Shapiro, Galvin, Shapiro & Moran

By Beth Galleto

It’s a small firm—and that’s why Santa Rosa’s Shapiro, Galvin Shapiro & Moran was surprised to be voted BEST Law Firm by NorthBay biz readers. But while its business is small, its service to clients and recognition in the community are large.

“We’re honored to be selected, especially since we’re a small firm,” says Managing Partner Dan Galvin, “but our name recognition is very high based on our professional and community participation.”

Something else the firm has going for it is its longevity in the North Bay. Everett Shapiro started the firm in 1968. Galvin joined as an associate in 1979. Three years later, Everett’s son, Tad Shapiro, came into the firm, and Adrienne M. Moran joined in 1988 after graduating from Empire Law School. Everett Shapiro passed away in 2010. The firm is now a corporation with three owning partners.

Among them, the three partners can serve most of the community’s legal needs, including personal injury, employee law and civil litigation, general business and contracts, and estate planning and dispute resolution.

“Typical clients, Galvin says, are individuals who’ve been involved in accidents, private companies or municipalities with employment law issues, and small- to medium-sized businesses including construction, contractors and suppliers.

The partners try their best to recognize and understand each client’s needs and to choose, from among all possible solutions, whatever best serves that person. In addition, the firm’s long-term staff members are devoted to serving clients with compassion and efficiency.

They’re committed not just to individual clients, but also to their community, Galvin continues. All three are lifelong residents of Santa Rosa and are raising families there. Galvin is a member of the city of Santa Rosa Board of Public Utilities and the board of directors of the North Coast Builders Exchange. He’s a director of the Catholic Community Foundation. He also referees high school basketball. Moran is on the board of the John Henry Newman/Angela Merici Foundation and is immediate past president of the Sonoma County Bar Association. She also provides pro bono employment law services to the Redwood Empire Food Bank, as well as to the St. Vincent de Paul Society and The Children’s Village, among other organizations. Shapiro has served on the boards of nonprofit organizations including Redwood Empire Food Bank and the Sonoma County YMCA.

The firm also sponsors “Legal Line” on Sonoma County radio station KZST, to which people can email questions and receive answers at no charge.

All three partners appreciate their good fortune in calling Santa Rosa their home. “I think this is one of the most beautiful regions in the world. I was born and raised here, and I can’t imagine living anywhere else,” says Galvin. “We have a good economy for the most part and a good school system. In fact, I can’t find any negatives to living in Sonoma County.”

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