

Marcello-O'Hara Bribe Claim
JEFF JURY TO CALL GERVAIS

Pershing Gervais and five others will be called before the Jefferson Parish Grand Jury next month in connection with a reported bribe from racketeer figure Carlos Marcello to a former Criminal District Court judge.

Dist. Atty. John Mamoulides said today Gervais and the others will appear before the grand jury Sept. 1 as the jury considers charges that Marcello and his brother, Peter Marcello, gave a \$5,000 bribe to former Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

Gervais has been identified as a government informer in an investigation that led to charges against Orleans Parish Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison and others in connection with alleged kickbacks from the pinball machine industry.

Mamoulides would not identify any of those other than Gervais to be called by the grand jury.

Mamoulides made his announcement in the office of U.S. Atty. Gerald J. Gallinghouse.

Louisiana Atty. Gen. William J. Gust, who also was present, said names of the other witnesses could not be made public because details of how the investigation will be handled are not complete.

Gallinghouse stressed that the investigation concerns only allegations at this stage and that no one has been formally accused.

Mamoulides said O'Hara will not be called before the grand jury.

Asked if this was because O'Hara may be under suspicion, the district attorney smiled and said, "Possibly."

Guste said the action was taken on the Jefferson grand jury investigation because his office "determined that it should be investigated again."

Earlier this month newsmen were given copies of a letter from Guste referring to an alleged \$5,000 bribe from Marcello to O'Hara. The letter said the bribe attempt was made through Gervais.