

Tues., Mar. 21, 1972

San Francisco Chronicle 3

Magee Can Be His Own Attorney

Ruchell Magee, the San Quentin inmate accused of killing Judge Harold Haley in the August, 1970, Marin county courthouse gun battle, won the right to act as his own attorney yesterday.

Superior Court Judge Leonard Ginsburg of Tulare county granted Magee's motion with the stipulation that he could "proceed as long as (he does) not disrupt the proceedings."

At Magee's request, Ginsburg appointed Robert D. Carrow, a Novato attorney, to act as Magee's backup counsel in the case. Carrow had formerly been one of Magee's court-appointed attorneys.

Ernest Graves, the Los Angeles attorney who was appointed last May to defend Magee, was allowed to withdraw March 10.

Magee, who has a reputation as a jailhouse lawyer, has long argued to be allowed to defend himself, claiming that many of his problems stem from incompetent court-appointed attorneys.

Yesterday, Magee reiterated his decision to have his trial postponed until the completion of the trial of Angela Davis, also charged in the courthouse incident, or six months from last February 24, whichever comes first.