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54/09/16 Murder Rule Could Disinherit Sam

Cleveland Press

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Murder Rule Could Disinherit Sam

Dr. Sam Sheppard could not inherit his wife's estate if he is convicted of either first or second-degree murder.

This was made clear by Probate Judge Walter T. Kinder, despite the fact that Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard's will named her husband as beneficiary.

The will, dated Feb. 22, 1954, was filed yesterday and names her son, Chip, 6, as beneficiary if she was not survived by her husband.

Dr. Sam, who was named executor, declined to serve and Judge Kinder appointed his father, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard, to handle the estate.

If convicted of manslaughter, Dr. Sam would not be barred from inheriting the estate, which lists \$9100 in real estate and \$100 in personal property.

* * *

Thirteen more persons were subpoenaed today to testify when hearing is resumed tomorrow on Dr. Sheppard's fight for release on bond while waiting trial on a charge of murdering his wife.

Hearing will start at 9:15 a. m. before Common Pleas Judge A. H. Blythin.

Summoned to tomorrow's hearing were:

B. R. Winston, foreman of the Grand Jury which indicted Sheppard; Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton, Bay Patrolman Fred Drenkhan, Sheriff Joseph Sweeney, Bay Mayor J. Spencer Houck and his son, Lawrence.

Mrs. Helen F. Schuele, 28944 Lake Rd., Bay Village; Mrs. Nancy Ahearn, 29146 Lake Rd., Bay Village; Jean Disbro, 28919

Lake Rd., Bay Village; Robert Spawicki, 4511 E. 49th St., and Miles Davis, 375 Kenilworth Rd., Bay Village, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Knitter, 785 Kenilworth Rd., Sheffield Lake.

Davis is the 17-year-old who reported this week that he had chased a prowler from the bedroom at his home. Spawicki and the Knitters were said to have been driving past the Bay Village home of the Sheppards and seen a figure in the area.