

Quarles & Brady Named One of the Best Law Firms for Women

Quarles & Brady LLP has been named to list of the 2016 Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women. **Working Mother** recognizes firms for leading the industry in creating and using best practices in retaining and promoting women lawyers.

The full list of the 2016 Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women is **posted here** with highlights on representation of women and women of color in key leadership roles, and usage and promotion rates for reduced-hour lawyers, among other key points. Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers co-founded the Best Law Firms for Women initiative in 2007 to recognize firms that lead the industry in initiatives for women's business development and career advancement, plus offer flexible work arrangements and generous paid parental leave, among other important benefits.

In a release, the firm said:

This year, women represent 30% of nonequity lawyers, the highest percentage in the past nine years while 20% of equity partners were women compared with a national average of 18%. The number of Best Law Firms reporting three or more women among the top ten rainmakers increased from 16% to 22% over the last year (at the 46 winning firms that responded).

For the first time this year, the proportion of female equity partner promotions is the same for firms with one-tiered tracks and two-tiered tracks. At single-tier firms, female equity partner promotions increased one percentage point, year over year, to 34%. At two-tiered firms, the promotion rate increased to 34% from 30% in 2015. The number of nonequity partner promotions going to women (36%)

increased one percentage point, year over year.

Jennifer Owens, editorial director of Working Mother Media, says, "Working Mother and Flex-Time Lawyers' Best Law Firms show how to make it work. Despite intense pressures, the success of the firms in creating workable solutions for working families shows their commitment and ingenuity to create a progressive future for their firms."

Subha Barry, VP & General Manager, Working Mother Media, says, "As we celebrate the Best Law Firms for Women, there is still much work to be done, with only 18% of equity partners being female nationwide, reported by the National Association of Women Lawyers. With grit and client centeredness, women lawyers can continue to find growing success as rainmakers and a pathway to leadership positions."

Deborah Epstein Henry, president of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, adds, "In reflecting on the decade since we began the Best Law Firms for Women initiative, we are pleased to see firms competing to make their environments more hospitable for women to both work and thrive. The greater level of awareness and commitment to make change is what will enable women to propel to the next level."