

# Texan Likely To Be New Prosecutor

By Susanna McBee  
Washington Post

Washington

Leon Jaworski of Houston, who was a friend of President Johnson and who served in 1971 and 1972 as president of the American Bar Association, is expected to be named today as the new special Watergate prosecutor.

Jaworski, 68, a conservative Democrat and a strong law and order advocate, was asked yesterday to take the job that Archibald Cox held until President Nixon fired him October 20 for refusing to give up his court pursuit of the White House Watergate tapes.

Reached last night at home, Jaworski's wife, Jeannette, commented, "It's a terrible job. I just feel sorry for him."

Yesterday he flew to Washington to hold meetings at the White House and the Justice Department.

He did not see the President but did meet with acting attorney general Robert H. Bork; Senator William B. Saxton, who is expected to be nominated today by Mr. Nixon as the new attorney general; Assistant Attorney General Henry E. Petersen;

Back Page Col. 4

From Page 1

and several White House aides—Alexander M. Haig Jr., J. Fred Buzhardt, and Leonard Garment.

The Justice Department refused last night to confirm or deny that Jaworski is the administration's choice for the prosecutor's job. But at 6 p.m. department spokesman John W. Hushen said that Bork was "getting closer" to an announcement.

Mrs. Jaworski said, "it's not supposed to be announced yet. It probably will be in the morning." Both she and her husband's secretary confirmed that he was



LEON JAWORSKI  
A friend of LBJ

asked to accept the position.

President Nixon, in announcing last Friday night that Bork would name a new prosecutor this week, promised full White House cooperation but added that he would not provide the prosecutor with presidential documents and would not expect him to go to court for them as Cox did.

Bork, however, has said he feels the prosecutor should have "no strings" on him and that he would consider his own position "intolerable" if the prosecutor's independence were compromised. Bork has also said he thinks the prosecutor should be free to pursue evidence by using the courts.

Jaworski was understood to have discussed his views that he should not be precluded from any action, including use of the courts to carry out a full investigation and prosecution.

He is known to believe that the prosecution staff should keep an arms-length position from the Justice Department and to hope that the staff will remain intact and work for him.

He has told friends, however, that if he finds any partisanship among staff members, "it'll be removed."

Jaworski was a counsel to the Warren commission that investigated President Kennedy's death and a member of the President's Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, set up after the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

He also was a member of President Johnson's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice (the so-called national crime commission).

In 1967 he joined four other commission members in a partial dissent from the group's final report. Jaworski and the other dissenters argued that the commission should have criticized Supreme Court rulings which they said made it more difficult for police to do their jobs.

The new prosecutor-designate has prosecutorial experience, the prime requisite that Bork and White House officials said any candidate for the job must have.

From 1962 to 1965 he was a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney General and prosecuted

former Mississippi Governor Ross R. Barnett, who was cited for contempt of court for trying to prevent the registration of James H. Meredith, the first black student to enter the University of Mississippi.

A few days after the assassination of President Kennedy, he was appointed special counsel by Texas Attorney General Waggoner Carr, who had called a court inquiry in Texas.

In Texas he has a record as a brilliant trial lawyer. A longtime friend of Lyndon Johnson, he was employed in the 1960 campaign to defend Mr. Johnson against two suits filed to prevent him from running simultaneously for vice president and senator. The cases went to the Supreme Court, and Jaworski won them both.