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Memorial Resolution Honoring Sidney E. Cook

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TO THE HONORABLE JUDGES OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, MEMBERS OF THE SHREVEPORT BAR ASSOCIATION, MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OF SIDNEY E. COOK, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It is with a deep sense of loss that we mark the untimely passing of our friend and colleague, Sidney E. Cook.

Individually, and as a member of this Bar, he will be greatly missed. Born in Robeline, Louisiana, in 1927, Sidney arrived in Shreveport in 1950, having received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern State University and his law degree from LSU.

A soft-spoken, understated manner belied the broad and diverse sphere of Sidney's influence. His advice and support were often sought on political and civic matters. Sidney viewed public service as a trust and he admired those who aspired to public office. Sidney likewise recognized the duty to become involved in and affect the political process, and Sidney was certainly active in the politics of this city and state. On more than one occasion when someone would come to Sidney complaining about a problem with this or that public figure, he would simply ask two questions: First - "In the past year, how much of your personal time have you contributed to political candidates?"; and Second - "In the past year, how much of your personal money have you contributed to political candidates?" If the answers to those two questions were negative, he simply said, "Quit complaining to me."

But above all else, Sidney was an Attorney at Law, a lawyer in the truest sense. The practice of law was both his vocation and his avocation. He was both a reasoned counselor to, and an effective advocate for, his wide, and diverse, range of clients. He was senior partner in the firm of Cook, Yancey, King and Galloway, having been with that firm for the entire thirty-nine years of his practice. Sidney was widely acknowledged and admired as one of the preeminent leaders within our profession, and one who expected the highest degree of professional and ethical conduct of himself and others.

His numerous professional and civic affiliations have included:

President of the Shreveport Bar Association
Member of the Louisiana Judiciary Commission
Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers
Member of the Federation of Insurance Counsel
Fellow of the American Bar Foundation
Member of the Association of Insurance Attorneys
President of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel
President of the Ark-La-Tex Tax Institute
Director of Shreveport Chamber of Commerce
Director of Commercial National Bank
Advisory Director of First Federal Savings & Loan Assoc

For all of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with Sidney, we will each have our own special memory of him, and the legacy of Sidney Cook stories will no doubt be with us for some time to come. Sidney was at the same time both the "genuine, one of a kind" individual of singular talent recognized by all with whom he dealt and, as he often referred to himself the "ole country boy from Robeline who practices a little law".

perhaps the single characteristic of Sidney which may be best remembered was his razor sharp, often stinging, ego deflating wit, "the needle" to which most of us have been subjected at one time or another. Most of all, however, Sidney will be remembered as our loyal friend who was ever mindful of the problems and concerns of others, and who always found time to listen to and advise those who sought his counsel.

To his wife, Dot, children, Karen, Sid Jr. and Polly, and stepson Rob, please know that we too shall miss him.

And with this, we the undersigned committee respectfully move that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Court and that certified copies be given to the members of the family of Sidney E. Cook as we extend to them the deep and sincere sympathy of the members of the Shreveport Bar Association.

Respectfully submitted,

(Shill)

Dewey /W.

Sidney B. Galloway

Herschel E. Richard