New Firm: Veteran trial attorneys Edward Chapin and Joseph "Jay" Wheeler have formed Chapin Wheeler LLP, which will focus on the representation of plaintiffs in complex business and individual disputes.

Chapin, most recently a partner at Gordon & Reese in San Diego, served as lead counsel for the chemical manufacturer featured in the movie "Erin Brockovich."

Wheeler was with Latham & Watkins, where he chaired the firm's San Diego litigation department.

Also on board is senior litigation associate Jill Houlahan and paralegal Amy Smith.

Their new digs are at One American Plaza in Downtown San Diego.