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Why Lexington?

“International law firm Bingham McCutchen could have located its global services center anywhere in the country,” Mayor Jim Gray said today. “They chose Lexington.”

Why?

“That answer stretches over a lot of months and a lot of meetings,” said Gray, who was a leader of the team working on the project, inviting company officials to receptions in his home and, in the end, flying to Boston to wrap up final details.

“Clearly it was worth pulling out all the stops. So we did, as did the Governor and state officials,” Gray said. Bingham McCutchen brings 250 jobs with competitive wages, the largest impact to the community since the recession began in 2008.

Commerce Lexington organized dozens of meetings and managed a professional recruiting effort. “Commerce Lexington was the glue that held our team together,” Gray said.

Bob Quick, Commerce Lexington President and CEO, said, “Bingham McCutchen evaluated many cities during the site selection process and the company’s decision to locate in Lexington is a testament to the

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city's unique combination of hospitality, sophistication and culture. The community will be proud to have Bingham McCutchen as a corporate and community citizen in Lexington.”

Jay Zimmerman, Chairman of Bingham McCutchen, said, “For Bingham, Lexington is an excellent fit. I am impressed by the vitality of the city, the warmth of the people and the business-friendly environment.”

The University of Kentucky and the state Economic Development Cabinet, which put together a strong incentives package, were also highly involved. “It is a testament to the cooperative work of a number of deans and departments on our campus, as well as our continued close partnership with Commerce Lexington,” said UK President Eli Capilouto. “As we all are, the Governor and Mayor are focused on economic development and growth for the region and the Commonwealth.”

Gray said, “We all want to give ourselves high fives, but at the end of the day, Lexington sells itself. Bingham McCutchen loved the same things about our city that we love ... smart, friendly people who care about our great city, educational opportunities and livability.”

The company's decision is “high octane” for Lexington's economy, Gray said. “This decision reflects the kind of results we can expect more of.”

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