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54/08/13 Judge Merrick Reaffirms American Way of Justice

Cleveland Press

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Cleveland Press, Friday, Aug. 13

Judge Merrick Reaffirms 1954

American Way of Justice

Judge Frank Merrick's ruling today in the Sheppard case—setting aside Council President Barber of Bay Village as a preliminary magistrate because of prejudice—makes, The Press believes, recommended reading.

It is a clear, concise, unequivocal reaffirmation of basic American judicial procedure, and it is refreshing to see it restated by Judge Merrick in this instance.

The Sheppard case is now before the courts. The police have questioned Dr. Sam Sheppard, husband of the murder victim, and he is now charged with the crime. He has competent legal counsel. The investigation continues.

But what is most important, as Judge Merrick so well states, is that fair, impartial, even-handed justice be applied. That, of course is what every right-minded person in the community wishes.