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### Comment re Sustainable Practice Initiative

Monday, August 25, 2008 5:08 PM

From: "Karen Jefchak" <karen.jefchak@yahoo.com>

To: terl.greenman@calbar.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Greenman:

Here are my Comments re the Sustainable Practice Initiative-State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge and Office Sustainability Policy.

#### "Should the State Bar have a sustainability policy?"

Yes. No credible argument exists against global warming, environmental degradation and lawyers' excessive use of resources. Only through immediate, effective action can attorneys do their part in saving the planet.

#### "Should the State Bar adopt the recommendations in Attachments 1 and 4 (sic---A)?"

**Re Attachment 1:** Standards established should involve **minimum mandatory standards** for all law practices, regardless of size. Since attorneys are infamous for their extravagant use of paper, the reduction, reuse and recycling of all paper products is the obvious place to begin.

Unless the minimum standards are mandatory, nothing will be done. I alone have frequently been the firm's entire "recycling program." Without a clear, unequivocal directive from the practice management in support of any program designed to change the way in which office resources are used and disposed of, other attorneys and the support staff will continue to do nothing. As a non-billable event, recycling is currently discouraged. A clear directive from the State Bar is necessary to establish environmentally-sound practices as a minimum requirement for qualifying to practice law in California, not unlike fiscal responsibility to one's clients.

**Re Attachment 4 ("A"):** Self-certification should only be permitted for the most basic, mandatory environmental impact program. Practices which take

only the minimum steps (consistent with their size and specific physical environment) should also not be allowed to qualify as MCLE providers in the area of sustainable law practice. Beyond the basic levels, a third-party audit should be required to qualify for whatever perks the State Bar authorizes.

Thank you for your considering my comments,

Karen G. Jefchak  
SBN #143710

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Telephone: 916-327-7864  
E-Mail: [Linda.Brughelli@doj.ca.gov](mailto:Linda.Brughelli@doj.ca.gov)

August 25, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Proposed State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Ms. Greenman,

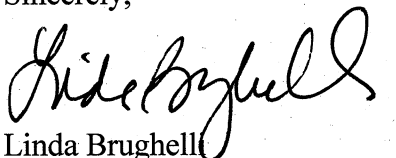
The Green Office-DOJ committee of the California Office of the Attorney General/Department of Justice wishes to communicate its support for the leadership demonstrated by the State Bar to encourage sustainable business practices among its member law firms and legal offices. The proposed voluntary measures provide a broad and plentiful array of "greening" options for law offices to select as their circumstances permit. We endorse this approach as one that is designed to maximize participation while recognizing that a fully sustainable law practice is a goal that requires time and attention.

The California Office of the Attorney General inaugurated our Green Office-DOJ effort in January of this year. The program has made substantial strides toward achieving sustainable business practices, and we look forward to taking the State Bar's Eco-Pledge as a sign of our ongoing commitment to adopting environmentally sound measures throughout the Department of Justice. From our experience we have learned that progress builds on success. For this reason, we encourage the State Bar to consider incorporating some minimal expectations from members who volunteer to take the Eco-Pledge. For instance, the proposal includes 14 categories. Law practice offices might be expected to have initially adopted at least one measure from three categories of options. Alternately, the threshold standard for participation could be set at five measures from any one or more categories. The setting of a minimum standard for voluntary participation adds value to the Eco-Pledge program similar to the ABA's Climate Challenge Partnership standards and ensures that the State Bar Eco-Pledge is seen as a substantive program worthy of some effort on the part of the members.

Teri Greenman  
August 25, 2008  
Page 2

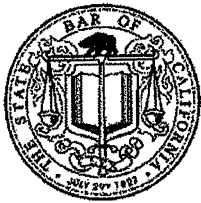
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Sustainable Practice Initiative and Policy. We hope these are helpful to the Board Committee on Member Oversight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Brughelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Linda Brughelli  
Chair, Green Office-DOJ  
Special Advisor, Division of Administrative Support

For EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Attorney General



## ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SECTION

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

August 26, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Sustainable Practice Initiative of the State Bar

Dear Ms. Greenman:

The following comments are submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Bar's Environmental Law Section (ELS). The ELS Executive Committee consists of 45 members and advisors representing a wide variety of environmental and natural resources law practices in nonprofit, government and private law settings. The ELS presently has approximately 2,400 dues paying members across California and 120 associate members. After careful consideration of the Sustainable Practice Initiative, the Executive Committee of the ELS hereby expresses its support for the Initiative and urges the Board of Governors to adopt the recommendations in Attachments 1 and 4.

The ELS' mission is consistent with the Initiative's objective of injective sustainability into the practice of law in California. In 2007 the Section amended its mission statement to read: "As an organization of environmental professionals, the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar will strive to conserve natural resources and to support their sustainable use." In furtherance of that goal, the ELS has already taken steps to implement each of the four recommendations set out in Attachment 1:

- Over the past two years the Section has been "greening" our Environmental Law Conference at Yosemite (one of the largest events of the Bar after the Annual Meeting, with over 400 participants and guests). See [http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar\\_generic.jsp?cid=12461#describe](http://www.calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=12461#describe) for a description of some of the green measures being incorporated into the upcoming conference. Our objective is to decrease the impacts of the conference on the environment. The Section has also drafted green meeting guidelines and has been working with Bar Staff on other events, e.g. we try to select event venues which allow attendees to use public transit.
- While the ELS has not crafted an Eco-pledge, we have certainly encouraged our members to work and live sustainably, primarily through our educational activities. Our programming and publications have extensively addressed climate change, pollution and related topics, e.g. the last Conference at Yosemite included a panel discussion on Greening a Law Practice and the upcoming Conference at Yosemite will include a panel discussion on Walking the Talk: Green Business Activism in Today's Environment. We read with interest in the State Bar Journal of some of the Governors' comments on the Pledge and believe the

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August 26, 2008

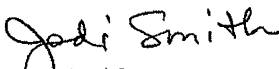
negative comments are inapt. Many of our members are deeply committed to environmental protection and their commitment extends into their practices and personal lives. The ELS believes a voluntary Eco-pledge can only serve to extend that sort of commitment to more Bar members with corresponding benefits for the environment and for the image of the Bar. The ELS has noted that other States have taken this approach (e.g. Massachusetts and Oregon) and many prominent and large firms are adopting sustainability policies on their own (e.g. Nixon, Peabody, Sonnenschein, Latham & Watkins)

- It seems natural for the Bar to work with the Courts to make judicial operations more sustainable. The ELS has a long-standing interest in that undertaking, having worked with the California Integrated Waste Management Board over a decade ago to make two-sided pleadings acceptable to the courts. There are numerous other opportunities to make our courts greener and thereby set an example for other states and the Federal judiciary.
- As noted above, the ELS provides a lot of CLE on sustainability and environmental protection and providing more education on the subjects would be a real benefit to members and a public service.

The ELS is hopeful that the Board of Governors will adopt the Initiative's recommendations and enable this worthwhile public service project to get underway. The Section is very interested in playing a continuing role in the Initiative, either by providing CLE or otherwise. If adopted, we will be in touch with the Task Force and Staff to explore such a role.

Thank you for your anticipated consideration.

Very truly yours,



Jodi Smith

Chair, Environmental Law Section

On behalf of the ELS Executive Committee

**Greenman, Teri**

---

**From:** Bryan Pease [bryanpease@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 19, 2008 6:03 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** Sustainable Practice Initiative - State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Ms. Greenman:

As a member of the California Bar, I support having a Sustainability Policy adopting the recommendations posted. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,  
Bryan Pease  
SBN: 239139

--

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Bryan W. Pease  
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# LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

August 20, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California  
Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Teri:

I write this letter on behalf of Latham & Watkins LLP to express our firm's support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. Latham & Watkins recognizes that lawyers and law firms have a carbon "footprint" that can be substantial, due to their heavy use of paper and electricity (typically related to their office space and computer needs), and their commuting and business travel needs. We applaud the State Bar of California's efforts to encourage lawyers to adopt policies and practices that will lessen these impacts makes good sense for the profession, and for the environment. We agree with the Bar's adoption of a flexible approach in that regard, and its recognition that lawyers and firms should take steps that make the most sense for them, taking into account the nature of their operations and other factors.

Latham & Watkins already has headed down this path, having launched its Sustainable Measures and Recycling Tactics ("SMART") initiative earlier this year. Our SMART initiative focuses on reducing our firm's impact on the environment, with a special focus on conserving natural resources and energy, and operating in a sustainable manner. Some of our SMART team's initiatives and accomplishments to date include:

- Reducing paper usage by implementing double-sided printing in several offices – yielding a 25-30% reduction in paper usage for those printers;
- Further decreasing paper waste by implementing electronic distribution of phone lists, pay stubs, CLE materials, and other materials that were formerly distributed in hard copy;
- Increasing energy conservation by configuring all of the firm's computers with updated power settings that reduce their energy consumption;

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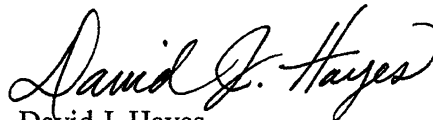
LATHAM & WATKINS <sup>LLP</sup>

- Increasing our firm's recycling of paper, as well as the recycling of plastic, aluminum and glass bottles and cans throughout all of our offices;
- Our Los Angeles office recently moved into a new LEED-certified (Bronze level) building, thereby significantly reducing the office's carbon footprint;
- Our San Francisco office has discontinued the purchase and distribution of bottled water, installed water filters on all floors, and introduced carafes on its conference center, thereby eliminating the energy and pollution impacts associated with the manufacture and transportation of bottled water.

Latham & Watkins hopes that other firms also will take steps to explore and implement ways in which they can operate in a more sustainable manner. Accordingly, we support the State Bar's efforts to lead the way with its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. We also urge the State Bar of California to follow the example of the New Jersey State Bar Association, which successfully worked with its state judiciary to encourage non-electronic court submissions to be filed on double-sided, recycled paper.

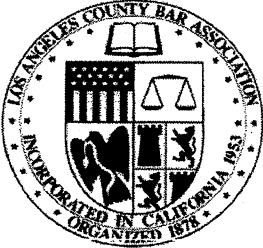
Congratulations on your efforts. We strongly support them. In addition, we hope that our firm's SMART initiative will provide a model that other firms will find useful in implementing the Bar's challenge. If you have any questions about our program, or about any other relevant subject, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



David J. Hayes  
of LATHAM & WATKINS LLP  
Global Chair, Environment, Land & Resources  
Department

**Los Angeles County  
Bar Association**



## Environmental Law Section

Mailing address: P.O. Box 55020, Los Angeles, CA 90055-2020 (213) 896-6548 / Fax (213) 623-4336  
Writer's Direct No.: (213) 430-6273

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State Bar Task Force on Sustainable Practice  
State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, California 94105

Re: Proposed State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge  
and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Bar of California Task Force on Sustainable Practice's proposed State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. The Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Environmental Law Section also is deeply concerned about environmental protection, climate change and related environmental and social issues. We believe that the legal community has a duty to help address these problems by taking immediate actions to reduce its carbon footprint.

Accordingly, the Executive Committee commends the Task Force's leadership in the Sustainable Practice Initiative and endorses the proposed Sustainability Policy. We further provide the following comments and suggestions:

- Policy #2 (to encourage and challenge State Bar members to adopt and implement the Sustainability Policy) – This Policy provides that members and firms who adopt and implement the Sustainability Policy will receive State Bar recognition. We suggest that the Task Force consider establishing different tiers of recognition. For example, those who pledge to implement guidelines from at least half of the sustainability categories might be recognized as a "Sustainability Member," whereas those who pledge to implement at least one guideline from each category might be recognized as a "Sustainability Leader." Providing multiple tiers of recognition would encourage participating members and firms to continue to increase their sustainability efforts in order to achieve a higher level of recognition. We also believe that if a firm or

practitioner chooses to use an independent third party to verify implementation of the commitment to sustainability, they should be permitted to indicate that their program has obtained third party verification.

- Policy #3 (to work with the Judicial Council to incorporate sustainability standards into state court operations) – The Executive Committee strongly supports this policy. In particular, we believe that allowing e-filing and service of pleadings would not only result in tremendous environmental benefits, but would also significantly improve administrative efficiency for both the courts and attorneys alike. The Executive Committee would be happy to assist the State Bar’s efforts in working with the Los Angeles County Superior Court to develop and implement an appropriate sustainability program.
- Policy #4 (to develop sustainability MCLE) – This is another area where the Executive Committee would be happy to provide assistance to, and collaborate with, the State Bar. For example, we would be very interested in having the Environmental Law Section co-sponsor MCLE programs on the subject.
- Model Law Office Sustainability Guidelines – In general, the Executive Committee would like to see additional guidance and/or commentary on which specific guidelines are recommended for different law office settings. For example, attorneys in small firms may find certain guidelines more practicable to implement than others. Similarly, larger firms may need to focus on educating their employees and developing strategies to implement sustainable practices across multiple offices, including some that are outside of California. Thus, it may be helpful to provide specific examples of sustainable programs that have been successfully implemented by a solo practitioner, a large firm, a public interest organization, a court or courthouse, and a corporate in-house legal department, in order to illustrate how an organization may begin to pick and choose among the broad range of sustainability guidelines.

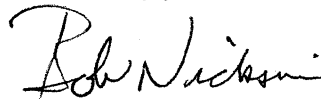
Specifically, the “Reduce Energy Usage” section (at p.5) recommends the “purchase of blocks of new wind energy.” We suggest modifying this guideline to recommend supporting the development of green energy or renewable energy in general, rather than singling out any particular type of green energy.

Also, beyond the current list of guideline categories, we suggest adding a category for “Sustainability-Related Public Service.” For example, a member or law firm might seek to devote a certain number of pro bono hours to an environmental organization. Alternatively, it might consider making a donation to assist a non-profit organization to purchase carbon offsets so that it can become carbon-neutral.

In conclusion, we appreciate this opportunity to comment on the Task Force’s Sustainability Policy and Model Law Office Sustainability Guidelines. As stated above, the Executive Committee is very interested in assisting the State Bar in promoting and implementing these on-going sustainability efforts among Los Angeles County attorneys.

We look forward to further participation in the Sustainable Practice Initiative. If you have any questions or would like any additional information regarding the comments we have provided in this letter, please contact me at (213) 430-6273 or [bnicksin@omm.com](mailto:bnicksin@omm.com).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Nicksin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bob Nicksin

Chair

Environmental Law Section

Los Angeles County Bar Association

Ann Bradley  
Member - Silver Lake Chamber of Commerce Green Committee  
[ann.bradley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ann.bradley@sbcglobal.net)  
323 660-1376

August 22, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices - The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Sustainable Practice Initiative/State Bar of California Lawyer's  
Eco-Pledge/Law Office Sustainability Policy**

Dear Ms. Greenman:

As a longtime environmental activist and member of the Silver Lake Chamber of Commerce Green Committee I support the State Bar of California's effort to improve member behavior regarding our fragile natural resources. I therefore support the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

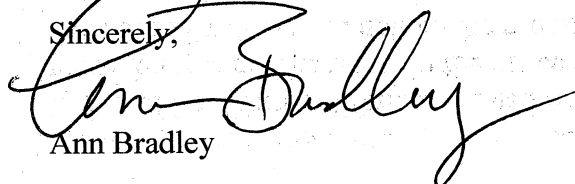
From November 1994 through November 1998 I was the media director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California. If I had not been an environmental activist, I became one as a result of those four years. The waste in the office was extreme. While ACLU/SC attorneys fought to improve the lives of individuals and uphold the promises of the Bill of Rights, there was little concern or affirmative action to reduce the amount of waste generated by each legal effort. Each change to a brief (*a contradiction indeed*) resulted in the entire reprinting of the document for all parties. Even with the Internet and emailing, attorneys typically printed numerous documents, many simply added to case files.

That the State Bar is considering environmental recommendations is cause for hope. These practices will reduce waste and improve cost savings for all firms. The policies are flexible enough to involve a spectrum of practitioners and organizations. Increased efficiency will save firms money, conserve resources and reduce environmental burden.

May the State Bar lead by example to conduct business as zero waste as possible and by using best environmental practice. Hopefully the State Bar can influence the judiciary to improve the environmentally sound way that court operations are conducted.

Each individual makes an incredible impact on her world. The US represents 5% of the world's population, yet we use 40% of the world's resources. The legal community contributes to that staggering percentage. Through this initiative, the California State Bar can make a difference. I look forward to hearing about implementation.

Sincerely,

  
Ann Bradley

## Greenman, Teri

---

**From:** Kevin Shipp [kshipp@rjo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2008 2:26 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** Sustainable Practice Initiative - State Bar of California Lawyers Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

- \* Should the State Bar have a sustainability policy?  
YES
- \* Should the State Bar adopt the recommendations in Attachments 1 and A?  
YES

D. Kevin Shipp/ Attorney  
ROGERS JOSEPH O'DONNELL/ a Professional Law Corporation  
311 California Street, 10th Flr/ San Francisco, CA 94104  
tel: 415.956.2828/ fax: 415.956.6457  
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## Greenman, Teri

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**From:** Robert K. Hillison [rhillison@caswellbell.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2008 3:07 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** Eco-Pledge

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Ms Greenman

I agree with John Peterson that this "pledge" proposal is objectionable and should not be adopted. The issue is highly politicized. The very adoption of this proposal becomes a *de facto* mandate on all members. Despite Mr Bleich's statements, which appear disingenuous on their face, the proposal appears designed to force the Bar to endorse a political point of view with which many members disagree for a variety of reasons. In addition, there is substantial disagreement among scientists, i.e., those more knowledgeable than lawyers, about what constitutes "sustainable" practices as well as the effectiveness of those practices labeled "sustainable."

Moreover, it is unnecessary. To the extent to which members wish to adopt such a pledge and promote their adoption of it, there is no impediment for them to do so without the intervention of the Bar. This proposal does not advance the interests of the Bar or its members and, in fact, may further alienate lawyers from those with opposing views.

Robert K. Hillison  
Caswell Bell & Hillison LLP  
5200 North Palm Avenue  
Suite 211  
Fresno CA 93704-2228  
Facsimile: 559.225.7912  
Telephone: 559.225.6550

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## Greenman, Teri

---

**From:** Mike Gilfix [MG@Gilfix.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2008 6:15 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** comment

We are a small firm that works hard to be a) fee sensitive to our client community and b) environmentally aware.

We are **opposed** to the Eco Pledge and Sustainability proposal even though we support the objectives. We do not need another reporting responsibility. We particularly do not need to someday have the State Bar overseeing how we deal with sustainability issues in our firm. We believe that such oversight is a possible, if not probable outcome. This is not how we want our State Bar dues to be used.

We are also opposed because the State Bar has countless issues that are properly within its purview, but that receive little or no attention. This issue is a stretch. We do not view it as an appropriate area of involvement for the Bar.

Michael Gilfix  
Email: [MG@Gilfix.com](mailto:MG@Gilfix.com)

Gilfix & La Poll Associates  
(650) 493-8070 - Telephone  
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**Greenman, Teri**

---

**From:** Vaisbort, Edward D. [vaisbort@litchfieldcavo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 08, 2008 4:03 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** Eco-Pledge

Please allow this to serve as a comment on the proposed "Eco-Pledge" by a member of the bar in good standing. Although personally I engage in environmentally friendly practices, it is simply infuriating that my hard-earned dollars are first confiscated for a mandatory trade association (the Bar) and then squandered on McCarthyistic "pledges" which serve no purpose other than to stroke the egos of people with far too much time on their hands.

There is no reason whatever to debate issues relating to changes in the environment in this forum. The State Bar is a trade group for issues relating to the practice of law. The proposed "Eco-Pledge" is wholly unrelated to this purpose. The Bar needs to focus on serving the needs of its members, not on some do-gooder nonsense unrelated to the practice of law.

Edward D. Vaisbort, Esq.  
Litchfield Cavo, LLP  
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Dir: (818) 630-5025  
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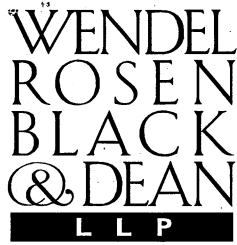
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**Greenman, Teri**

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**From:** Brooks, Kenneth [Kenneth.Brooks@sdcounty.ca.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 07, 2008 3:36 PM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE

PLEASE EXCUSE THE FORM AS I AM TEMPORARILY ONE ARMED AS THE OTHER IS BROKEN. HERE ARE MY THOUGHTS. 1. I HAVE ONLY READ THE NOTICE IN THE JOURNAL. 2. GOOD PROGRAM IDEA. 3. NOT WISE TO DO THE LOGO MARKETING STUFF. GIVES THE MESSAGES OF GUARANTEE OR SPECIALIZATION. CANNOT DO EITHER WITH THIS PROGRAM. WE ARE NOT THE BBB. KEN BROOKS, 858-974-5841.



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Oakland, CA 94604-2047

Telephone: (510) 834-6600  
aeisentraut@wendel.com

July 29, 2008

Note: This following is a model letter intended to provide a template for public comments in support of the State Bar's Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. Please adapt the letter below to reflect your individual beliefs or experiences as individualized comment letters generally carry greater weight with the addressee.

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy**

Dear Terri:

I write this letter to express my support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. As the ways in which the practice of law consumes resources and affects the environment become clearer, there are increasingly compelling arguments for the adoption of such policies. Some examples of the benefits of such policies include:

- The pledge and policies are voluntary and includes recommendations that can be adopted by a range of different law practices, including large firms, sole practitioners, non-profit organizations, and governmental organizations
- Increased efficiency in the practice of law throughout the state, resulting in cost savings which can be passed down to clients
- Conservation of energy and resources, placing less strain on our environment
- Acknowledgement of responsibility of State Bar the members of the State Bar to practice law efficiently and effectively, with as little impact on the Earth as possible

- No cost to the State Bar
- Firms are rewarded through recognition for practicing law in a more sustainable fashion
- Potential for expansion of the policy in the future

Further, we believe that the State Bar (including the Sections) should lead by example and conduct its operations and use its facilities in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. We also believe that the State Bar should work with the judiciary to ensure that court operations are conducted with the lowest environmental impact reasonably possible.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect and conserve our increasingly threatened environment and natural resources. The Bar and its members are no exception, and can take a leadership role in addressing these environmental issues by adopting the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

Sincerely,

WENDEL, ROSEN, BLACK & DEAN LLP



Aleka Eisentraut

ASE:smr



July 29, 2008

Alameda County Green Business Program  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Alameda CA 94502

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Teri:

I'm writing to express my support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. As the ways in which the practice of law consumes resources and affects the environment become clearer, there are increasingly compelling arguments for the adoption of such policies. Some examples of the benefits of such policies include:

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Further, I believe that the State Bar (including the Sections) should lead by example and conduct its operations and use its facilities in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. We also believe that the State Bar should work with the judiciary to ensure that court operations are conducted with the lowest environmental impact reasonably possible.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect and conserve our increasingly threatened environment and natural resources. The Bar and its members are no exception, and can take a leadership role in addressing these environmental issues by adopting the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela J. Evans".

Pamela J. Evans, Coordinator  
Alameda County Green Business Program

July 24, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Teri:

I write this letter to express my support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. As the ways in which the practice of law consumes resources and affects the environment become clearer, there are increasingly compelling arguments for the adoption of such policies. Some examples of the benefits of such policies include:

- The pledge and policies are voluntary and includes recommendations that can be adopted by a range of different law practices, including large firms, sole practitioners, non-profit organizations, and governmental organizations
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- No cost to the State Bar
- Firms are rewarded through recognition for practicing law in a more sustainable fashion
- Potential for expansion of the policy in the future

Further, I believe that the State Bar (including the Sections) should lead by example and conduct its operations and use its facilities in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. I also believe that the State Bar should work with the judiciary to ensure that court operations are conducted with the lowest environmental impact reasonably possible.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect and conserve our increasingly threatened environment and natural resources. The Bar and its members are no exception, and can take a leadership role in addressing these environmental issues by adopting the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura B. Renger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Laura B. Renger

July 24, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Teri:

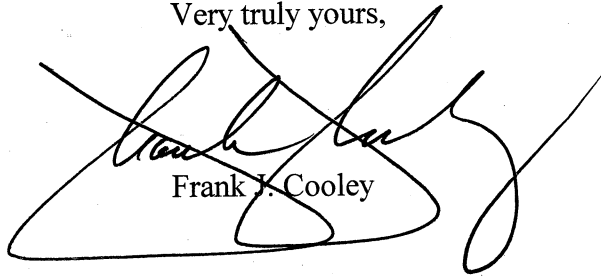
I support your Sustainable Practice Initiative and adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. The practice of law consumes resources and affects the environment. As a result, there are increasingly compelling arguments for the adoption of the policies you propose. The benefits of these policies include:

- They are voluntary and can be adopted by a range of different law practices
- Increased efficiency can be passed on to clients
- Conservation of energy and resources places less strain on our environment
- It is the responsibility of State Bar the members to practice law efficiently and effectively
- This is a no cost policy to the State Bar
- Firms will practice law in a more sustainable fashion
- The policy can easily be expanded

In areas such as this that benefit society as a whole, lawyers should lead by example. The State Bar should conduct its operations and use its facilities in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. I also believe that the State Bar should work with the judiciary to ensure that court operations are conducted with the lowest environmental impact reasonably possible.

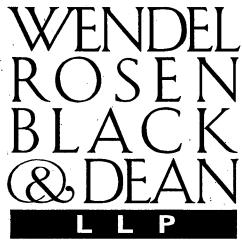
All of us should protect and conserve our environment and our natural resources. The Bar and its members are no exception. We can take a leadership role in addressing these environmental issues. I strongly urge you to adopt the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank J. Cooley", is written over a large, stylized, circular scribble.

Frank J. Cooley

FJC:tmc:



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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SHoughland@wendel.com

July 22, 2008

VIA U.S. MAIL

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
The State Bar of California  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy**

Dear Ms. Greenman:

I write to express my support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative. I strongly encourage the State Bar to adopt the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. It is now obvious that every person, and therefore every profession and industry, has an obligation to contribute to the fight to end global warming. I am proud to see our profession take a leadership role in this endeavor, and to see the State Bar formally join in the effort.

The benefits of official policies like the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy are many, and any immediate costs to law offices will be more than offset by the benefits that we will reap in the long term. The benefits of adopting the Pledge and Policy include the following:

- They are voluntary and include recommendations that can be adopted by a range of different law practices, including large firms, sole practitioners, non-profit organizations, and governmental organizations;
- They will result in increased efficiency in the practice of law throughout the state, resulting in cost savings that can be passed down to clients;
- They will result in the conservation of energy and resources, placing less strain on our environment;

- Adoption of the Pledge and Policy by the State Bar will convey that members of the Bar acknowledge their responsibility to practice law efficiently and effectively, with as little impact on the Earth as possible;
- The plan will result in no cost to the State Bar;
- Law offices will be rewarded by receiving recognition for practicing law in a more sustainable fashion; and
- The adoption of the Pledge and Policy will lay the groundwork for expanding the State Bar's positive impact on the environment in the future.

I believe that the State Bar should lead by example and conduct its operations and use its facilities in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. I also believe that the State Bar should work with the judiciary to ensure that court operations are conducted with the lowest environmental impact reasonably possible.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect and conserve our increasingly threatened environment and natural resources. The Bar and its members are no exception, and can take a leadership role in addressing these environmental issues by adopting the Sustainable Practice Initiative and the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy.

Very truly yours,

WENDEL, ROSEN, BLACK & DEAN LLP



Sarah R. Houghland

## Greenman, Teri

---

**From:** Elizabeth Taylor [etaylor@brownandwinters.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 01, 2008 11:30 AM  
**To:** Greenman, Teri  
**Subject:** comments on sustainability policy

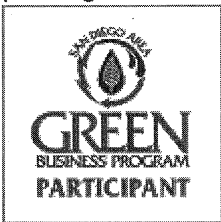
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. I strongly believe that the CA bar should implement a sustainability policy and adopt the recommendations put forth by the task force. In addition to the excellent recommendations listed, I would like to add a suggestion that the bar work with all state and federal courts in California to encourage practices to reduce paper use. This includes amending court rules to allow for electronic service of discovery. This would greatly reduce the amount of paper routinely printed and mailed unnecessarily. Our firm was the first law office to join the San Diego Area Green Business Program and while we have implemented internal paper-saving measures, we find it frustrating that we are still required to print out all discovery responses in our litigation matters. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Taylor  
Attorney  
Brown & Winters  
120 Birmingham Drive, Suite 110  
Cardiff-By-The-Sea, CA 92007-1737  
T: (760) 633-4485  
F: (760) 633-4427  
[etaylor@brownandwinters.com](mailto:etaylor@brownandwinters.com)

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July 23, 2008

Teri Greenman  
Executive Offices  
**THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA**  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment on Sustainable Practice Initiative and State Bar of California  
Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy

Dear Ms. Greenman:

I write this letter to express my support for the State Bar of California's effort to increase the environmental awareness and responsibility of its members through its Sustainable Practice Initiative and the adoption of the Lawyer's Eco-Pledge and Law Office Sustainability Policy. As the ways in which the practice of law consumes resources and affects the environment become clearer, there are increasingly compelling arguments for the adoption of such policies. Some examples of the benefits of such policies include:

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Very truly yours,

WENDEL, ROSEN, BLACK & DEAN LLP

By: 

Garret B. Murai

GDM: