

Hall Asks Judge Au to Disqualify Himself

Robert W. Hall, scheduled to stand trial today on four counts of attempted murder in a shooting incident at the Waikiki Yacht Club, is asking Circuit Judge Richard Au to disqualify himself from the case.

Hall said in an affidavit submitted yesterday with the disqualification request that he doesn't believe he can receive a fair trial from Au based on his conduct at Hall's hearing last week on an acquittal motion.

Au denied Hall's motion to dismiss the charges on the grounds that Hall suffered from an unusual allergic reaction to substances in white wine.

Au said Hall was not entitled to raise that defense because he voluntarily drank the wine.

Hall is charged with shooting or shooting at four people at the yacht club May 16, 1980. He is also charged with illegal possession of a firearm.

Hall said he was not seeking the

judge's disqualification because of the ruling but because of his conduct during the hearing.

According to Hall, earlier in the case Au told the parties that he had prior acquaintances and contacts with one of the victims — Rodney Inaba — and Inaba's father.

Hall said at the time he saw no reason for Au to step aside in the case, but that he has changed his mind after the hearing.

Hall said Au's action in cutting off testimony at 4:30 p.m. Friday and issuing a written decision right away were some of the factors in making his request.

Hall's attorneys, Judith Pavey and David C. Schutter, also are asking Au to allow them an immediate appeal of Au's ruling before trial.

Au has scheduled the defense motions to be heard Thursday although the trial begins today.

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Sat, Nov 5, 2022