

NEWS  
**LAWYER RELEASED FROM JAIL**

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A Passaic County lawyer who had spent nearly a year in the Passaic County Jail awaiting sentencing on charges of stealing money from clients has been released after a judge agreed to halve his \$200,000 bail.

**Richard Faherty**, a Hawthorne attorney suspended from practicing law, left the jail in Paterson Friday after posting \$100,000 bail.

His bail had been reduced earlier that day by a judge in Paterson after his lawyer argued that Faherty, who is cooperating with the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, had a job waiting, had property to post for bail, and could be counted on to appear for sentencing.

Faherty pleaded guilty last May to an accusation that he had misused more than \$75,000 in clients' money. However, prosecutors have said Faherty took at least \$250,000 between August 1983 and January 1984.

In his plea bargain, Faherty agreed to help the prosecutor's office investigate some of his business associates. In return, the office agreed to limit Faherty's sentence to 10 years in prison, including no more than three years without the possibility of parole.

Faherty was to be sentenced after the trial of William Baldwin, also known as Amaurie Baldwin, who was indicted in October on fraud charges involving the theft of \$1.3 million. Officials say Faherty used his clients' money to pay off Baldwin's debts.

But Faherty's lawyer, Adolph J. Galluccio, said yesterday that Faherty had been in jail 323 days and Baldwin's trial still had not come up. Galluccio said he asked Judge Ralph V. Martin on Friday for a reduction of bail.

Galluccio argued that Faherty's circumstances have changed since his arrest: He has a job waiting with a Ridgefield Park messenger service; he has his mother-in-law's \$87,000 house in Paterson to post as equity; and having served nearly a year of his potential sentence, he has less desire to flee.

The Passaic County Prosecutor's Office opposed Galluccio's request, pointing out that Baldwin's trial is set to start May 6.

Yesterday, an official at the Passaic County Jail said Faherty "bailed out on the 15th." Faherty, who is in his late 30's, emptied his house in Hawthorne and fled with his wife and four young children in January 1984, shortly before he was suspended from the bar because of ethics complaints filed with the state Supreme Court.

In late March, the prosecutor's office learned Faherty had taken his family to Puerto Rico, where his mother-in-law had a house. The office persuaded him to return to New Jersey. He was arrested March 31, a few hours after landing at Newark International Airport.

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