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## 54/09/07 Dr. Sheppard's trial may start Oct. 17

Cleveland Press

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**MSL**

ACADEMIC ENDEAVORS

# Dr. Sheppard's Trial May Start Oct. 17

## Case to Wait Proper Turn, Blythin Says

Trial of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard on an indictment charging premeditated murder of his pregnant wife, Marilyn, probably will start the week of Oct. 17.

That was the word today from Assistant Prosecutor John J. Mahon.

The 30-year-old Bay Village osteopath will have to wait a while—possibly until tomorrow for formal confirmation of the trial date because Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin refused to give his case "special consideration."

Blythin, taking over as presiding judge of the fall term of the Common Pleas Court criminal division, insisted that six other less-publicized murder cases be docketed ahead of the Sheppard case.

Starting a series of conferences with defense and prosecution attorneys to set trial dates, Blythin announced: "Each case will be taken in numerical order. We probably won't reach the Sheppard case today."

The order in which the cases will be set for trial, Blythin indicated, will follow the dates on which the defendants were arrested and indicated, on a "first come, first tried" basis.

The law requires that a special venire of jurors be called for each first-degree murder case.

Mahon said the prosecution would resist any effort by Defense Attorneys William J. Corrigan and Fred Garmone to obtain Dr. Sheppard's release on bail pending the trial, or to win a change of venue.

The defense attorneys contend it would be impossible for Dr. Sam to have a fair trial in Cuyahoga County because he "has already been convicted in the public mind."