

Seven Commercial Litigators Join Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton in New Houston Office

Commercial litigators **Jay Brown**, **Stephen Wedemeyer** and **Bruce Wilkin** are among a group of seven lawyers helping to launch the newly established Houston office of **Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton, LLP**, the firm announced in a release.

Brown, Wedemeyer and Wilkin join as partners along with **Hilary Borow**, **Matthew Foytlin** and **Amparo Guerra**. Associate **Cameron Dernick** is also joining the firm. All are from Winstead PC. Derek Flynn, a Shackelford partner formerly based in The Woodlands, is moving to the Houston office at 717 Texas Ave., 27th Floor.

The firm has offices in Dallas, Frisco, Fort Worth and Austin, as well as Nashville, Tennessee.

"We have been working toward this opening for some time but needed to bring in the right group of attorneys with a focus that complemented what we are already doing," said firm founder **John Shackelford**. "The overriding factor in everything we do is how it will benefit our clients. Those benefits are obvious with this talented and respected group of lawyers."

Brown notes that the team has been practicing together for a long time. "As a group, we were impressed with Shackelford's structure, its people and its sharp-eyed focus on helping the client. We are planting a sizeable footprint for Shackelford in Houston and helping grow the office with other disciplines to complement the full-service nature of the firm," he said.

A Chambers USA-recognized attorney, Brown is an insurance

specialist also known for his work in complex, high-exposure energy industry disputes, the firm said. Board certified in Civil Trial Law and Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, he has been recognized by Texas Super Lawyers and The Best Lawyers in America. He is a fellow in the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) and the American College of Coverage and Extracontractual Counsel.

Wedemeyer represents individuals, corporations, small businesses, insurers and insurance adjusters in state and federal courts in commercial disputes, as well as catastrophic accidents including personal injury, property damage and business interruption. He is the former chair of Winstead's insurance/reinsurance litigation practice group.

The firm said Wilkin has trial and appellate experience, including leading arguments before the Supreme Court of Texas in commercial, energy, environmental and first-party insurance disputes. He also authored a major treatise on business litigation in federal courts.