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Jay Wheeler

CHAPIN WHEELER LLP

Jay Wheeler has had quite a year. In the spring of 2005, Jay and long-time friend and fellow war veteran Ed Chapin joined forces to create a new firm - - Chapin Wheeler LLP. Both attorneys came from big firms and envisioned their new firm as one that would, according to Jay, "represent businesses and individuals as plaintiffs in cases that aren't appropriate for big firms with fixed hourly rates...instead are better suited for more creative and result-oriented fee arrangements."

In February, Chapin Wheeler hung its shingle at the One American Plaza and has been busy ever since.

In July, the San Diego Daily Transcript named Jay one of San Diego's Top 10 Attorneys, based upon suggestions from local lawyers who wrote of Jay's upstanding character and impressive legal skills.

In the 27 years he has been practicing law, Jay has worked hard to earn the reputation as one of the area's top litigators. His successes in the courtroom - including a \$15 million verdict - have been in diverse areas of law ranging from insurance bad faith and intellectual property to franchise disputes and environmental claims.

Before graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1978, Jay attended West Point where he studied engineering, and served in the military. He spent six years as a field artillery officer with tours in Germany, Vietnam and Washington D.C.

After clerking for Judge Roger Robb on the D.C. Circuit, his first job as a practicing lawyer was with Latham & Watkins in Los Angeles in 1979 and he didn't leave until the end of 2004 to start Chapin Wheeler. While with Latham, he relocated to San Diego in 1982 to help build the firm's litigation practice. He served as the chair of Latham & Watkins' local litigation practice from 1996-2000.

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