

Mitchell Loses Appeal Against Disbarment

Albany, N.Y.

Former United States Attorney General John Mitchell yesterday was denied his request to be reinstated as an attorney while his Watergate convictions are appealed.

The New York State Court of Appeal upheld the disbarment called for in state law and rejected Mitchell's contentions that he was denied due process.

"We have said that in the disbarment context, the primary concern is the protection of the public interest," the state's highest court ruled.

"In our view, this concern for the protection of the public interest far outweighs any interest the convicted attorney has in continuing to earn a livelihood in his chosen profession," the court said.

Mitchell, who was President Nixon's campaign manager, was convicted Jan. 1, 1975, of three felonies related to the break-in at the offices of the Democratic National Committee in the Watergate complex in Washington and the subsequent coverup.

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