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Top litigator joins Gaw Van Male

James Forbes specializes in commercial litigation

FAIRFIELD, Calif.—Gaw Van Male, Counselors at Law, announces that James Forbes has joined the firm as a senior litigator. With a background in complex, multi-party litigation, Forbes will handle commercial, as well as trust and probate litigation in both the Napa and Fairfield offices.

Forbes received his law degree from Harvard Law School. He was a Rotary Fellow at the University of Kent at Canterbury, England, after receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government *Summa Cum Laude* from the University of San Francisco. He later studied Film Production in the Master of Fine Arts program at the University of Southern California.

A former partner in Nixon Peabody, a prestigious national firm, Jim's extensive background includes representing more than a dozen defendants in a \$100+ million insurance coverage dispute, successfully defending a bank in a \$25 million fraud and negligence action, and resolving many other commercial disputes.

"Gaw Van Male does sophisticated work in a small town setting," said Forbes. "I was a partner in a San Francisco firm and wanted a better quality of life. As the largest and most established law firm in the Napa-Solano area, Gaw Van Male offered me the opportunity to do real work in business and estate matters. Ultimately, there will be more significant litigation in the North Bay and our firm will be poised for involvement."

"Bringing Jim on board adds significantly to our commercial litigation strength, and contributes to our ability to advise business clients on long-range implications of their activities," according to Dave Gaw, co-founder and shareholder in the law firm.

Gaw, who is one of the nation's most respected estate planning attorneys, continued, "Our firm emphasizes its trust and probate expertise. Another experienced litigator enhances our capability for handling the disputes arising from settling estates. It further demonstrates our dedication to our clients' well being."

Founded in 1972, Gaw Van Male has grown to be the largest law firm in Solano County with 25 attorneys and 40 staff members. It is the area's leading securities and business transactions firm, and is one of California's most respected Estate Planning practices. Also active in employment law, litigation, tax, intellectual property, and real estate, Gaw Van Male takes a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach to the opportunities and challenges facing its clients.

Jim Forbes may be reached at 1261 Travis Boulevard, Suite 350, Fairfield, 707-425-1250 or 1000 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Napa, 707-252-9000 or jforbes@gawvanmale.com.



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