

Department of Transportation

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## Key Witness Missing in Partin Trial

A federal district court judge in Houston has postponed indefinitely the trial of Baton Rouge Teamster leader Edward Grady Partin on a charge of attempting to intimidate a witness in a federal prosecution.

The continuance was a result of the failure to find a principal witness in the government's case. The case was moved to Houston after defense attorneys claimed Partin could not get a fair trial here.

The defendant is charged with threatening the life of Wade McClanahan, a former Teamster who testified before federal grand juries which investigated labor troubles in Baton Rouge.

McClanahan claims that on Jan. 16, 1970, Partin and two others gained entrance to the East Baton Rouge Parish jail where he was being held and threatened his life if he testified in a case against Baton Rouge concrete products manufacturer Ted F. Dunham Jr.

Several weeks ago McClanahan testified in Dunham's trial on charges of violating antiracketeering and antitrust laws. Dunham was found guilty and is now awaiting sentence.