

Tuesday, August 11, 2009, 11:58am CDT

Andrews Kurth, Vinson & Elkins among best law firms for women

Houston Business Journal

The verdict is in — Houston-based law firms **Andrews Kurth LLP** and **Vinson & Elkins LLP** are among the 50 best law firms for women to work in, according to the most recent *Working Mother* magazine and **Flex-Time Lawyers** list.

“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,” Carol Evans, president of **Working Mother Media**, said in a statement.

Sixteen percent of equity partners at Andrews Kurth are female attorneys, according to the company’s *Working Mother* profile. The magazine said it liked that nearly half of the lawyers hired last year were women, and that a female lawyer heads up the firm’s compensation committee.

Perks include 18 weeks of paid maternity leave as well as the ability to work reduced hours.

At Vinson & Elkins, 18 percent of female attorneys are equity partners, and the firm pairs an expectant mother with a veteran lawyer mom to help with the transition back to work following up to 12 weeks of paid maternity leave.

In addition, *Working Mother* liked that women hold four of five seats on the firm’s compensation committee.

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.