

**22<sup>nd</sup> September 2009**

## **Taunton solicitors celebrate receiving prestigious award**

Solicitors at Kevin Shearn Family Law Practice (KSFLP) in Church Square, Taunton, are celebrating receiving the prestigious Community Legal Service Quality Mark in family law, enabling them to help more than 200 people per year.

Kevin Shearn practiced as a family lawyer in Somerset for over 20 years. He carried on providing help to people after his former firm closed their Taunton office as a result of the economic downturn. He employed three members of the previous firm to set up KSFLP, who now deal with the most complex family law, dispute resolution and child law cases. A further solicitor has subsequently been recruited to meet the increase in demand for advice.

Paul Davies, National Relationship Manager for the Legal Services Commission said: "I want to congratulate Kevin Shearn Family Law Practice on their achievement. The award means that clients can be assured that they will receive the highest quality advice and assistance. Their skills and commitment are the key to helping people to resolve their problems."

Receiving the award, Kevin Shearn said: "I am delighted to be receiving this award on behalf of KSFLP. It recognises all the hard work we have put in. Achieving it will secure the firm's future and enable it to continue providing a service in the community. It's important that anyone who needs help should get advice at an early stage. Just ring 01823 256 494 for an appointment or log on to [www.ksflp.co.uk](http://www.ksflp.co.uk) for further information."

*ends*

**Photo opportunity:**

Simon Fletcher, Relationship Manager for the Legal Services Commission, will present the Quality Mark certificate to Kevin Shearn at Kevin Shearn Family Law Practice, 1 Church Square, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1SA at 9.00am on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**Kevin Shearn biography:**

Kevin is a Family Law Specialist particularly specialising in children cases including Public Law, Child Care and Adoption. He has experience of complex cases involving medical issues including Munchausen's by Proxy, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Shaken Baby Syndrome and Child Sexual Abuse, both real and fabricated. He often represents younger children through their CAFCASS Guardian and represents older competent children in their own right. He has vast experience of representing parents involved in public law care proceedings and also other family members including grandparents. Kevin has represented prospective adopters, birth parents and children in adoption cases to include overseas adoptions from non-Hague Convention Countries. He has recent experience of representing family members and also foster carers in applications for Special Guardianship.

Kevin represents children and adults with drug and alcohol addictions and with mental health problems. This includes acting as a local agent for the Official Solicitor. He is also experienced in representing clients in all areas of relationship breakdowns, finance and all areas of child law. He is a member of the Solicitors Regulation Authority Children Panel and the Solicitors Regulation Authority Family Law Panel (Advanced). Kevin is also a member of Resolution (formerly the Solicitors Family Law Association), and the Devon and Somerset Law Society.

Kevin has recently advised in relation to:

- Serious non-accidental injuries to children.
- Special Guardianship.
- Contact - Implacable Hostility

**For further information please contact:**

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Kevin Shearn, KSFLP, tel: 01823 256494

**Notes for editors**

The Legal Services Commission helps people obtain quality assured publicly funded legal and advice services. Its work is particularly important in ensuring that vulnerable and socially excluded people have access to justice. It replaced the Legal Aid Board in 2000 and is an independent public body, sponsored by the Ministry of Justice. The Commission also manages the legal aid scheme.