

Garry Charges Bay Judges Intimidated

The defense for Black Panther Huey P. Newton charged today there has been a systematic campaign to intimidate the 25 judges of the Alameda County Superior Court to make them "get tougher" in "political cases."

Attorney Charles Garry said he will subpoena witnesses, including former Alameda County Municipal Judge Charles Fisher and leaders of the Citizens Committee for Law and Order, to prove his contention next Thursday.

He said Fisher has been quoted several times in the committee's monthly newsletter in criticism of the lenience of East Bay judges in "political cases."

"He's been opening his big fat lip calling for law and order and saying I should be disbarred," Garry added.

He also charged "outside influences have been threatening to run candidates against the current judges if they don't get tougher on people like Huey Newton."

Judge Lionel Wilson, presiding over a hearing on Garry's challenge for cause to

Judge Lyle Cook, assigned to hear Newton's third trial for killing an Oakland policeman, put the case over to Thursday because of a crowded calendar.

Earlier, Garry lost a bid to disqualify the 25-man Alameda County Superior Court bench on the grounds that "widespread publicity" has produced a "strong community reaction."

"The effect of public criticism has been to unduly affect, influence and impair the ability of any judge on this court to preside fairly and impartially without fear of unjust criticism," Garry declared. He asked that an impartial judge be brought in from another county.

However, Presiding Superior Judge Robert Kroninger said he could find no legal authority to support the challenge of the entire bench.

Unusually tight security measures were in effect for the trial.

For the first time in county history, signs have been posted at every entrance to the courthouse and nearby Administration Building advis-

ing that all parcels, purses, brief cases and packages are subject to search by armed sheriff's deputies stationed throughout the facility.

Newton is charged with fatally shooting Patrolman John Frey on Oct. 28, 1967. His 1968 conviction of voluntary manslaughter was overturned by the State Court of Appeal in Aug. 1970.

Since then, the 29 year old Panther chief has been free on \$50,000 bail.