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Section: Business

New office continues firm's 130-year history

Andrew Kirk, OF THE RECORD STAFF

The law firm Jones Waldo celebrated moving into a new office at **Newpark** on March 27. It is now located in Summit County at 1441 West Ute Boulevard, Suite 330. The Jones Waldo office is an extension of the firm's Salt Lake City offices. Businesses have been establishing satellite locations in Park City for years. In the case of Jones Waldo, it's been nearly 135 years.

Aaron Walker, a spokesman for the firm, believes it would be accurate to call Jones Waldo an "original" Park City business. It is not normally thought of as one, however, since the name is only about 50 years old. The firm's founder, however, frequently represented Park City clients in the 19th century and has even been called the father of Utah statehood.

Joseph Rawlins, born near Millcreek in 1850, started a law firm in 1875 with partner Ben Sheeks that specialized in mining law and speculation. He also handled disputes over irrigation rights and criminal defenses. The photograph of Rawlins sitting depicts him hard at work in his Salt Lake office on a Park City land and mining dispute.

Elected as a representative of the Utah Territory to Congress in 1892, he introduced the Enabling Act in 1893 that provided for Utah's admission into the Union.

As a delegate, he also represented Utah's interests in debates over the price of silver, granted 60 acres of the Fort Douglas military reservation to the University of Utah and helped return property taken from the LDS church over the issue of polygamy.

In 1897 he became Utah's first Democratic senator and first to serve a full six-year term. He was defeated in the next election and replaced by famous Utah senator and LDS apostle Reed Smoot.

Until his death, he was active in politics, the University of Utah and his law practice.

With the addition of Rawlin's son and son-in-law to the firm, the name was changed to Rawlins, Ray and Rawlins in 1908. Following the founder's death, the law firm continued to expand its services, staff and offices under various senior-partnership names, Walker explained.

In 1966, the firm's name was established as Jones, Waldo, Holbrook & McDonough.

Today, the firm has about 90 attorneys in Salt Lake City, Park City, St. George and Chicago. The **Newpark** office will be the home of three full-time attorneys, Greg Cropper, Deacon Haymond and Alex Natt. Work is also done by Todd Wakefiled. The office specializes in real estate, retail, leasing, construction, foreclosures, estate planning, legacy wealth planning, litigation, sports law and nonprofit counseling.

The firm had been in Prospector Square for the past several years, usually housing one attorney at a time. As the office became busier and employed more full-time lawyers, the firm began looking for a new location, Cropper explained.

"We wanted something a little fresher," he said.

In addition to better meeting their needs, the **Newpark** location is easier to access for Heber and East Side clients, Natt said.

It's also a shorter distance for Salt Lake attorneys to drive if coming up to work on special cases, Cropper said.

Natt believes Jones Waldo is the seventh oldest continuously run business in the state, and Cropper's understanding is that Rawlin's first case in Park City was a miner's wage claim in 1875.

New offices are located in **Newpark**

1441 West Ute Boulevard, Suite 330

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