

Ex-Chief's Choice

New SEC Counsel

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A Minneapolis lawyer was named to be general counsel of the Securities and Exchange Commission today, nudging aside the candidate of former White House aide Charles Colson.

Lawrence Nerheim, 38, will take over as the SEC's top lawyer about July 1, commission officials said.

The last person to hold the job was G. Bradford Cook, who moved up to SEC chairman and then resigned last week after being implicated in a scheme involving financier Robert Vesco.

Cook's Choice

Nerheim, who has specialized in corporate and securities law in Minneapolis, was Cook's choice to head the

commission's legal staff, an SEC spokesman said. The general counsel is traditionally chosen by the chairman with the concurrence of the other four commissioners.

It was revealed yesterday that Colson, a former special counsel to President Nixon, and his law partner, Charles Morin, planned to bring pressure on Cook to name another SEC staff member, Charles King Mallory, to the general counsel's slot.

In a memorandum to Colson — a copy of which was published by the Washington Post — Morin said Mallory's appointment was "of extreme importance to us in representing our clients . . .

If we want King's appointment to materialize, we have got to lean on Brad (Cook)."

Lock it Up

In a hand-written note across the top of the memo, Colson had replied: "I'll call Cook if necessary but I think Jerry Jones (a White House personnel recruiter) could lock this one for us."

The memo was dated April 19, 1973. There was no indication that Colson or Morin took further action to promote Mallory's cause. Mallory currently is the SEC's acting executive director.

Nerheim is a partner in the Minneapolis law firm of Gray, Plant, Moody & Anderson.