

DA Asks Pinball Counts
N.O. JURY INDICTS GARRISON

District Attorney Jim Garrison, at his own request, and nine others were indicted by a special Orleans Parish Grand Jury for public bribery and gambling, the same charges they face in federal court.

Garrison told the grand jury this morning that in his opinion, the charges, sworn to by federal agents, amount to a prima facie case of violation of the state law.

The indictments were returned at 1:30 p.m. today, a few moments after Garrison's assistants handed out press statements saying he requested the indictments.

THE INDICTMENTS, a spokesman for the district attorney's office said, were based on the same evidence that led to federal charges against Garrison, two policemen and seven others reportedly connected with the pinball industry.

The 10 were charged on June 30, but the federal grand jury probing the case has never returned an indictment, which is necessary before they can be tried in federal court.

Judge Bernard J. Bagert, in whose court the indictments were returned, has set a bond of \$5,000 for each of the defendants and released all 10 on their own recognizance.

THE FEDERAL charges specifically accused Garrison and the nine others of bribery, illegal gambling and obstructing law enforcement.

A government affidavit claims that payments of \$1,500 a month were paid to Garrison and the policemen, Frederick A. Soule Sr., a captain assigned to the district attorney's office, and Robert N. Frey, a sergeant who head-

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ed the vice-squad, to protect the pinball operators.

Garrison today charged that the case has become a key in the Louisiana attorney general's race with "well intentioned" candidates saying that he should be charged at the state level.

"CONSEQUENTLY, WITH such an issue having been raised in the attorney general's race, and with the months having passed during which the government delayed in any timely follow up of its charges, I have had the charges made by the federal government and the purported evidence described in those charges presented to the Orleans Parish Grand Jury," Garrison said.

Garrison said he told the Orleans Parish Grand Jury that he considered

it his duty to advise them that in his judgment, the federal allegations called for a state indictment, "although I advised them that, in the final analysis, the decision must be made by them."

The district attorney said that after telling the grand jury they ought to indict him, he left the grand jury room, leaving his first assistant, John Volz, in charge of the presentation.

Also charged in the case were Louis M. Boasberg, of New Orleans Novelty Company; John J. Elms Jr., 29, a partner in TAC Amusement Co.; Lawrence J. Lagarde, a partner in TAC; Harby S. Marks Jr., an employe of New Orleans Novelty; Robert Mims, a principal stockholder in REN Enterprises; John Aruns Callery, a lobbyist for the pinball machine industry; and John Elmo Pierce, owner of the Pierce Amusement Co.