

Friday, July 10, 2009

## **Earl Hicks Jr. is the new kid on the block**

Washington Business Journal - by [Darlene Darcy](#) Staff Reporter

**Earl Hicks Jr.** says the scariest part of his 20-year Justice Department career wasn't his visit to an infamous maximum security prison in Colorado but the department's challenge in securing the millions of legal documents it generated.

So last month he launched **LegaLock Secure Transcriptions LLC** in Glenwood to tackle the problem.

Earlier in his career, Hicks was a Justice Department litigation-security officer who oversaw the way classified legal recordings and filings were handled between the federal courts and commercial partners.

Since 2004, Hicks had served as the director of security programs for the Justice Department's office of the inspector general. His responsibilities included creating a framework to protect controlled unclassified information.

Hicks said he searched for a vendor to provide legal transcription services that complied with federal security standards, but failed to find one. That's when he began creating that vendor on his own.

LegaLock's services comply with the latest federal security standards, Hicks said. Using a secure computer network, a partner's patented secure Web portal and a staff with government clearances, the company wants to corner the government market for secure transcription. And Hicks said it can do that via justified sole-source contracts.

So far, LegaLock has been privately funded. It employs a four-person executive team and has access to as many as a dozen cleared court reporters.