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Charles P. Sifton papers10216841

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Sifton, Charles P
Title:	Charles P. Sifton papers
ID:	10216841
ID:	MS#1651
Date [inclusive]:	1968-2005
Physical Description:	32 linear feet 32 record storage cartons
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Charles P. Sifton Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Charles Proctor Sifton (1935-2009) was a federal judge in the Eastern District of New York for over 30 years.

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Summary

Workfiles; Administrative Files; Model Jury Charges; Book diaries of scheduled court appearances; Criminal case status cards; Civil status cards.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Preliminary finding aid encoded from box list. kws 2022-07-19

Restrictions on Access

This collection remains unprocessed, but boxes 10 and 22 through 32 can be made available without further review. kws 2022-07-19 Please contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Processing Information

Collection-level record describing unprocessed material made public in summer 2018 as part of the Hidden Collections initiative.

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Judges
- Cases
- Diaries
- Briefs (legal documents)
- United States. District Court (New York : Eastern District)
- New York (N.Y.). Fire Department

Collection Inventory

Series I: Workfiles

Title/Description	Instances
Preservation of Federal judges' papers	box 1
Preservation of Federal judges' papers	box 2
Preservation of Federal judges' papers	box 3
Preservation of Federal judges' papers	box 4
USA v. Joseph M. Margiotta - Docket #CR-80-00636 (Eastern District of NY)	box 4
Scope and Contents	
Defendant, the Republican Party leader in Nassau County, NY and a powerful political boss, was tried and convicted in 1981 of mail fraud, and extortion in violation of the Hobbes Act.	
U.S.A. v. Gabriel Megahey, Andrew Duggan, Colm Meehan and Eamon Meehan - CR-82-00327 (EDNY)	box 4

Scope and Contents

Trial on charges of conspiracy to smuggle arms, explosives and equipment from the U.S. to the Provisional Irish Republican Army

U.S.A. v. Gabriel Megahey, Andrew Duggan, Colm Meehan and Eamon Meehan - CR-82-00327 (EDNY) box 5

U.S.A. v. Patrick McParland - CR-82-00327 (EDNY) box 6

Scope and Contents

Separate trial on same charges as those in USA v. Gabriel Megahey, et al, CR-82-00327

U.S.A. v. Julio Rosado, Andres Rosado, Ricardo Romero, Steven Guerra and Maria Cueto - CR-83-00025 box 6

Scope and Contents

Trial on charge of criminal contempt for refusal to testify before a grand jury.

In re Grand Jury subpoenas served on Michelle Miller and Sylvia Baraldini - CV-83-0833 box 6

Scope and Contents

Civil contempt proceedings for disobeying a lawful order directing the defendants to appear and give testimony before a grand jury investigating a series of bombings allegedly conducted by the FALN, a group advocating the independence of Puerto Rico

U.S.A. v. Michelle Miller and Sylvia Baraldini - CR-83-00116 (EDNY) box 6

Scope and Contents

Trial on charge of criminal contempt, for disobeying a lawful order directing the defendants to appear and give testimony before a grand jury investigating a series of bombings allegedly conducted by the FALN, a group advocating the independence of Puerto Rico.

U.S.A. v. Southland Corp., Eugene DeFalco, Eugene Mastropieri, and S. Richmond Dole - CR-83-00198, etc. box 6

Scope and Contents

Trial on charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States o

U.S.A. v. Southland Corp., Eugene DeFalco, Eugene Mastropieri, and S. Richmond Dole - CR-83-00198, etc. box 7

U.S.A. v. Gurpartap Singh Birk - CR-85-00467 (EDNY) box 7

Scope and Contents

Trial on charges of conspiracy to assassinate Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandi of India, to violate the Neutrality Act, and to transport weapons and explosives in interstate commerce.

U.S.A. v. Philip "Rusty" Rastelli, et al. - CR-85-00354 (EDNY) box 7

Scope and Contents

Trial of the "boss " and other members of the Bonnano organized crime family, officers of Local 814 of the Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters, and businessmen in the moving and storage business on charges of conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), extortion, bid-rigging, unlawful payoffs, mail fraud, perjury, arson and obstruction of justice.

U.S.A. v. Joseph Fama, et al. - CR-84-00298 (EDNY) box 7

Scope and Contents

Trial of the Fama family (father, mother and four children) on charges of RICO conspiracy and distribution of heroin, cocaine and marijuana

U.S.A. v. James Failla, Joseph Watts, et al. - CR-93-00294 (EDNY) box 8

Scope and Contents

Racketeering conspiracy case involving members of the Gambino crime family and conspiracies , to murder the boss of the Gambino crime family, to murder witnesses, etc.

U.S.A. v. John Brennan and U.S. Aviation Underwriters, Inc. - CR-95-420 (EDNY) box 8

Scope and Contents

The defendants were a large aviation insurance underwriting company and its former president and CEO who were charged with mail fraud involving insurance claims for the crash of a Pacific Southwest Airlines commuter airliner in 1987 resulting from the murder of the entire flight crew by a terminated airline employee.

U.S.A. v. Kevin McKeon - CR-94-0774 (EDNY) box 8

Scope and Contents

The defendant, a criminal defense attorney, was charged with conspiracy to distribute narcotic and non-narcotic drugs in that he provided information

about the location of drug "stash houses" to a "crew" that burglarized such houses.

U.S.A. v. Morris J. Eisen, et al. - CR-90-00018 (EDNY) box 8

Scope and Contents

Trial of attorneys and staff members of a leading personal injury law firm on charges of racketeering and fraud.

Brenda Berkman v. City of New York, et al. - CV-79-1813 (EDNY) box 8

Scope and Contents

A class action challenge by women to the physical exam given to applicants for NYC firefighter. Judge Sifton's decisions resulted in the appointment of the first women ever to serve as NYC firefighters.C27

Brenda Berkman v. City of New York, et al. - CV-79-1813 (EDNY) box 9

Agudas Chasidei Chabad v. Gourary - CV-85-2909 (EDNY) box 10

Scope and Contents

Bench trial - Judge Sifton found for the Lubavitch congregation in their suit against the grandson of the late Rebbe Joseph I. Schneersohn to recover a collection of books from the Rebbe's library.

Pico v. Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District - 79-7690 (2nd Circuit) - 638 F.2nd 404 (2nd Cir. 1980), aff'd 457 U.S. 853 (1982) box 10

Scope and Contents

Decision of the 2nd Circuit written by Judge Sifton, sitting by designation - the case involved a First Amendment challenge to the removal by the school board of certain books, including "Soul On Ice" by Eldridge Cleaver, , "Slaughterhouse Five" by Kurt Vonnegut, and "Best Short Stories by Negro Writers", from a school library - the Circuit reversed a decision of District Judge George Pratt [later a judge of the 2nd Circuit] granting summary judgment to the school board. The Circuit found that there was a First Amendment issue and that summary judgment was therefore not appropriate.

Pico v. Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District - 79-7690 (2nd Circuit) - 638 F.2nd 404 (2nd Cir. 1980), aff'd 457 U.S. 853 (1982) box 11

Leona Bente n v. David Kessler, in his official capacity as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration - CV-92-3161	box 11
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Scope and Contents

Test case challenging the ban on importation of RU-486, an abortion drug. Includes draft of unissued memorandum and order on cross motions for summary judgment.

Civil cases 1990 -2005	box 11
Criminal cases - 1990-2009	box 11
Criminal cases - 1990-2009	box 12
Bench book (looseleaf) for guilty pleas	box 12

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Series II: Administrative Files

Title/Description	Instances
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B-C	box 13
C-D	box 14
D-I	box 15
J-P	box 16
P-S	box 17
T-Z	box 18

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Series III: Models

Title/Description	Instances
Model Preliminary Injunctions, Temporary Restraining Orders and Jury Verdict Forms	box 18
Model Jury Charges	box 18
Model Jury Charges	box 19
Model Jury Charges	box 20
Model Jury Charges	box 21

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Series IV: Diaries

Scope and Contents

All subsequent diaries were electronic - Lotus Organizer or Lotus Notes

Title/Description	Instances
1977 to 1983	box 22
1984 to 1993	box 23
1994 to 1998	box 24

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Series V: Status Cards

Scope and Contents

Card boxes with index cards

Title/Description	Instances
Criminal case status cards - 1972 to 1986	box 24
Criminal case status cards - 1987 to 1990	box 25
Criminal case status cards - 1991 to 1995 (Part 1)	box 25
Criminal case status cards - 1995 (Part 2) to 2000 (Part 1)	box 26
Criminal case status cards - 2000 (Part 2) to 2006	box 26
Criminal case status cards - 2007 to End (2009)	box 27
Civil case status cards - Special Types - MDL Cases, Asbestos cases, Attorney discipline cases	box 27
Regular Civil Cases - Start (1968) to 1977	box 27
Civil status cards - 1978 to 1980 (Part 1)	box 27
Civil status cards - 1980 (Part 2) to 1981	box 28
Civil status cards - 1982 to 1983 (Part 1)	box 28
Civil status cards - 1983 (Part 2) to 1985 (Part 1)	box 29
Civil status cards - 1985 (Part 2) to 1986 (Part 1)	box 29
Civil status cards - 1986 (Part 2) to 1989	box 30
Civil status cards - 1990 to 1992 (Part 1)	box 30
Civil status cards - 1992 (Part 2) to 1994 (Part 1)	

box 31

Civil status cards - 1994 (Part 2) to 1997 (Part 1)

box 31

Civil status cards - 1997 (Part 2) to 1998 (END)

box 32

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