

Delay in Haggerty Ouster Rejected

By JAMES HEARTY

The Louisiana State Supreme Court today refused to delay the removal of Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. from the Criminal Court bench so he can appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

In a brief order, which apparently ended Haggerty's fight to remain on the bench, the high court refused to

delay its judgment because, it said, there is no substantial federal question involved.

Court attaches said the latest move by the state supreme court ends Haggerty's service as a judge immediately. Haggerty canceled his docket today and did not appear at the Criminal Courts Building.

Yesterday the supreme court refused to grant Haggerty a rehearing

and also declined to review a decision by his fellow judges who refused to act on his request for a pension.

The state supreme court on Nov. 23 ordered Haggerty removed from the bench for wilful misconduct.

The removal order made no provision for a pension for Haggerty, but he made application for one on the grounds he is physically disabled. The nine judges of the Criminal Dis-

trict Court would not hear the pension motion because they said they lacked jurisdiction.

The application for a rehearing was based on the contention that Haggerty's off-the-bench conduct had no effect on his judicial duties nor did it bring any dishonor to the bench.

Haggerty's troubles began last Dec. 17 when he was arrested in a vice raid

on a stag party in the DeVille Motel. Obscenity charges against Haggerty subsequently were thrown out when Judge Matthew S. Braniff ruled key evidence in the case was inadmissible.

The state judiciary commission investigated the misconduct charges against Haggerty and recommended his removal. The supreme court followed with an order last month removing the veteran jurist.

THE STATES-ITEM

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