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Setback for Martha

New York

A Manhattan Supreme Court judge refused yesterday to grant Martha Mitchell a quick trial in her separation suit against the former attorney general. She now faces a six-month wait.

Mrs. Mitchell sought the quick trial on grounds her husband's sentencing in the

Watergate coverup might impede her own suit.

The state court ruling came about the same time her estranged husband, John Mitchell, was sentenced in Washington to 2½ to eight years for his part in the Watergate scandal.

Mitchell, talking with reporters after sentencing, said, "It could have been a

hell of a lot worse. He could have sentenced me to spend the rest of my life with Martha Mitchell."

Mrs. Mitchell's lawyer, Henry Rothblatt, said the ruling by Justice Manuel Gomez would be appealed. Mrs. Mitchell, meanwhile, gets \$1000 a week temporary alimony.

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