

MBA NEWS



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MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION ISSUES AN ENVIRONMENTAL PLEDGE AND RELEASES GREEN GUIDELINES

LAWYERS ECO-CHALLENGE PROMOTES SUSTAINABILITY

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association Energy and Environment Task Force today announces the release of the MBA Lawyers Environmental Pledge, which asks attorneys throughout the state to implement the MBA Green Guidelines as the next step of the MBA Lawyers Eco-Challenge.

The MBA has partnered with the Conservation Law Foundation, New England's leading legal advocacy organization working to protect the region's environment, to offer this important initiative.

By signing the pledge, lawyers become pledge partners and agree to adhere to the guidelines, which focus on eight core areas of sustainability: energy conservation, paper reduction, recycling, greenhouse gas reduction, environmentally conscious purchases, sustainable practices, education and support for environmental conservation.

"We all know that as lawyers and as citizens we have a duty to fight global warming and resource depletion. The steps outlined by the task force give every lawyer easy ways to reduce the impact of the practice of law on our planet," MBA President David W. White Jr. said. "Lawyers need to be leaders in the fight against climate change."

The guidelines offer detailed and specific suggestions for altering behaviors and updating products and services. A comprehensive resource list and tips will also be posted on the Eco-Challenge Web site www.massbar.org/ecochallenge.

Lawyers who take the most profound steps toward change will be honored by the MBA and CLF in April.

"The Green Guidelines and Eco-Challenge pledge give practical guidance to lawyers and law firms who care about reducing the impact they have on the environment," said CLF president Philip Warburg. "As we face the greatest environmental challenge of our generation, global climate change, it is incumbent upon all of us to take action and speak with one voice for a healthier, cleaner future."

To view the pledge and guidelines visit www.massbar.org/ecochallenge.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.

The Conservation Law Foundation works to solve the most significant environmental challenges facing New England. CLF's advocates use law, economics and science to create innovative strategies to conserve natural resources, protect public health and promote vital communities in our region. Founded, in 1966, CLF is a non-profit, member-supported organization with offices in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.