

10 Days Allowed

Gremillion to Appeal Jail Term

Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion will ask a federal appeals court to review his conviction and the three-year jail term imposed yesterday for testifying falsely about his financial connections with the bankrupt Louisiana Loan and Thrift Corp.

Gremillion has 10 days in which to appeal to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals the sentence handed down yesterday by U.S. District Judge Fred J. Cassibry.

The attorney general was given three years on each of five counts of perjury before a federal grand jury, but the five jail terms are to run con-

currently. He could have received a maximum sentence of five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine on each count.

GREMILLION WAS allowed to go free after the sentencing under a personal recognizance bond pending appeal.

Under normal circumstances Gremillion would be eligible for parole after serving one year. Defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked Judge Cassibry to allow Gremillion to be granted a parole at any time the federal parole board sees fit and that motion was taken under advisement.

A special provision of the federal law permits parole at the discretion of the parole board.

Dymond's announcement that he would appeal came after the dejected 56-year-old Gremillion heard Judge Cassibry say:

"IN YOUR official position as attorney general and in your profession as a lawyer and a member of the bar of this court, you have undertaken important responsibilities for the administration of justice and obedience to law.

Turn to Page 10, Column 1

Gremillion to Appeal

* Continued from Front Page

"Your offense cannot be condoned as one committed in ignorance of the law, or unwittingly, or in the heat of a momentary passion. It must be regarded that, as the indictment charged, you violated the law willfully.

"While I have the deepest compassion for you and the greatest sympathy for your wife and family, it is my duty to impose a sentence that is commensurate with the crime you have been convicted of."

The trial was the second one in federal court for Gremillion in connection with LL&T. Gremillion, state Rep. Salvador Anzelmo and Ernest Bartlett Jr. of Fort Smith, Ark., former LL&T board chairman, were acquitted May 19, 1971, of charges of fraud and conspiracy.

GREMILLION was the only one tried last September in the perjury case. He was convicted of having lied Jan. 21, 1968, when he denied to a federal grand jury that he:

- Owned stock in LL&T.
- Had an "economic interest" in the firm.
- Granted a proxy for his shares of LL&T stock at a stockholders' meeting July 11, 1967.
- Testified a \$700 check noted "Dividend No. 1" was a campaign contribution.

The fifth count contained a general charge of perjury without specific allegations.

GREMILLION handled much of the legal work involved in setting up LL&T in 1966. He said the work was a sideline and had no connection with his position as attorney general. In 1967 he issued a key legal opinion that LL&T was similar to a state bank and thus came under supervision of the state Banking Commission instead of the federal Securities and Exchange Commission.

In the fraud trial, the government charged that after Gremillion issued his opinion, he and the other defendants also managed to keep the firm from coming under scrutiny of the state commission.

Gremillion, Anzelmo, Bartlett, former LL&T president Charles Ritchey of New Orleans, and Joseph Kavanaugh, a Baton Rouge lawyer, were charged with 15 counts of conspiracy and fraud in the sale of securities, mail fraud and sale of unregistered securities.

RICHEY avoided going on trial by filing a plea of no contest. After Gremillion, Anzelmo and Bartlett were acquitted he tried to substitute a plea of innocent but the judge refused to accept it. Ritchey was fined \$5,000 and given a three-year suspended prison term. Charges against Kavanaugh were dropped.

Gremillion will go out of office in May. His connection with LL&T was a factor in his defeat last Nov. 6 in the first Democratic primary in which he ran a poor fourth in his bid for a fifth term. Anzelmo also was defeated.