innocence will then be a matter to be determined in court. Meanwhile, the case is being handled by Assistant District Attorney William Alford."

In a separate statement, Mrs. Gardinier said:

Robert Haik, acting as my attorney, took \$50,000 from me. To whom should I go when such

a thing happens in New Orleans?

"Should I go to the Chamber of Commerce or the Salvation Army maybe?"

"Jim Garrison recused himself in this case and appointed assistant district attorney William Alford to handle it.

"Yes, I do have another case against Haik pending in federal court but this is overpayment of a royalty when he also represented me as my attorney.

Haik had charged the criminal charge was an attempt by Garrison to get the oil royalty dispute out of federal and into criminal court.

The attorney is free on \$2,500 bond and the case has been allotted to Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.