

Supriano challenged second time on city job right

Harold Supriano's battle for a city job moved ahead on two fronts this month—a new court action against his dismissal from his original position and an appeal against the city's refusal to let him take an examination for a different job.

Supriano is the city social worker who was fired by the Social Services Commission because, San Francisco City and County Employees Local 400

charges, he holds unpopular political views.

Local 400 announced this week that it would appeal Superior Judge Joseph Karesh's ruling that Supriano was discharged properly.

AFTER his dismissal Supriano was accepted by the Civil Service Commission as No. 1 on the eligible list for rehiring at his former grade in any department except Social Service.

But, since no jobs were available at that grade, Supriano filed for permission to take an examination for a lesser social work job.

The Civil Service Commission staff notified him he was not eligible for the exam because of his arrest record and work record. Local 400 brought the case before the commission.

THERE, it developed, the "arrest record" included a charge of battery during a San Francisco civil rights sit-in—a charge on which Supriano had been acquitted.

The staff report admitted the acquittal but maintained the department had a reliable witness who said Supriano had committed the crime.

The commission tentatively set a mid-July date for a special hearing on Supriano's right to take the job test.

THE STATED reasons for Supriano's dismissal were that he had given false reasons for leaving his city employment in two previous instances and that he had signed a W. E. B. DuBois Club leaflet urging individuals to report mistreatment by police.

Local 400 contends the real reasons are his political views exemplified by his DuBois Club membership and a visit to North Vietnam.

Meanwhile, the Bay Area Board of directors of the National Association of Social Workers announced it would ask social workers not to accept San Francisco Social Services jobs if Supriano is not reinstated by July 19.

ADDITIONALLY, the NASW body will urge present social work employees of the department to quit if possible and will request colleges not to assign graduate students to the department for field work if the dismissal is not reversed.



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