

Sokol

make
new
file



Ronald P. Sokol
13540 Puyricard
France

TELEGRAMAS
RITZOTEL

HOTEL RITZ
LISBOA
AN INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL

TELEPHONE
68 41 31
TELEX: LISBOA 12589

Lisbon, 10 May 1972

Dear Dan,

At last I have slunk away with wife and one child for a much-needed rest. I am presently in the 9th year of my law practice, and I detect a turning point.

The practice itself remains a fascinating one, varied, unusual, and interesting problems—sometimes insoluble. Doug Woodworth, a Virginian and Law School graduate (1979) has now been with me three years and is beginning to be operational. We complement each other nicely as he is interested in tax work and estates and trusts, areas which I have been



TELEGRAMAS
RITZOTEL

HOTEL RITZ
LISBOA

AN INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL

TELEPHONE
68 41 31
TELEX: LISBOA 12589

forced to learn something about, but
which I do not particularly enjoy.

I do the corporate work and business
counseling and the domestic relations work,
of which there is a significant amount.
As he does not care for these ones and
I enjoy them, this works out quite well.
He is strong on close-detailed analysis
within a fixed framework, and I
prefer using my imagination to define
the framework. I suppose the amorphous
aspect of private international law appeals
to me just as it did in constitutional law.

The sad part about practicing law
is ~~the~~ seeing over and over again how
badly the administration of justice works
both in France and in the U.S.



TELEGRAMS
RITZOTEL

HOTEL RITZ LISBOA

AN INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL

★★★★★

TELEPHONE
68 41 31
TELEX: LISBOA 12589

It is almost always costly and, unless the parties settle, it ~~is~~ usually involves interminable delay. Last week we got an unfavorable order in a California court that amounted to a quite blatant denial of justice — using justice in the sense of a denial of legitimate expectations. The present delay for an appeal in California in civil cases is three years. I console myself with the French phrase — "La justice est humaine." which I suppose might be translated as "Justice is a man-made ~~human~~ product" with all that implies.