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To: Business and Community editors

*For Immediate Release*

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### **Yakima Law Firm Partners with Heritage University to Inspire Future Legal Professionals**

The Yakima law firm of Stokes Lawrence Velikanje Moore & Shore has initiated a new relationship with Heritage University. By working with Heritage's Associated Student Body and its administration, SLVMS hopes to inspire students to pursue a career in law.

On April 23rd SLVMS presented a panel discussion for all Heritage students on "Considering a Career in Law." The guest speakers were Moni Law, Washington State Bar Association Leaders Program Manager; Sonia Rodriguez, Yakima City Council member and attorney with the firm of Morales Rodriguez; Justo Gonzalez and Andrew Heinz, attorneys with SLVMS; and Wendy Howard, litigation paralegal with SLVMS. Kelly Twiss Noonan, a native of Yakima and managing partner of SLVMS, was the moderator. A lively discussion ensued, and high interest was shown in forming a pre-law club on campus. Students were interested in knowing what lawyers and paralegals do on a typical day, and they were particularly curious about the process of becoming a lawyer - from admission tests to law school to the Bar exam to job hunting.

Plans are underway for the 2009-2010 school year for additional speaker series, visits to court, and plenty of "real life" examples of legal careers in the works.

*Stokes Lawrence Velikanje Moore & Shore is a full service law firm serving communities in Central Washington and the Puget Sound area, with offices in Yakima and Seattle. For more information, see [www.stokeslaw.com](http://www.stokeslaw.com).*

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