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Culhane Meadows to provide a better way to practice law and deliver legal services

DALLAS, TEXAS—The law firm [Culhane Meadows PLLC](#) formally announced today that it is open for business in Atlanta, Austin, Dallas, New York and Washington, D.C. The co-founders of the firm are [Kelly Rittenberry Culhane](#), [Heather Clauson Haughian](#), [James E. Meadows](#) and [Grant A. Walsh](#), who practiced together at another firm prior to forming Culhane Meadows.

According to Meadows, the firm was founded to offer business clients exceptional, yet highly efficient service provided exclusively by partner-level attorneys with substantial experience from large law firms or respected in-house legal departments.

“We’ve brought together an [all-star team of legal talent](#) to work together in a streamlined organization where the focus is on serving our clients—and each other—by cultivating a truly collaborative partnership,” says Walsh.

Culhane Meadows’ business model differentiates itself by controlling the overhead environment, while actively investing in modern technologies and recruiting the best of the best lawyers who share the firm’s [core principles](#).

In addition to dispensing with billing quotas, says Meadows, “the firm has a compensation model that promotes frictionless cooperation among partners and a culture that fosters genuine partnership among them, which has enabled us to attract [more than 20 exceptional partners](#) across [five major cities](#) in less than six weeks.”

Many of the attorneys who join the firm are attracted by its innovative internal compensation model, among them Kim Verska, the firm's CIO. “For an established lawyer who has a book of business,” stated Verska, “Culhane Meadows presents an unusually attractive proposition because you can practice in a collegial environment of amazing professionals who are ready to offer support, but where the economic benefits are comparable to having your own firm.”

“We believe that all clients deserve to receive the highest level of legal services without having to subsidize the cost of wasteful overhead, on-the-job training of associates, and expensive office real estate,” says Culhane. “We are honored by our clients' enthusiastic reaction to our new law firm model. We understand that we must continue to earn our clients’— and our partners’— trust and confidence every day. And that is exactly what we are doing.”

Culhane Meadows' partners already represent numerous public companies, including two Fortune 100 clients, three Fortune 500 clients, and four Fortune 1000 clients. Many clients prefer to remain anonymous (including several international banking clients), but some of the firm's [notable clients](#) that permit public disclosure are RaceTrac Petroleum, Radio Shack, Tempur-Pedic, Aon Corporation, Porex Corporation, Fiserv, and Paciugo Franchising. In addition to its large institutional clients, Culhane Meadows also prides itself on delivering exceptional service to local and small business owners who deserve access to highly trained, top-notch attorneys.

Culhane Meadows' high-quality and low-overhead approach is quickly [resonating with clients](#).

"I have found Culhane Meadows' ability to capture the efficiencies of 21st century technology and business practices a refreshing change from our traditional law firm experiences," says Joe Akers, Vice President & General Counsel of RaceTrac Petroleum, which is ranked #36 on the Forbes list of America's largest privately held companies.

"While most businesses focus on innovation to create value for their customers, most law firms somehow think this doesn't apply to them," observes Steven Gareleck, Chairman of Cost Management Group, LLC. "We go to Culhane Meadows for our company's legal needs because they have truly innovated with their ultra-low-overhead business model by bringing us top-firm lawyers in a cost effective and efficient manner."

Culhane Meadows partners come from some of the largest law firms in the country, including Alston+Bird, Akin Gump, DLA Piper, Gibson Dunn, Greenberg Traurig, Haynes & Boone, Hunton & Williams, Morrison & Foerster, Skadden Arps, Troutman Sanders and many others. Also on its partner roster are former in-house attorneys from major public companies such as Prudential Financial and Qwest Communications, along with various government agencies—including an attorney from the White House Office of Counsel who formerly served in three different presidential administrations.

Though Culhane Meadows was formed just recently, the core members of the firm's [technology group](#) have been together for nearly 15 years "and we believe this new law firm model offers us the chance to deliver the very best quality service available anywhere in a highly-efficient environment," says Haughian.

Meadows says the firm intends to grow each of its offices and enter new metropolitan markets in the future, "but we will approach growth carefully and diligently. We are always [looking for talented lawyers](#) who share our values, particularly an unwavering commitment to clients and fellow partners, and who are attracted by a leaner, less bureaucratic, more collaborative environment than one typically finds in large law firms."

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