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Tyson & Mendes Buys Marin County Building, Eyes More Bay Area Expansion

The San Diego-based firm bought a 31,000-square-foot office building in Novato to accommodate its Northern California growth.

By Xiumei Dong | July 10, 2019



Robert Tyson (left) and James Sell of Tyson & Mendes. (Courtesy photos)

Fast-growing litigation defense firm Tyson & Mendes has purchased a 31,000-square-foot office building in Novato to accommodate its expansion in Northern California.

The San Diego-based firm expects to move its Northern California office from San Rafael to the Class A building at 371 Bel Marin Keys in Novato early next year. Tyson & Mendes now has about 20 lawyers based in the San Francisco Bay Area, roughly twice its size a year ago.

"If the firm's branch in Northern California continues to double every one to two years, we'll probably have to have another building in the city or south of the city," said managing partner Robert Tyson. "But for now, we think this should take care of our needs for the next, hopefully, five years."

Tyson & Mendes' Northern California office is led by managing partner James Sell, who is based in Marin County. According to Tyson, several nonequity partners at the firm have also invested in the new building with the firm. He estimated the total purchase and construction costs at about \$12 million.

"We are a California-based firm. We have been around for a while, we have been around for over 15 years, and we hope to be around for a long while," Tyson said. "So, I think it shows the sense of commitment for us as a firm to be committed to California and particularly Northern California."

Tyson & Mendes, which started with 12 lawyers in 2011, has grown to more than 150 lawyers across its 10 offices in California, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Washington and Florida, with plans to open a new office in Orange County in August.

Tyson said he is also aiming to launch an office in New York by the end of 2019.



371 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Novato, California.

“We got big new, beautiful offices now, and we love to fill them up with attorneys,” said Tyson, noting that the firm is still hiring talent to boost its civil litigation defense capabilities.

“I am looking for people that want to win,” he said.

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