Court stays contempt hearing

The Third District Court of Appeal has stayed a contempt of court hearing for a would-be private investigator who refused to answer questions about the shooting of superspy Ricardo "Monkey" Morales

Juan Cid, licensed by the state as a private investigator intern, was scheduled for a trial on contempt of court charges Monday before Circuit Judge Bruce Levy.

Levy ordered the hearing after Cid refused to answer prosecutor Sam Rabin's questions about his relationship with Morales, a drug informant, terrorist and spy who was killed after a barroom argument Dec. 20, 1982, on Key Biscayne.

Defense attorney Douglas Williams appealed Levy's decision. Williams said that although Rabin offered him immunity from prosecution in exchange for his testimony, Cid, who is the target of a federal tax investigation, would not be protected from prosecution in U.S. District Court. Williams also said in the appeal that Rabin talked about immunity for Cid, but never actually gave it.