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Magee Can't Withdraw

Guilty Plea

SF Chronicle

A Peninsula judge yesterday turned down convict Russell Magee's bid to withdraw his guilty plea to aggravated kidnaping charges arising from the fatal shooting at the Marin county Civic Center in 1970.

Superior Court Judge William A. Ingrassia of Santa Clara county said that Magee acted "knowingly, understandingly and freely."

Three days after he pleaded guilty, the eccentric San Quentin inmate sought to withdraw the plea, contending that he had only agreed because of frustration with the headlines of the

The writ, if granted, would halt sentencing of Magee, which the judge set for 10:30 a.m.