

DETROIT LAWYER ORDERED TO JAIL \ FOR REFUSING TO ANSWER QUERIES

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Calling a prison sentence "the civilized form of the rack," U.S. District Judge Avern Cohn **ordered** a **Detroit** attorney **to jail** Thursday for refusing **to** answer a grand jury's questions about possible drug use by his former law partner.

U.S. marshals handcuffed Domnick Sorise and led him off as his brother Frank and friends said goodbye.

Cohn said he understood Sorise's reasons for refusing **to** answer, but told him he was wrong and that prison is used " **to** coerce you" into answering.

Sorise "owns the key **to** the **jail** ," said Cohn.

Shortly after the hearing, Cohn gave Sorise a 20-hour stay when he **ordered** him released until noon today until it is determined if Sorise will be held in Wayne County **Jail** or the Federal Correctional Institution at Milan.

Sorise has refused **to** answer the grand jury's questions about criminal defense attorney W. Otis Culpepper, who has rankled some law enforcement authorities with sometimes flamboyant defenses of drug ring leaders and murder defendants.

Sorise's refusal is based on an immunity agreement with the U.S. Attorney's Office that he testify only about bookkeeping and some financial matters concerning his former law partner and ruling out drug use inquiries, according **to** a legal memorandum filed by Sorise's attorney, Richard Lustig.

But Cohn has ruled the jury may investigate any matter regardless of agreements and found Sorise guilty of contempt of court. The U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld Cohn in a ruling last month.

Cohn said Sorise will be imprisoned until he agrees **to** testify, until the grand jury's term expires, or 18 months, whichever is sooner. The grand jury's term ends in June, Lustig said.

Lustig, who sharply debated Cohn, said he will ask the appeals court for another hearing.

Sorise, who declined comment, arrived at court prepared for **jail** . He was dressed in blue jeans, a sweatshirt and tennis shoes and was carrying two books.

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