

Friday, January 11, 2008

What's New in Law



Greg Wikusor/The Leaf-Chronicle

Attorney partners Chris Pittman, left, and Greg Patton are ready to serve at their 109 S. Third St. office.

Patton and Pittman latest law firm to rise from rubble

Third Street office not renovation, but all-new construction

By JIMMY SETTLE
The Leaf-Chronicle

Nine years ago this month, downtown Clarksville was reduced to rubble in a matter of seconds when a tornado bowled through the area.

Areas of the historic district, including Third Street — also known as "Lawyers' Row" — became a heaping pile of splintered wood, crushed glass and bricks. It was a horrific scene, and many wondered if downtown would ever recover.

Now, though, Lawyers' Row is coming back, and one of the newest additions to the stretch between Madison and College streets is the new home of Patton and Pittman Attorneys-at-Law.

Greg Patton, a 17-year attorney, and Chris Pittman, with 14 years, say their new home at 109 S. Third St. has given casual observers the illusion that it's a building renovation project, when it's really brand-new.

"That's exactly the way they want it. Our biggest goal was to build a building that fit in with the fabric of downtown — that looks like it's been here for a long time," Pittman said.

"We had been looking for space, and we wanted to be part of downtown, so we had put out some feelers on possible locations and building designs."

FOR MORE

WHAT: Patton and Pittman Attorneys-at-Law.

WHERE: 109 S. Third St.

WHAT: Civil litigation, family law, criminal law, probate and business law.

CONTACT: 647-5242.

"Our biggest goal was to build a building that fit in with the fabric of downtown — that looks like it's been here for a long time."

Chris Pittman

attorney, Patton and Pittman Law Firm

Downtown business leader Jeff Robinson and contractor Jerry Zachry came through for the legal team.

"They built it for us. The process took about 18 months, and we're just glad to be back to owning property across from the Courthouse," Pittman said.

"It may not seem like a big deal, but it does make a big difference for us, being just a minute away from the Courthouse as opposed to being five minutes away before," he said.

Patton agreed, adding, "We wanted to be back as close to the hub of the

Clarksville legal community as we could get. We had looked at property in the Hilldale area, but to be back owning a building in downtown was real important to us.

"We had a lot of people complimenting us for 'renovating' a building, so to build and get that kind of response was very rewarding for us, and for Jerry Zachry," Patton said.

The new offices of Patton and Pittman are contained in about 3,600 square feet.

In addition to Patton and Pittman, there is a third attorney, Nathan Hunt, plus room to eventually add a fourth.

The law firm has a three-person support staff and also expects to add it over time.

Among their legal credentials, Patton is a licensed mediator through the Tennessee Supreme Court, while Pittman is licensed to practice in Tennessee and Kentucky.

They have a full-service legal practice, minus real estate closings. They handle civil litigation, family law, criminal law, probate and business law.

Also active in the community, and all graduates of the University of Tennessee, Patton has served as president of the Montgomery County Bar Association, while Pittman is immediate past president of the Montgomery County chapter of the UT Alumni Association.

Hunt is current president of the local UT alumni chapter.

Jimmy Settle is business editor and can be reached by phone at 245-0247 or by e-mail at jimmysettle@theleafchronicle.com