

Colson faces bar action

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VIRGINIA BEACH (Va.) — Former presidential aide Charles Colson's guilty plea and conviction has set the state bar's disciplinary machinery in motion, a spokesman for the bar said yesterday.

Colson, 42, was sentenced Friday to one to three years in prison and fined \$5,000 on a charge to which he had pleaded guilty — obstructing justice by trying to impede Daniel Ellsberg's trial in the Pentagon Papers case by spreading damaging information about Ellsberg and his attorneys.

"A guilty plea to a felony and a conviction automatically sets our disciplinary machinery in motion," the spokesman said.

He said a complaint which could lead to Colson's disbarment would have to be filed with a circuit court and could not be made public until then.

Colson lives in McLean, Va. Any action taken against him would have to come from the bar's 10th congressional district committee, the spokesman said.
