

Attorneys From Quinn Emanuel to Pursue Smaller Cases

THREE Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges LLP attorneys have left the firm with big plans ... for a small shingle.

Ryan G. Baker, Jaime W. Marquart and Daryl M. Crone have left Quinn to start their own shop, **Baker Marquart & Crone LLP**. They will focus on complex commercial litigation and case values of about \$2 million to \$3 million, amounts typically below Quinn's radar.

"I came to Quinn five years ago and it was about half the size it is now," Baker said. "There was more of a collegial feel. The case size has increased dramatically. There are a lot of huge cases at Quinn, so you'll stare at one tree in the forest for years."

The three associates were all up for partner at the firm, where equity partners made an average of \$1.65 million last year. Their new billing rates will be about 30 percent less, just under \$300 an hour. Quinn's marketing director, Renee Travlos, has also joined the new venture.

"I think a lot of us looked down the road at the partnership opportunity and it seemed like we wouldn't get the experience I thought I'd get as an associate," Baker said.

They're leaving their old firm on good terms, Baker said. They've received a handful of referrals from Quinn. The trio anticipated six quiet months at the beginning of the firm, but they've been busy since they opened in late June.

Baker said he and his partners anticipate a better work-life balance when things get more settled. They spent a recent Sunday painting their new West-L.A. office. They were able to drink mimosas, however.