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BASS, BERRY & SIMS NAMED A 2009 BEST LAW FIRM FOR WOMEN

For the second year in a row, [Bass, Berry & Sims PLC](#) has been named one of the Best Law Firms for Women by *Working Mother*

magazine and Flex-Time Lawyers. *Working Mother*, the authoritative source for career mothers, and Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, a national consulting firm advising attorneys and legal employers on work/life balance, selected Bass, Berry & Sims PLC for its continued attention to work-life and women's issues and the increased use of flex-time, reduced-hour and other family-friendly policies.

Women comprise 32 percent of the firm's attorney workforce and women hold several leadership roles within the firm, including [Leigh Walton](#) (Executive Committee and co-chair of the Healthcare Practice Group), [Anna Grizzle](#) (Entry Level Hiring chair), [Cindy Sellers](#) (Business Development and Client Relations chair), [Karen S. Neal](#) (Diversity Committee chair), [Laura Brothers](#) (Female Mentor Group chair) and [Susan Foxman](#) (Professional Development Committee chair).

A formal policy allowing for alternate work schedules is among several initiatives for which Bass, Berry & Sims PLC is recognized. "Our firm values the fact that attorneys may choose to reduce the amount of time devoted to their practice as a matter of personal or professional choice," said Neal. "Our attorneys who opt for a reduced or flexible work schedule are provided with the same administrative and advancement opportunities as full-time attorneys."

Another asset is the firm's active Female Mentor Group. "The group provides a congenial and supportive environment, as well as real opportunities for business, professional, and personal development," said Brothers. Since 2005, the Female Mentor Group has hosted the popular "Salute to Women Executives," an annual program for the firm's executive female clients that focuses on the success of women in the workforce. "The firm has an ongoing commitment to developing a working environment that not only supports but encourages work-life balance and the retention and advancement of women," continued Brothers.

"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."