

# Abortion 7 case sent to the grand jury

By Tom Connors

A Cook County criminal court judge has sent to the grand jury a case involving seven women accused of operating an abortion service in Hyde Park and South Shore.

Judge John F. Hechinger ruled last week that the state's evidence warrants a grand jury hearing on charges of conspiracy to commit abortion against all seven defendants and on charges of abortion against five of them.

At the same time, Judge Hechinger dismissed charges of abortion that had been made against two of the defendants, Susan Galatzer, 21, 5342 Harper, and Judith Pildes, 29, 2216 N. Geneva.

The other defendants are Martha Scott, 30, 5213 Kenwood, Sheila Smith, 22, 5459 Hyde Park, Diane Stevens, 23, 820 Agatite, Abby Gollón, 27, 47 W. 59th and Madeleine Schwenk, 30, 6933 Bennett.

Hechinger made the rulings after a preliminary hearing in which testimony was taken from two Chicago policemen and from two women who said that they went to the defendants for abortions.

One of the policemen, homicide investigator Harold Huffman, testified about a police stakeout in Hyde Park

that led to the arrest of six of the defendants on May 3 in an apartment at 7251 South Shore dr., where the abortions are alleged to have been performed.

Huffman said that on May 3 he sat for several hours in an unmarked police car in the 5500 block of South Everett after receiving a tip that an abortion service was being run in a building on that block.

Huffman testified that during his stakeout he saw numerous women enter the apartment building at 5532 Everett.

At various intervals, Huffman alleged, some of these women would come out of the building, get in a car and drive to South Shore.

Huffman said that he followed the women on three different trips from Hyde Park to South Shore and finally identified the 7251 South Shore dr. building as their destination.

The identification of the South Shore address was made with the help of another policeman who was dressed in civilian clothes and was posing as a salesman in South Shore.

Huffman testified that he gave a description of the car the women were riding in to the plainclothesman, who spotted the vehicle when it

arrived in South Shore.

The plainclothesman watched the elevator dial and determined that the women had ridden the elevator to the eleventh floor, testimony continued.

He then summoned Huffman and other officers, who quickly went to the eleventh floor. Huffman said that when they arrived at the floor, they met a woman who, after being told that they were policemen, admitted that she had just had an abortion in apartment 11F.

The officers then went to that apartment. Huffman said there was a group of women sitting around the apartment. All occupants of the apartment were placed under arrest, including six of the defendants.

Huffman said that he went

Continued on page 2

# More on abortion

Continued from page 1

into the apartment's three bedrooms, all of which were, in his words, "set up like hospital operating rooms."

Huffman said that in one of the bedrooms he saw a nude woman lying on a bed with an icepack on her stomach. In another bedroom he found a woman named Gloria Whitehorn lying on a bed, he claimed.

Ms. Whitehorn testified at last week's preliminary hearing. She said that she was driven to the South Shore dr. apartment from 5532 S. Everett by Ms. Pildes, one of the defendants.

Ms. Whitehorn testified that she was given some pills at the Everett building. She said that she understood that the purpose of the pills was "to prevent infection."

Some time after six of the defendants were arrested at the South Shore dr. apartment, Ms. Galatzer, the seventh defendant, was arrested at the Everett address.

If the county grand jury returns indictments in the case, the defendants could stand trial on the abortion and conspiracy charges.

The next hearing in the case will be held on Sept. 12.