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Agnew named in suits

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Legal actions were instituted in both federal and state courts in Maryland Tuesday against Spiro T. Agnew.

A request for a show cause order seeking to revoke the former vice president's probation was filed in federal court in Baltimore by Sam Polur, a lawyer who lives in Miami, Fla.

Three Maryland taxpayers also filed suit in state circuit court in Annapolis asking that Agnew, Jerome B. Wolff and I. H. Hammerman be required to pay to the state money which the suit alleges the three men received in kickbacks from engineers while Agnew was governor.

Wolff headed the State Roads Commission under Agnew, and Hammerman was a friend of the governor.

The suit said that the three entered into an agreement in 1967 whereby Agnew and Wolff would award consulting contracts, Hammerman would solicit money from the engineers and the three would divide the money.

Agnew said he would have no comment on either suit.

U. S. District Court Judge Roszel C. Thomsen set a hearing Friday on Polur's request that Agnew be required to show cause why his probation should not be revoked.

Agnew was placed on unsupervised probation for three years after resigning as vice president and pleading no contest in 1973 to a single count of tax evasion. The probation will expire next Sunday.

Polur filed a document Tuesday listing several reasons why the probation should be revoked. Chief among them was his contention that the former vice president has been acting as a foreign agent in his business dealings with Arab countries.

Judge Thomsen said Agnew would not have to respond to the order before

Friday and would not have to be present at the hearing.

Polur also filed a \$2 million damage suit last Thursday against Agnew and Education for Democracy Inc., a foundation which the former vice president heads. The suit alleged that Agnew was unlawfully concealing his dealings with Arab countries.

The state action was brought by John A. McMillen, Reina Chassy and Suzanne Saul, three residents of Maryland's Washington, D. C. suburbs.

The suit alleges that as a result of kickbacks paid by the engineers, the state had to pay higher fees for their services than it would have otherwise. It says this resulted in an increased tax burden on all Maryland taxpayers.

The suit asks that Agnew, Wolff and Hammerman be required "to account for and make restitution to the people and State of Maryland of all such money received."