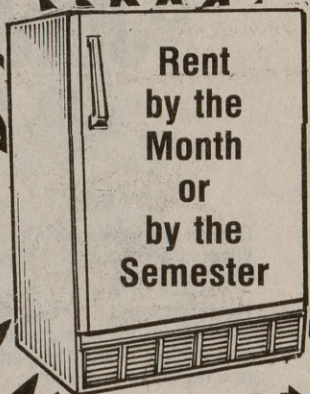


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## Mafia boss wants bribery trial moved to Louisiana

United Press International  
LOS ANGELES—Carlos "Little Man" Marcello, reputed overlord of organized crime on the Gulf Coast and accused of trying to bribe a federal judge, will attempt to have his trial moved to Louisiana.

The portly 5-foot-2, white-haired Marcello is one of three men indicted in Los Angeles for attempting to buy favorable treatment from a judge presiding over the 1980 trial of five underworld figures.

Marcello, 71, and Philip Rizzuto, 42, a New Orleans nightclub owner, pleaded innocent Monday to three bribery counts each. Samuel Sciortino, 62, of Rancho Mirage, Calif., a reputed underboss in the Los Angeles Mafia and convicted racketeer, entered the same plea to the charges two weeks ago.

U.S. District Court Judge Robert Kelleher will hear arguments Sept. 21 on the change of

venue request. The estimated two-week trial was scheduled for Nov. 24.

Marcello, Rizzuto and Sciortino were charged in the indictment with conspiring to offer cash or "a valuable art object" worth more than \$100,000 to U.S. District Court Judge Harry Pregerson.

Pregerson was presiding over the racketeering case of Sciortino and five other reputed Mafia figures, one of whom died before the trial. When he learned of the alleged bribe plot he withdrew from the case, and another judge, Terry Hatter, saw the trial to its conclusion with convictions last year.

Defense attorneys told the judge they could not prepare their clients' cases in time for the September trial, which Kelleher had proposed. Rizzuto's attorney, Arthur Lemann, asked for two weeks to file a motion for a change of venue, which the judge granted.

"Almost all the alleged racketeering occurred in the Eastern District of Louisiana," Lemann said. "Mr. Marcello is an elderly person and does not have some medical problems," attorney said there were reasons too, but did not name them.

Marcello, dressed in a white shirt and a dark gray pin-striped tie, was flanked by two Orleans lawyers, Province and a tall, dark-haired lawyer who stayed at his side like a guard as he arrived at the courthouse.

The two Louisiana Mafia figures are free on \$50,000 apiece. Marcello was convicted of plotting to bribe public officials in the FBI's "Bribe" sting operation, which Kelleher had proposed. Rizzuto's attorney, Arthur Lemann, asked for two weeks to file a motion for a change of venue, which the judge granted.

## Elderly pair pleads guilty to drug trafficking charges

United Press International  
COLUMBUS, Ohio— "Grandpa" and "Grandma," an unlikely drug-dealing team, said they resorted to selling marijuana and LSD from their home because their \$381 monthly Social Security income was not enough to live on.

Luther Beaver, 74, and his wife Audrey, 63, known as "Grandma" and "Grandpa" to their young drug customers, pleaded guilty Monday to one count each of drug trafficking.

Each could receive a term of up to 10 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine at their Nov. 5 sentencing. Until then, they are free on bond.

Following the pleas, County Common Pleas Court Judge Clifford Rader ordered a presentence report that will include testimony from the couple's doctor that could figure in their sentences.

"Their doctor's position is that they should not be incarcerated because of their health," said George Ellis, senior assistant prosecuting attorney for Franklin County. "I'm making no recommendation. That will be up to the judge."

Ellis said the couple "looked like they were under a doctor's care or at least should be."

"I'm not saying that they shouldn't go to jail. They should quite a few drugs on them," he said.

Narcotics officers conducted 173 LSD tablets, 82 "blows" and 71 small plastic bags containing marijuana from the home.

At the time of their arrest, the couple said they had the money from drug sales to supplement their Social Security checks.

"I imagine the elderly couple supplement their income," he said. "Some of them work part time, but this is the first time I've heard of someone selling drugs."

"But \$381 a month is not a full lot to live on."

The Beavers had been selling drugs for some months and customers were people between 18 and 22 years old, he said.

Authorities learned about the drug operation from informants and sent two undercover agents to make purchases before the trial, he said.

Beaver had been charged with four counts and his wife with counts following their arrest. Ellis said he agreed to drop other charges if the couple plead guilty to one charge.

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