

Local attorney now affiliated with Lincoln law firm

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A Nebraska City attorney with 54 years of experience is now associated "of counsel" with a Lincoln law firm.

"We think it's going to be a great relationship that's beneficial to this community and to its citizens," attorney Bill Davis said.

Davis is associated "of counsel" with Mattson, Ricketts, Davies, Stewart & Calkins Law Firm, meaning he still has his own private practice at William F. Davis Law Firm and will assist Mattson Ricketts.

Mattson Ricketts began operating out of Davis' office, located at 804 Central Ave., Aug. 18.

An open house will be planned in the near future after the office renovations are completed.

Davis served as city attorney from 1970 to 2013.

After 43 years of service as the city attorney, he had decided to focus on his own private practice. He worked with a total of eight mayors and city clerks, four city administrators and 43 city commissioners.

Davis, an Omaha native, graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 1954 with a Bachelor's of Art degree in math and then attended Creighton University Law School.

He moved to Nebraska City in 1960 and worked with Otto Wellensiek and Bob Morrissey. He then worked with Vantine James from 1976 through 1983 in the same office that Davis works out of today.

Davis said he will assist anyone who steps into his office and will help Mattson Ricketts with whatever he can.



Mattson, Ricketts, Davies, Stewart & Calkins Law Firm law clerk Ryan McIntosh, from left, William F. Davis Law Firm attorney Bill Davis and Mattson Ricketts attorney and partner Sally Rasmussen stand in Davis' office Thursday morning. As of Aug. 18, Davis will be of counsel for Mattson Ricketts and continue his own private practice.

PHOTO BY NIKKI CARLSON

The father of five, with wife, Betty, has called Nebraska City his home for over five decades.

He primarily handles wills and estates, but has had experience with a multitude of other areas.

He is ready to be of counsel for Mattson Ricketts.

"I think it'll be a good fit," Davis said. "It does two things - it gives me an opportunity to get out of here once in a while and it gives two more (law professionals) an opportunity to work with the community on a regular basis."

Mattson Ricketts attorney and partner Sally Rasmussen is ex-

cited to be working out of the Nebraska City office and described Davis as a "kind, conscientious and extremely intelligent attorney."

"I am excited about the opening of our office here and look forward to getting to know the citizens of this community," Rasmussen said. "I have enjoyed the practice of law tremendously. There is nothing I would rather do as a career."

Rasmussen was born in Chicago and was raised in the San Bernardino area in southern California. She moved to Nebraska in her early 20s.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Kearney State College in 1985 and her law degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law in 1989.

She began her law practice with Legal Services in Lincoln. Two years later, she got married and moved to McCook to work for a law firm there for a decade before returning to Lincoln. She has been a Mattson Ricketts partner for six years.

"I think McCook is very similar to Nebraska City in terms of size and community pride, and I liked the friendly atmosphere of a smaller city," she said.

Rasmussen's law practice is a general service practice with specialized areas. She handles civil matters, including appeals, and is licensed to practice in both state and federal courts in Nebraska.

She is also admitted to practice in the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, headquartered in St. Louis, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, headquartered in Atlanta, and the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.

She also handles civil litigations, including probate litigation, family law, contract and real estate disputes, medical malpractice, personal injury claims.

"I love to practice across the state and hope to appear in every courthouse in Nebraska before I retire," she said.

She also deals with ERIS cases and professional licensure cases, including representation of physicians at the National Practitioner Data Bank in Maryland.

"There are probably only a handful of attorneys in the country who handle this type of case and because the data bank is a federal agency, I can represent physicians from any state in the U.S.," she said.

Rasmussen and her husband, Mike, have seven children and live in rural Otoe County.

Law clerk Ryan McIntosh has been with Mattson Ricketts for two years. He will continue serving as a law clerk at the firm until he is sworn in on Sept. 25. After he's sworn in, he can then start accepting new clients.

"I am excited that (Davis) will be mentoring Ryan McIntosh in the area of probate and estate law as he has a wealth of knowledge and experience," Rasmussen said. "(Davis) is a fine attorney and a gentleman in all respects."



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