SHULMAN ROGERS CERTIFIED AS GREEN



Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy, & Ecker, P.A., proudly received recognition as one of the first businesses and organizations to be certified by Montgomery County's Green Business Certification Program. County Executive Isaiah Leggett announced the program at a December 16 media event (see News Release). "Many businesses are taking steps to incorporate environmentally sound practices into their operations, thus creating a greener environment and economy and improving their bottom lines," said Leggett. "With the Green Business Certification Program, the County is encouraging environmental responsibility, and customers will have a way of recognizing which businesses are going green. Businesses are telling us that our comprehensive program is actually motivating them to further expand their green activities."

Don Rogers, Chairman of the Business and Financial Services Department of Shulman Rogers accepted the certification on our behalf. Debbie Klis, Esq., Chairperson of the firm's Going Green Committee and Michelle Daley, Esq., took lead roles in guiding us through the process. Shulman Rogers was among the first 11 businesses, nonprofits and organizations to be certified.

"The attorneys and staff at Shulman Rogers are committed to making the 'green' lifestyle one that is nearly effortless for us to maintain," said David Pordy, managing shareholder at the firm. "Giving back to the community we're a part of is extremely important to everyone at Shulman Rogers. Being awarded with the new Green Business Certification will allow Shulman Rogers to continue providing the best <u>legal services</u> in the county, while creating a cleaner environment in which we conduct business."

As part of its commitment to the environment, Shulman Rogers has a "Going Green" committee, which encourages all staff members to make minor changes that will positively affect the environment. Because of the committee's efforts, the firm recycles used paper and printer cartridges, and uses supplies and vendors when possible who offer greener alternatives.

In addition, Shulman Rogers' new building in the Park Potomac development includes many features that lessen its impact on the environment, such as carpet that contains few to no chemicals that can irritate allergies, and a technology infrastructure that uses the least amount of energy possible. There are also Energy Star appliances throughout the office.

To qualify for Montgomery County's Green Business Certification Program, a company must demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship, conservation of energy and water, carbon footprint reduction, and waste reduction and recycling. The program includes an extensive online resource guide that also encourages businesses to expand their "green" activities.

Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection modeled the new program by using the best features of other similar programs around the country. Applications are judged on seven criteria: organizational commitment; waste reduction and recycling; environmentally responsible purchasing; energy efficiency and renewable energy; efficient runoff management and water use; pollution