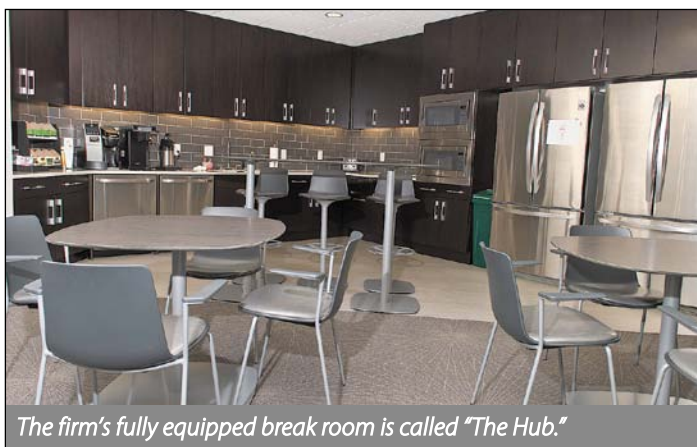




The iQ Training Room has multiple screens that can display video feeds and computer presentations simultaneously.



The firm's fully equipped break room is called "The Hub."



Has your office undergone a redesign to improve flow and function, or repurposed a space to better serve the legal needs of clients? Tell us about it, and we may profile your firm in our occasional series, "Open House." Contact Kelly Lucas at [klucas@ibj.com](mailto:klucas@ibj.com).

# Incorporating culture into design

## Quarles & Brady's Indianapolis office promotes collaboration and embraces city

By Marilyn Odendahl  
[modendahl@ibj.com](mailto:modendahl@ibj.com)

The Indianapolis office of Quarles & Brady LLP is designed and decorated according to the idea that the most important conversations can happen outside the conference rooms and attorney offices.

Cushioned chairs and couches fill spaces near the reception area where clients, attorneys and staff can sit and talk informally. Past the individual offices, the hallway opens into an airy, light-filled space where the administrative staff works and the lawyers regularly visit to pull documents from a file cabinet or retrieve a hardcopy from the printer.

The gathering places are meant to foster discussion and collaboration between individuals working or visiting the firm. Linden Barber, managing partner for the Circle City office, said the space helps attorneys understand their clients better. The brief talks before or after a meeting can give the lawyer more insight into the client and the client's business which, in turn, can improve the personal and professional relationship.

"I love this space," Barber said. "We think it serves our purpose of providing a space that is easy to do business with our clients and for our clients. Our space makes people comfortable."

The law firm moved onto the entire 24th floor of the BMO Plaza building in November 2014. Massive windows provide stunning views Monument Circle, Lucas Oil Stadium, the Indiana War Memorial Plaza and Massachusetts Avenue.

The office, designed by Patricia Algiers, president of the Wisconsin-based Chemistry in Place, uses a neutral palette of mostly off-white, gray and black. Furniture in the conference rooms and offices is sleek and modern in order to not distract from the views.

A touch of whimsy is added by the firm's embrace of Indianapolis. Formal conference rooms are named after the city's landmarks, and the smaller meeting rooms



The Pacers conference room gets its moniker from the Indianapolis basketball team and is part of the law firm's nod to its Circle City home. Nestled in the administration area, this space is invites attorneys to gather and collaborate.



Jordan Downham, left, a summer associate and rising 3L at Indiana University Maurer School of Law, forgoes her chair while working on her computer. Desks throughout the office can be adjusted to either a standing or sitting position. A room called "The Q," above, is near the reception area and is intended as an area where attorneys and clients can relax and talk informally.

where the attorneys work carry the monikers from the hometown sports teams of the Pacers and the Colts.

In addition, the large, unframed photographs that hang around the office capture city scenes that fit the theme "Indy in

Motion." The firm commissioned students at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Herron School of Art and Design to take the photos.

Walking through the office, Barber said the space is an extension of the firm's

personality. At its locations throughout the country, Quarles & Brady promotes an atmosphere of learning, collaboration and community service.

"The design (of the Indianapolis office) responds to the culture," he said.

IL Photos/Eric Learned