

News Release: American Library Association

Public Information Office
American Library Association
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
312 944-6780

From: Peggy Barber, Director
Public Information Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Executive Board of the American Library Association has selected the firm of Sidley & Austin as general legal counsel to the association. The decision was announced after several firms made presentations to the Board during its fall meeting in Chicago, November 1-2, 1978.

The decision to review the choice of legal counsel was prompted by the departure from Kirkland & Ellis of ALA's lead attorney, William D. North. Kirkland & Ellis has provided excellent legal service to the association since 1956, and they will continue to represent ALA with respect to the new ALA office space under construction.

Sidley & Austin is a firm of more than 200 lawyers that is based in Chicago, and maintains offices in Washington and London. Founded in 1866, the firm has extensive experience in First Amendment issues, copyright, and has represented many non-profit associations. The late Adlai E. Stevenson was with the firm for 17 years before embarking on his political career in 1948.

Newton Minow is the lead attorney with Sidley & Austin who will be handling ALA's legal affairs. Minow was chairman of the Federal Communications Commission from 1961-63 and is presently chairman of the board of the Public Broadcasting Service.