

Yale Law Women Releases 2nd Annual List of the Top Ten Family-Friendly Firms

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – Sept. 24 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Yale Law Women (YLW), the largest student organization at Yale Law School, announces the release of its 2007 Top Ten Family-Friendly Firms list. Phoenix-based firm Quarles & Brady received top honors, followed by Proskauer Rose; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer; Jenner & Block; Mayer Brown; Covington & Burling; Arnold & Porter; DLA Piper; Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, PC; and Faegre & Benson.



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YLW seeks to emphasize the need for firm employment policies that facilitate work-life balance for attorneys. The DC Women's Bar Association's report, *Creating Pathways to Success*, indicates that 70% of lawyers with children – both men and women-report work-life conflict. Due largely to inflexible work demands, firms face an ongoing retention problem with young associates.

"If firms are to recruit and retain attorneys, they must change their work environments to not only accommodate but support lawyers with families," said YLW Activism Co-Chair Jill Habig.

Fellow Co-Chair Katie Wilson-Milne stated, "This list is a way to celebrate

those firms that have taken important steps toward helping attorneys have both a family and a successful career.”

YLW analyzed firms from Vault’s Top 100 Law Firms and Best of the Rest lists. The variables used were selected based on a survey of Yale Law School alumni, who ranked in order of importance a list of family-friendly law firm policies. Categories included maternity/paternity leave, childcare, and alternative work arrangements, among others. All data was collected from the National Association of Law Placement (NALP) directory. For further explanation of the methodology, please visit www.yale.edu/ylw/activism.htm.

This year’s Top Ten Family-Friendly Firms list is co-sponsored by the recently inaugurated Women’s Law School Coalition, an affiliation of women’s law student organizations. Represented in the Coalition are Yale, Boalt Hall (Berkeley), the University of Chicago, Columbia, Harvard, Northwestern, Stanford, and the University of Virginia.

“We hope that the list’s release during the law firm recruiting season will encourage students and employers to take a careful look at policies that affect the lives of young lawyers,” said Jennifer Broxmeyer, Chair of YLW.

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