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Trial Ordered in 'Black Box' Swindle Case

PASADENA— A motion to dismiss charges against two men accused of a "black box" swindle of the telephone company was denied Tuesday in Superior Court and the defendants were ordered to trial today.

They have pleaded innocent.

Louis G. MacKenzie, 49, and Robert LaFond were indicted by the grand jury Dec. 7 on five counts each. They were charged with selling a device which deactivates telephone billing machines on long-distance calls.

Five Counts

Superior Judge Joseph A. Sprankle Jr. ordered them to stand trial on one count of conspiracy and four counts of using unauthorized telephone devices.

The indictments were handed down after an undercover investigator employed by Pacific Telephone Co. reportedly claimed he purchased one of the electronic devices from MacKenzie for \$250.

MacKenzie is the owner of MacKenzie Laboratories, 1367 N. Fair Oaks Ave., and LaFond is an employe.