

Third Attorney Is Hired by Ray

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — James Early Ray has hired his third defense attorney, and an easy-going, ex-Marine judge has been named to preside over what promises to be complicated proceedings in the case.

Ray, who pleaded guilty March 10 to killing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. a year ago today and was sentenced to 99 years, gained certification yesterday for his new lawyer, Richard C. Ryan of Memphis.

Ryan's job will be to try to get Ray the new hearing of the case he says he wants.

And the job of Criminal Court Judge Arthur C. Faquin Jr. is to rule on any motions or arguments Ryan might present.

The judge, easy-going and with a good sense of humor, was named yesterday to replace Judge W. Preston Battle Jr., who died Monday of a heart attack.

Faquin, who spent four years in the Marines during World War II, said there would be "no rush" in handling any defense motions.

"I have no idea when any motions in Ray's behalf will be taken up," he said.