

SEDLEY J (AS HE THEN WAS)
THE LAWS OF DOCUMENTS

FIRST LAW:

Documents may be assembled in any order, provided it is not chronological, numerical or alphabetical.

SECOND LAW:

Documents shall in no circumstances be paginated continuously.

THIRD LAW:

No two copies of any bundle shall have the same pagination.

FOURTH LAW:

Every document shall carry at least three numbers in different places.

FIFTH LAW:

Any important documents shall be omitted.

SIXTH LAW:

At least 10% of the documents shall appear more than once in the bundle.

SEVENTH LAW:

As may photocopies as practicable shall be illegible, truncated or cropped.

EIGHTH LAW:

- (1) At least 80% of the documents shall be irrelevant.
- (2) Counsel shall refer in court to no more than 10% of the documents, but these may include as may irrelevant ones as counsel or solicitor deems appropriate.

NINTH LAW:

Only one side of any double-sided document shall be reproduced.

TENTH LAW:

Transcriptions of manuscript documents shall bear as little relation as reasonably practicable to the original.

ELEVENTH LAW:

3% of all documents shall be upside down.

TWELFTH LAW:

Documents shall be held together in the absolute discretion of the person assembling them by:

- (1) a steel pin sharp enough to injure the reader;
- (2) a staple too short to penetrate the full thickness of the bundle;
- (3) tape binding or similar so stitched or bundled together that the document cannot be fully opened; or
- (4) a ring or lever-arch binder so damaged that the two arcs do not meet.