

Nader Plans Court Test of Cox's Firing

Associated Press

Ralph Nader announced yesterday he will seek court action challenging the firing of Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox.

"What this most decisive obstruction of justice by Richard Nixon means is that every citizen in this land must strive to reclaim the rule of law which this tyrant has been destroying month by month, strand by strand," the consumer advocate told a news conference.

Nader said the court action will be brought by his Public Citizen, Inc.

Alan B. Morrison, the lawyer who will represent the donation-supported group, said he will base the case against Mr. Nixon and acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork on the regulation establishing Cox's office and the question of Bork's authority.

Morrison said Cox could be dismissed only "for extraordinary improprieties on his part."

Furthermore, said Morrison, Cox could not be discharged by anyone except an Attorney General properly confirmed by the Senate. Not only was Bork unconfirmed by the Senate, he was susceptible to coercion because he could be fired himself if he didn't fire Cox, Morrison said.