



VOLUNTARY STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA LAWYERS ECO-PLEDGE AND VOLUNTARY LAW OFFICE SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

**The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1639**

(Adopted by the Board of Governors on September 24, 2008)

The day-to-day practice of law has significant environmental impacts. The legal profession uses enormous amounts of paper, energy, water and other natural resources, and generates a vast stream of waste products. The consumption of natural resources and its associated waste stream has a substantial impact on climate change and environmental quality, and has a significant impact on the quality of life for present and future generations. Additionally, implicit in the concept of sustainability is the notion that using fewer resources such as paper and energy will lower the costs of legal services, thereby making these services more affordable and accessible to clients.

The State Bar recognizes that environmental protection, climate change and related environmental and social issues are urgent problems that require action. The solution to these problems must include efforts by individuals, businesses and organizations – including the legal profession – to reduce their environmental impacts.

Accordingly, the undersigned pledges to establish and implement sustainable law office practices consistent with his/her/its overall commitment to provide excellent and cost-effective legal services to clients. Specifically, the undersigned pledges to do the following:

1. Assign a person or persons within the law firm or department to implement this Policy.
2. Take as many of the specific steps and actions set out in the attached Law Office Sustainability Guidelines as the member, firm or department may determine in good faith taking into account its individual circumstances.
3. Commit to educate all members of the firm or department about the Policy.
4. Encourage the law firm premises owner/landlord to implement sustainable practices.
5. Review the Policy and its implementation at the beginning of each year.

The State Bar recognizes that State Bar members practice in widely varying circumstances, including solo practitioners with home offices, firms with thousands of lawyers in multi-tenant high-rise offices without sub-metering, and non-profit organizations with limited resources. Accordingly, the ability of various members of the legal profession to implement the Sustainability Policy will vary and not all measures will be applicable or feasible. Nevertheless, the State Bar encourages its members to use their best efforts to achieve the sustainable practices set out in the Sustainability Policy.

If your law firm or law practice wants to take the Eco-Pledge, please email this form to Bruce Klafter (Bruce_Klafter@amat.com), Zach Walton (zwalton@DowneyBrand.com), Beth Collins-Burgard (bcollins@bhfs.com), or Bret Stone (bstone@paladinlaw.com):

(1) Contact information for one or more individuals at the law firm or law practice who will be responsible for implementation of the Eco-Pledge. Provide name, title, address, telephone, fax, and email.

Name of Law Firm or Law Practice:

Name of Representative No. 1:

Title:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Name of Representative No. 2:

Title:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Name of Representative No. 3:

Title:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

(2) Check box if you give the State Bar of California permission to send the representatives listed above communications and updates related to the Eco-Pledge, including email communications.

(3) Check box if you give the State Bar of California permission to publish the law firm or law practice's name on the State Bar website and in other places to indicate that the law firm or law practice has taken the Eco-Pledge.

(4) The signature below indicates the law firm or law practice's intent to take the Eco-Pledge.

Name:

Title:

After taking this pledge, a law firm or law practice may use the "Lawyers for a Sustainable California" logo located at the following link.

<http://environmental.calbar.ca.gov/EnvironmentalLaw/Sustainability.aspx>).