

Financier's Jail

JUN 19 1974

Sentence Delayed

San Diego

Financier C. Arnholt Smith won a last-minute delay yesterday of a contempt of court jail sentence.

The jail sentence had been scheduled to begin last night. The temporary stay was granted by the State Court of Appeal for the Fourth District, pending determination of a petition filed by Smith.

Smith, 75, a ^{13 sons} long-time friend and financial backer of President Nixon, was sentenced to jail last Thursday for an indefinite term for refusing to answer questions in the trial of Robert P. Daggett, charged with attempting extortion of Smith. Smith had invoked the Fifth Amendment against self-

incrimination, but the judge said he must answer the questions.

Superior Court Judge Paul Eugene Overton gave Smith until yesterday to answer the question or go to jail.

Smith, former chairman of U.S. National Bank and Westgate-California Corp., was cited for contempt while appearing under subpoena as a prosecution witness in Daggett's trial.

Daggett, 49, and his brother, Pliny, 50, were accused of threatening to present damaging testimony to a federal grand jury investigating Smith unless Smith bought real estate for up to \$20 million through the Daggetts.

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