

Gainesville 8 Sue Their Prosecutors

A \$1.2 million lawsuit has been filed by the Gainesville Eight against government prosecutors who tried unsuccessfully to convict them of conspiracy to riot at the 1972 Republican National Convention.

They said in a suit filed in U.S. District Court here Tuesday that they were deprived of their constitutional rights by the presence of a paid FBI informer who told federal prosecutors about their defense tactics in their trial.

The eight were acquitted of the charges against them after a month-long trial last summer.

During the trial, Emerson L. Poe was revealed as an FBI informer when he was called as a prosecution witness. The complaint said Poe reported regularly to the prosecution team up until the day he testified, thereby depriving defendants of their constitutional right to due process.

The suit alleges that other, unidentified informants remained within the defense camp throughout the entire trial.