

## Time-Keeping by Justice Lawyers Halted; Analysis Seen by Next Year

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The controversial plan requiring Justice Department attorneys to record their work at 12-minute intervals has ended, but the results are still in doubt.

Richard G. Kleindienst, deputy attorney general, ordered the daily reporting of how more than 2,000 Justice lawyers spend their time to cease Oct. 30, 10 months after it began on a fulltime basis.

"This effort has provided, for the first time, significant management information on the utilization of attorney manpower . . ." Kleindienst said in a memorandum to department heads on Oct. 26.

Yesterday, Kleindienst said the time-keeping had "accomplished its purpose" and was no longer necessary except for short periods to update current records.

Leo M. Pellerzi, assistant attorney general for administration and father of the record-

keeping plan, said it would be early next year before a complete analysis would be finished of the data fed into the department's computer.

He said it would be available for congressional budget hearings next year. Preliminary findings, he added, indicate that about 40 per cent of Justice attorneys' time is spent on activities that aren't directly related to the cases they handle and that time varies greatly depending on the type of case.

In some divisions, Pellerzi said, he was surprised to find that more time is spent on appeals than on original trials.

He hopes the figures will show Congress that more matters than caseloads must be considered in determining money and manpower needs.

Justice's 2,200 lawyers complained bitterly when the reporting program was broached in March, 1969, some complaining that it was a waste of time to report their activities and others expressing the fear

that it was aimed at keeping tabs on them.

The time sheets were described last year by Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.) as "nitpicking of the nittiest kind."

But Pellerzi said yesterday that 97 per cent of Justice's lawyers filled out the daily sheets and that most of them stopped criticizing the plan once they learned it would be beneficial to the department.

But the first three officials encountered in the hallway outside Pellerzi's office were still decidedly unenthusiastic about the time sheets.

One said his secretary filled out his sheet, and he didn't know what she put on it. Another said he stopped filling out his sheet last summer because the 125 coded symbols didn't cover his duties.

The third said he hated the sheets because they made mechanical men out of lawyers, and predicted Congress would cut the department's funds.

"At least I hope they do," he muttered.