

Ruby Case Judge Quits--'Personal'

Dallas

The controversial Jack Ruby case was wracked with a new upheaval yesterday when the State judge who presided over Ruby's murder trial was removed from the case at his own request.

Judge Joe B. Brown's exit was the latest episode in a series of shake-ups in which at least a dozen chief defense counsels have quit or been fired.

Ruby, a former Dallas strip-tease joint operator, has been convicted of the slaying

of Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy's presumed assassin. Still at issue is the question of Ruby's sanity.

One Ruby lawyer, Sol Dann of Detroit, said on learning of Brown's removal:

"Next, we expect to expose and disqualify one of the district attorneys who was principally responsible for and is pushing this unconscionable and excessive verdict."

He would not elaborate.

Brown gave no reason for his withdrawal yesterday, stating:

"I don't think a judge has

to give reasons for personal decisions he makes."

Ruby's lawyers had tried to oust Brown for several months. One of their reasons was that Brown is writing a book about the trial, and therefore has a personal interest in the case's final disposition.

A State court hearing on a defense motion asking for Brown's disqualification had been set for July 8.

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