

October 7, 1952

Tuccillo Files Guilty Plea to Lesser Charge

Prosecution of Ralph Tuccillo, 48, of 298 Bay street, Tompkinsville, accused of perjury in giving a false name when he applied for a job in Willowbrook State School, took a sudden turn yesterday in County Court where Tuccillo pleaded guilty of a misdemeanor count of violating the State Civil Service Law.

Tuccillo, an ex-convict who also was a patient in Matteawan State Hospital for Insane Criminals, was questioned by Judge Thomas J. Walsh after Louis Baron, defense attorney, offered the plea of guilty. The defendant himself then admitted that he obtained the state school job by giving a false name.

Sentence was set by the judge for Oct. 31 and Tuccillo was continued on bail, with the consent of Assistant District Attorney Daniel Cohen.

Baron next asked the perjury count in the indictment, a felony, be dismissed in view of the misdemeanor plea. He would rule on this point at the time of sentence, Judge Walsh said.

Assistant District Attorney Cohen told the judge that the lesser plea would be satisfactory to the prosecution. He is not expected to oppose dismissal of the perjury charge when that comes up Oct. 31.

Tuccillo, concealing his past record, obtained employment as an attendant at Willowbrook State School in January of this year. The perjury count charges that he made several false statements in applying for the job.

His identity was not learned at the hospital until he was arrested Aug. 20 and accused of beating two boys at the school. That charge later was dismissed in Magistrate's Court.

October 4, 1952

The perjury charge against Ralph Tuccillo, former Willowbrook State School employe accused of swearing falsely to get his job there, has been marked for trial Monday. Arrangements have been made to adjourn this trial to a later date.

Grand jury indictments found recently also will be brought before Judge Walsh at that time for pleading. Other cases have been put on Monday's calendar to select dates upon which they can be tried.

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