

Trio forms a new law firm

■ Employment law is focus of business in Brighton.

BY STAFF WRITER

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As associates at Rochester's largest law firm, Nelson Thomas and Patrick Solomon were paid well for tackling interesting legal issues.

Yet they yearned for greater challenges.

So Thomas, 32, and Solomon, 30, this month decided to throw caution to the wind and left Nixon Peabody LLP to start their own firm.

Together with attorney Lonny Dolin, who was a solo practitioner, Thomas and Solomon formed Dolin, Thomas & Solomon P.C., at 135 Corporate Woods in Brighton, and are specializing in employment law.

"It was difficult to leave an outstanding firm like Nixon Peabody," Thomas said. "However, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to work with Lonny and Patrick in an area of law I find so interesting."

There currently are a handful of law firms locally that specialize in employment law.

Yet the market is ripe for another employment law firm in Rochester, Thomas said, noting the recent downsizing at Xerox Corp. and Bausch & Lomb Inc.

Jodi Goldman, an em-



AIMEE K. WILES staff photographer

Nelson Thomas, left, and Patrick Solomon have left Nixon Peabody to found an employment law firm with Lonny Dolin, right. Dolin, Thomas & Solomon P.C. is at 135 Corporate Woods in Brighton.

ployment attorney at Blitman & King LLP in Rochester, agreed.

"The Rochester community is in need of law firms that specialize in employment law," she said.

Her firm is often inundated with clients, and she plans to refer work to the

new firm.

That overload is the reason Dolin decided to form a partnership, so she would not have to work 80 hours a week.

The new firm will offer services such as contract negotiations, severance agreements and employ-

ment litigation.

Thomas and Solomon have represented large companies, so "we know the tricks of the trade being on the other side," Thomas said.

While venturing down the path of entrepreneurship does have inherent

risks, it also has benefits.

Solomon — who is half Mohawk Indian — plans to spend more time in his role as an associate judge for the St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council.

"You're no longer tied to the almighty billable hour," Solomon said. □