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The Verdict Is In: *Working Mother* Magazine and Flex-Time Lawyers Name 2009 Best Law Firms for Women

Economic Turmoil Forces Law Firm Changes – for the Better?

New York, NY (August 11, 2009)—The recession’s silver lining? As the nation’s law firms battle to survive the recession, work-life balance may become the ultimate recruiting and retention tool.

Working Mother magazine and Flex-Time Lawyers, which today announce the *Working Mother* and Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women, applaud the winning law firms for their continued attention to work-life and women’s issues and urge increased use of flex-time, reduced-hour and other family-friendly policies to ensure the future success of the profession.

The 50 Best Law Firms for Women and their work/life and women-friendly policies are highlighted in the August/September issue of *Working Mother* and at www.workingmother.com and <http://www.flextimelawyers.com/best.asp>.

“The recession has created a shift in the legal industry and now is the time to push through mutually-beneficial, cost-effective reforms that directly benefit work-life balance and allow working moms to succeed both at home and in the court room,” said Carol Evans, President, Working Mother Media. “We salute the 2009 Best Law Firms for recognizing that making the legal profession work for women is good business for everyone.”

The Best Law Firms for Women are leading the charge for change. For example, these 50 winning firms employ more lawyers who work reduced hours (8 percent versus 5 percent nationwide). These winning firms also employ more female equity partners who share in their firms’ profits (20 percent versus 16 percent nationwide).

“We are proud of our 2009 Best Law Firms for Women because they understand that when the market improves, the war for talent will return and they will be better positioned to recruit and retain the best and brightest,” said Deborah Epstein Henry, Founder and President, Flex-Time Lawyers. “Big salaries and bonuses will no longer be the pivotal means for firms to draw the best talent, and culture and environment will become more important ways for firms to distinguish themselves.”

The 2009 *Working Mother* & Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women Firm; Location – Number of Lawyers in the Firm

- Alston & Bird; Atlanta, Ga. – 933

- Andrews Kurth; Houston, Texas – 425
- Arent Fox; Washington, D.C. – 340
- Bass, Berry & Sims; Nashville, Tenn. – 254
- Chapman and Cutler; Chicago, Ill. – 225
- Covington & Burling; Washington, D.C. – 771
- Davis Polk & Wardwell; New York, N.Y. – 680
- Debevoise & Plimpton; New York, N.Y. – 570
- Dorsey & Whitney; Minneapolis, Minn. – 623
- Drinker Biddle & Reath; Philadelphia, Pa. – 687
- Foley Hoag; Boston, MA – 250
- Folger Levin & Kahn; San Francisco, Calif. – 61
- Fox Rothschild; Philadelphia, Pa. – 466
- Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz; New York, N.Y. – 57
- Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson; New York, N.Y. – 539
- Frost Brown Todd; Cincinnati, Ohio – 376
- Gibbons P.C.; Newark, N.J. – 230
- Goodwin Procter; Boston, Mass. – 941
- Gray Plant Mooty Law Firm; Minneapolis, Minn. – 165
- Hanson Bridgett; San Francisco, Calif. – 162
- Holland & Hart; Denver, Colo. – 441
- Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn; Detroit, Mich. – 239
- Ice Miller; Indianapolis, Ind. – 260
- Jenner & Block; Chicago, Ill. – 484
- Katten Muchin Rosenman; Chicago, Ill. – 653
- Latham & Watkins; Costa Mesa, Calif. – 1,714
- Lindquist & Vennum; Minneapolis, Minn. – 187
- Littler Mendelson; San Francisco, Calif. – 722
- Lowenstein Sandler; Roseland, N.J. – 276
- Manatt, Phelps & Phillips; Los Angeles, Calif. – 389
- McGuireWoods; Richmond, Va. – 854
- Miller & Chevalier Chartered; Washington, D.C. – 96
- Morrison & Foerster; New York, N.Y. – 976
- Munger, Tolles & Olson; Los Angeles, Calif. – 219
- Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg; Chicago, Ill. – 199
- Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe; New York, N.Y. – 815
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison; New York, N.Y. – 530
- Perkins Coie; Chicago, Ill. – 720
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman; San Francisco, Calif. – 929
- Quarles & Brady; Phoenix, Ariz. – 499
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon; Kansas City, Mo. – 511
- Sidley Austin; Chicago, Ill. – 1,598
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett; New York, N.Y. – 821
- Smith Moore Leatherwood; Greenville, S.C. – 181
- Steptoe & Johnson; Washington, D.C. – 465
- Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox; Washington, D.C. – 99
- Vinson & Elkins; Houston, Texas – 704
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges; New York, N.Y. – 1,394

- WilmerHale; Boston, Mass. – 1,085
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati; New York, N.Y. – 670

Profiles of the 2009 Best Law Firms for Women are featured in the August/September issue of *Working Mother* and at www.workingmother.com and www.flextimelawyers.com. Winning firms will be honored at a luncheon at the Pierre Hotel in New York on September 15.

Methodology: The 2009 Best Law Firms for Women application was developed in a partnership between *Working Mother* and Flex-Time Lawyers. Firms with at least 50 lawyers were eligible to apply and the application included detailed questions about the issues that are most important to the retention and promotion of female lawyers. The 50 winning firms were selected based on their workforce profile, family-friendly benefits and policies, flexibility, leadership, compensation, advancement and retention of women, among other criteria utilizing 2008 data.

About Working Mother Media

Celebrating 30 years, *Working Mother* magazine reaches 2 million readers and is the only national magazine for career-committed mothers while workingmother.com brings to the Web a broad range of insight and solutions served to working mothers every day. Working Mother's 24-year signature research initiative, Working Mother 100 Best Companies, is the most important benchmark for work/life practices in corporate America. With offices in New York and Washington, D.C., Working Mother Media, a division of [Bonnier Corp.](#), includes the [National Association for Female Executives](#), [Diversity Best Practices](#), the WorkLife Congress, and the Multicultural Women's Conference and Town Halls. Working Mother Media's mission is to champion cultural change.

About Flex-Time Lawyers LLC

Flex-Time Lawyers LLC® is a national consulting firm advising the legal profession on work/life balance, law firm restructure, and the retention and promotion of women. It hosts a membership organization with chapters in New York and Philadelphia, offering networking opportunities, support, career guidance, education and information sharing to effect change. Flex-Time Lawyers LLC is a resource to the press and legal community at large on work/life balance and women's issues and also provides recruiting services. It has been covered extensively in the national and legal press, including *The New York Times*, NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, National Public Radio, *National Law Journal*, and numerous others. For more information, please visit www.flextimelawyers.com.

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