

Jurisdiction ^{12 Dec 70} Held Lacking On Haggerty

The nine judges of Criminal District Court have decided they do not have jurisdiction over Judge Edward A. Haggerty's application for retirement with pension.

After meeting yesterday in the privacy of Judge Rudolph F. Becker Jr.'s chambers, the judges said because the proceedings in which the Louisiana Supreme Court ordered Haggerty removed from the bench have not become final, they will not consider the petition.

The petition claims Haggerty is physically and mentally unable to continue his duties on the Criminal Court bench. It is accompanied by letters from a physician and a psychiatrist attesting to Haggerty's poor condition.

The petition requests the other judges of Criminal Court to allow him to retire at a pension two-thirds his salary, which is \$34,000 a year.

The Supreme Court ordered Haggerty removed from the bench as a result of a police vice squad raid on a motel in December, 1969, which resulted in obscenity charges against the judge. He later was acquitted.

Haggerty has asked the Supreme Court to grant him a hearing.

The Supreme Court also is hearing a petition for Haggerty's retirement with pension, but, according to attorney Robert Zibilich, is not concerning itself with the question of disability. Zibilich is asking the high court to instruct the Criminal Court judges that they do have jurisdiction in the matter.