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“PROSPERITY THROUGH EXCELLENCE”

For Immediate Release

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Gwinnett Moore Stephens Tiller PIC honored by Chamber of Commerce
Growth and Technology Help Greg Hayes Follow in Father's Footsteps

Like father, like son, Greg Hayes continues a family tradition of business and community leadership in Gwinnett County, Georgia.

Hayes, partner-in-charge of Moore Stephens Tiller's Gwinnett office, recently was honored by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce (GCC) with a Pinnacle Small Business Award.

Nominated by a Gwinnett-based client, Hayes was one of 25 winners selected by the GCC from more than 300 nominees. From these, the GCC selected one individual from each of three employer categories (based on number of employees) as a Small Business Person of the Year, with one overall Small Business Person of the Year award winner.

Ironically, Greg Hayes' father, Grant, was the first recipient of the latter award (then dubbed "Gwinnett County's Small Business Man of the Year") in 1983. At the time, the senior Hayes was a partner in a land planning, engineering and survey business. Greg Hayes worked in the business during high school and college summers with his father.

'Staying Power,' Growth and Service

The Pinnacle Award recognizes recipients and the businesses they represent for “demonstrating extraordinary growth and giving back to the community,” according to the GCC.

Hayes' community involvement in Gwinnett County includes his role as a board member for the GCC; the Georgia Gwinnett College Board of Trustees; District Leadership positions for Rotary International; Northeast Georgia Council for Scouting; and Leadership Gwinnett.

In selecting Hayes and Moore Stephens Tiller for the Pinnacle Award, the GCC was particularly impressed with the firm's growth and “staying power,” explains Laurie McKenzie, senior program manager of the GCC's Small Business Development Division.

McKenzie notes that revenues for the firm's Gwinnett office were up 20 percent in two years, to \$3 million in 2006, and staff growth was 35 percent in the same time frame.

The Gwinnett business environment is dynamic and highly competitive. The county's population has increased a staggering 1,639 percent from 1960 – when Grant Hayes went to work for the land survey business – to 2006, climbing from 43,541 residents to more than three-quarters of a million, with no end in sight.

Tech Advances Serve Clients and Staff

To compete in such a climate, firms must be innovative in order to best serve clients and to attract and retain staff. On that point, McKenzie applauds an initiative launched by Moore Stephens Tiller in 2004 to go “paperless,” thus improving staff members' access to information and opening the door to flexible scheduling opportunities for associates.

“We decided to go paperless and didn't look back,” Hayes explains. “It's certainly not without its challenges, but we're absolutely glad we did it.”

A paperless environment has advantages for the client, Hayes explains, by allowing staff to access files at any time from any place and to easily transmit electronic documents to clients. It also improves document security.

Moore Stephens Tiller's technical innovations and progressive approach are essential in supporting its efforts to provide staff with a work/life balance by offering staff the opportunity to work non-traditional hours and to work outside of the physical office location.

“Our workforce consists of young professionals who often have families,” Hayes explains. “In today’s environment, that creates a lot of demands on time, and it requires creative approaches from our firm in terms of staffing, work flow and serving our clients. We’ve found that by allowing our professionals to balance family and professional lives it’s a win-win situation for both sides.”

About Moore Stephens Tiller LLC

Moore Stephens Tiller LLC, established in 1956, employs 130 people in three offices in Georgia—Atlanta, Brunswick and Gwinnett. Moore Stephens Tiller offers accounting and assurance services; business, individual and estate tax services; business advisory practices; personal financial services; and retirement plan administration. For more information, visit www.mstiller.com.