

BRIBE OFFER CLAIMED IN SLAYING TRIAL

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The star witness against alleged Young Boys Inc. hit man **Maurice** (Mohawk) **Gibbs** was offered \$1,000 to give the defense attorney a statement that could help clear **Gibbs**, an assistant prosecuting attorney charged Wednesday.

The bribery charge, and an unsuccessful effort by Assistant Prosecutor Paul Bruno to have Daniel Blank removed as defense attorney and called as a witness, came in a series of heated preliminary motions before Recorder's Court Judge George Crockett III.

Blank denied any part in the alleged bribe of witness Ricky Banks and threatened to sue Bruno "for even suggesting that I had anything to do with such an illegal act."

BRUNO DID NOT say who made the bribe offer to Banks, but he added: "I don't know what involvement Mr. Blank had in that \$1,000 promise, but that's what got him (Banks) out there" to Blank's office.

Gibbs, 23, is charged in the May 12 shooting of Joseph (Wamp) Brown, a convicted drug dealer. Brown, 22, was gunned down the day after he testified on behalf of Raymond Peoples, the reputed founder of Young Boys Inc., in a concealed weapons case.

Before dying, Brown told police and others that he had been shot by "Mohawk" and "Kurt McGurk," according to earlier court testimony.

Kurt (Kurt McGurk) Napier, 19, also is charged with Brown's slaying. A preliminary examination is scheduled Friday for Napier.

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