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NO. 1

**THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE LAWYERS IN
CRIMINAL CASES**

On August 15, 1958, the first nationwide association for defense lawyers in criminal cases was established in Chicago, Illinois. At that time, approximately 100 attorneys attending Northwestern University's first annual short course for criminal defense lawyers formed the National Association of Defense Lawyers in Criminal Cases. Excerpts from the Association's Constitution appear below.

According to Charles A. Bellows, a veteran Chicago defense lawyer and the first President of the Association, the objectives of the organization are:

—To provide an appropriate national organization representing those lawyers who are actively engaged in the defense of criminal cases.

—To foster periodic meetings of defense lawyers and thereby provide a forum for the mutual exchange of information regarding the administration of criminal justice.

—To protect individual rights and to promote the improvement and remolding of criminal law and practice.

Other officers of the association are Samuel Dash, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania attorney, vice-president; Gregory S. Stout, San Francisco, California attorney, secretary; and Claude R. Sowle, assistant professor of law at Northwestern, executive secretary.

Members of the board of directors, in addition to the officers, are John W. Condon, Jr., Buffalo, New York; E. Patrick Hartt, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Jack L. Goodsitt, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Bernard J. Gilday, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio; Luther E. Jones, Jr., Corpus Christi, Texas; George N. Leighton, Chicago, Illinois; Melvin S. Louison, Taunton, Massachusetts; Robert B. Oxtoby, Springfield, Illinois; and Edward Bennett Williams, Washington, D. C.

Regular membership in the organization is available to those lawyers actively engaged in the defense of criminal cases. Provisional membership is available to advanced law students and lawyers interested in becoming active in the criminal law field. Membership application forms, as well as

additional information concerning the Association, may be obtained by writing to:

National Association of Defense Lawyers in
Criminal Cases
357 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago 11, Illinois

The first annual meeting of the Association will be held on July 17 and 18 in Chicago, Illinois. The annual meeting will be followed by the second Northwestern University Law School Short Course for Defense Lawyers in Criminal Cases. The short course will be held at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, beginning Monday, July 20, and ending Friday, July 24.

EXCERPTS FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEFENSE
LAWYERS IN CRIMINAL CASES

Qualifications for Membership

(Article III—Sections 1 and 3)

Regular Membership. Regular membership in the Association shall be available only to those persons of professional competency, integrity and good moral character who are actively engaged in the defense of criminal cases. Applications for membership shall be made on a form prescribed by the Board of Directors. . . . Each application must be endorsed by two (2) regular members of the Association. All applications shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

* * *

Provisional Membership. Provisional membership in the Association shall be available to those persons, including law students, of integrity and good moral character who are pursuing a course of action which has as its purpose the development of a career in the defense of criminal cases. Applications for provisional membership shall be made on a form prescribed by the Board of Directors. Except for law students, each of whom shall attach to his application a letter of good standing from an appropriate official in his law school,

each application for provisional membership shall be endorsed by two regular members of the Association. All applications for provisional membership shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Duration of Membership

(Article III—Sections 2 and 3)

Duration of Regular Membership. Membership shall continue only for the period of time between the member's election and the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the Association. . . . At the conclusion of each annual meeting of the Association the Board of Directors shall review the list of regular members and continue as members for a one-year period those persons who, in the opinion of three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of the members of the Board of Directors in attendance, are worthy of membership renewals. Any person whose membership has not been thus continued shall no longer be a member of the Association. Acceptance of membership in the Association is upon the condition that the Board of Directors may exercise its discretion in the matter of membership renewals and a decision of the Board in this respect is final and not appealable to the full membership.

Duration of Provisional Membership. The membership of each person elected as a provisional member shall terminate at the conclusion of the next annual meeting of the Association. At the end of said period as a provisional member, such member, in the discretion of the Board of Directors, may be made a regular member if otherwise qualified, continued as a provisional member, or dropped from Association membership. Any such decision of the Board of Directors shall be final and not appealable to the general membership.

Finances

(Article VII)

The annual dues for regular members of the Association shall be \$15.00, and the annual dues for provisional members shall be \$2.00.

Official Publication

(Article VIII)

The official publication of the Association shall be the Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science. [This publication will be sent to all regular members without charge other than the annual dues of the Association.]

CLAUDE R. SOWLE