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LOS ANGELES AP - Dr.

* Thomas T. Noguchi, fired last week as Los Angeles County coroner, assured a public airing of charges against him Monday by asking for a Civil Service Commission hearing.

In a petition to the commission Noguchi's attorney denied charges of the county chief administrative officer, L.S. Hollinger, that Noguchi took drugs in excessive quantities and was emotional unstable.

The attorney, Godfrey Isaac, said in the petition that county supervisors "have publicly questioned his sanity and mental competence ... based upon hearsay and without any examination."

Isaac estimated the hearing, which the commission is required to hold if asked, would take at least two weeks. The commission will consider the petition Wednesday.

He called the county allegations "distorted, discriminatory and untrue" and demanded that Dr. Noguchi be reinstated.

He said county supervisors had fired the coroner so they themselves would not be seen as "derelict in their duty" to provide adequate facilities for the coroner.

* week of Mar 16 to 22; do not have story on firing.