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BASS, BERRY & SIMS COMMITS TO SoBRO
AS ITS NEW HOME IN 2010

Vibrant Downtown Neighborhood, Environmental Features Generate Excitement

Nashville, Tenn. – Bass, Berry & Sims, the respected law firm housed at the corner of Third Avenue North and Union Street since 1922, signed papers today that will make it the first new tenant of a 28-story, environmentally friendly office tower in SoBro to be completed in 2009.

The firm's new home at Third Avenue South and Symphony Place will feature the latest in technology, an attorneys' lounge, an outdoor terrace for meetings and receptions, and a full floor of conference space, Managing Partner Keith Simmons said.

"We are all very excited about this building's features and this dynamic location," Simmons said. "It is next door to the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, near the Nashville Arena and LP Field, two blocks from the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum and right in the heart of some of Nashville's best restaurants. SoBro is definitely the place we want to be.

"Of course when you explore a move, you look at all options in the Nashville area," Simmons said. "But we decided we wanted to make a major commitment to Nashville and downtown, and this exciting project gave us that opportunity."

The building is being developed by Barry Real Estate Companies, Inc., of Atlanta and designed by nationally acclaimed architects Pickard Chilton & Associates of New Haven, Conn., and Everton Oglesby of Nashville. The law firm's interiors are being handled by ASD of Atlanta.

Simmons said he thinks that the new venue will be especially attractive for smart, young attorneys looking for a place to build their careers. He said features like dedicated parking for bicycles, proximity to Nashville greenways, a 2,800-square-foot fitness center, trendy nearby homes and condominiums and the proximity of a myriad of entertainment venues make it a young lawyer's dream work environment.

The firm will occupy the top seven floors in the building, plus portions of the sixth and seventh floors. The firm's attorneys and staff will enjoy floor-to-ceiling glass outside walls, scenic views, top-notch and technologically superior teleconferencing and audiovisual equipment, an in-building upscale restaurant and retail area and a parking facility. An outside terrace facing south and east on the seventh floor can hold as many as 300 people and will be used for meetings, receptions and other gatherings, Simmons said.

The new building will be the first new downtown Nashville building ever to gain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver certification, which is a very strict national standard measuring the environmental friendliness of a facility. The building's LEED features range from energy-efficient materials to a recycling center, to parking facilities that encourage bicycle and small vehicle use.

"We are pleased Bass, Berry & Sims will be calling this great new building home," Mayor Bill Purcell said. "SoBro is a vibrant and growing area of downtown, and I believe that Bass, Berry & Sims will lead the way in its successful development."

Metro Councilman Mike Jameson, who sponsored the zoning for the office project in Council and stressed the need for environmental features, praised the Barry Company and Bass, Berry & Sims.

"I commend the Barry Company and Bass, Berry & Sims for the leadership they have shown in making this a LEED-certified building. I am also thrilled that Bass, Berry & Sims, a downtown Nashville institution, decided to stay downtown when they realized they needed to make a move," Jameson said.

Barry Real Estate Companies has gained a national reputation for its innovative creation of mixed-use urban real estate projects that emphasize a "live, work, play" environment for the users.

"Bass, Berry & Sims came to us with a challenge to create a world-class building that would make a significant contribution to the Nashville skyline, and our team has accomplished that," Senior Director of Development Jimmy Barry said.

"Our architectural team is on the international cutting edge of designing state-of-the-art buildings, and this building is truly state-of-the-art. This is the best project Barry Real Estate has ever been involved with, and we're proud to be working with such a highly respected law firm to bring this major landmark to Nashville," Barry said.

Bass, Berry & Sims has moved its main office only three times in its 85-year history. The firm made the move from the Stahlman Building at Third and Union to the American Trust Building at the same intersection in 1926. In 1974, the firm moved to its current home in the AmSouth Building, also at the corner of Third and Union.

In addition to the floors on top of the building and the terrace, the firm will have administrative space on the sixth and seventh floors. It is anticipated that parking for the building will also be usable for Schermerhorn patrons and others attending events downtown.

Bass, Berry & Sims has a total of 210 attorneys, including 165 attorneys and 200 staff members who are based in the downtown Nashville office. The firm, which now occupies 142,000 square feet, will have 163,500 square feet in the new Barry facility. The office building will have a total of 499,000 square feet of office space along with significant parking and retail space, Barry said.