

# Lawyer Drops Plea For 'Voodoo' Items

Defense counsel for a mother accused of killing her four young children late Monday withdrew a subpoena directing that police surrender "black magic and voodoo items" seized at the scene.

Attorney Carl Vizzi, counsel for Gall Traif, 26, withdrew the subpoena during a hearing before State Supreme Court Justice Jerome B. E. Wolff on a motion by the prosecution to quash the subpoena.

Mrs. Traif is awaiting trial on murder charges in the butcher-knife slaying of her four children in her upper apartment at 122 Montana Ave. on July 16. She has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity.

The defense lawyer served a subpoena last week on Leo J. Donovan, chief of the Buffalo Police Homicide Bureau, directing production of a 911 tape of a neighbor's call to police and other items.

Also asked in the subpoena were a videotape of her statement to police, an anatomy book and the black magic and voodoo items allegedly taken by police from the apartment.

Vizzi claimed the black magic and voodoo items included a can containing oil, herbs and four dolls police said they found burning on the stove of the apartment.

The defense lawyer withdrew the subpoena after Assistant District Attorney George B. Quinlan Jr. assured him the 911 tape will be preserved for his future examination. Preservation of the 911 tape was the prime consideration of his motion, said Vizzi.

Vizzi said he would file a motion prior to trial asking for production of the requested items, including a butcher knife and a paring knife allegedly used in the murders.