Procopio is committed to preserving our precious natural resources through innovative environmental practices and ongoing education.

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1. Vision

At Procopio, we strive to preserve and enhance the quality of life of our clients, the community and our employees through innovative and sustainable environmental practices and education. Our approach is based on our core principles – commitment to service, dedication to our people, adding value to our clients’ lives, and driving innovation in all that we do.

Sustainability requires that humans not deplete or degrade the “natural capital” faster than the Earth’s systems can replenish those resources. Preserving this capital extends well beyond the Procopio offices, but Procopio has worked diligently to develop programs that support sustainability.

In our continued efforts to reduce our ecological footprint, to create a green consciousness and spirit and to spread the message by its example, the Procopio Sustainability Initiative establishes guidelines in eight sustainable areas:

- Architecture
- Energy
- Water Conservation
- Paper Management
- Waste Reduction
- Procurement
- Employee Comfort, Natural Light and Education

Procopio does not manufacture products, it does not store or use extremely hazardous materials and it does not directly discharge waste into the air or surface waters. Nevertheless, as a law firm we do generate significant amounts of non-hazardous waste, we consume electricity, use vehicles for transportation and we purchase products (e.g., paper, ink, and plastic) that cause emissions and generate waste due to production, transportation and disposal activities.

Sustainable practices speak to Procopio’s values, character and ethic. The adoption and ongoing implementation of the Procopio Sustainability Initiative reinforces the reputation of the firm, and increases its efficiency, productivity and employee recruitment and retention potential. The initiative more closely aligns the firm with the growing demands of current and prospective clients who are embracing sustainability. The Procopio Sustainability Initiative also ensures the firm’s continued dedication to addressing the social, environmental and economic issues that lie ahead for our community.
2. Architecture

We believe that sustainability begins at home, which is why the Procopio Sustainability Initiative places a special emphasis on ensuring our offices meet the highest possible standards for energy and environmental efficiency.

Our headquarters building at 525 B Street in San Diego was awarded LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Silver certification as an Existing Building by the U.S. Green Building Council and Procopio has been able to adopt many of the building's sustainability initiatives as part of our program. In addition, Procopio constructed its 102,000 sq. ft. office space with the environment in mind, earning the LEED Commercial Interiors Gold certification. Procopio incorporated numerous sustainable elements into its interior.

Other Highlights

- The majority of our wood veneers are Forest Stewardship Council (“FSC”) certified (species: fumed Eucalyptus). FSC sets high standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. Landowners and companies that sell timber or forest products seek certification as a way to verify to consumers that they have practiced forestry consistent with FSC standards. The Eucalyptus is a rapidly renewable wood species.
- The cores of our cabinetry, and the non-Eucalyptus decorative wood veneer walls, are made of MDF (medium density fiber board) made with formaldehyde-free adhesives. The ceiling tiles are also all formaldehyde free.
- We chose environmentally friendly cork flooring for many areas due to cork’s ability to renew rapidly. In addition, this flooring is free of substances such as phenol, formaldehyde or isocyanates that are usually present in similar products.
- The carpet we selected throughout is made of “Eco solution” type 6/6 nylon fibers, which contains 25% recycled content and minimizes use of raw materials, and can be recycled back to virgin quality white fiber. The backing of the carpet is 100% PVC-free, capable of being cleanly separated and up-cycled.
- Our ceramic tiles used in the restrooms have 6.5% pre-consumer (or post-industrial) content, which is scrap generated during the normal manufacturing process and then recycled back into its raw material state.
- About 40% of the wood fiber used in our plastic laminate is FSC certified wood, 20% is post-consumer recycled material, and 10% from rapidly renewable Eucalyptus. The innovative "Crack Wall" design in our lobby on the 22nd floor is cast entirely of minerals and has no volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”) or urea-formaldehyde. The panel size was designed to reduce any off-cut waste and crating waste.
- The rubber baseboards used throughout the building is 20% recycled pre-consumer and the paints and glues selected contained minimal VOCs.
3. Energy

Approximately 25% of all greenhouse gas emissions in California result from the consumption of electricity. Of that electricity, as much as 40% of the energy used in commercial buildings is for lighting. Another substantial portion is consumed by powering office equipment. Procopio has worked to reduce its consumption of electricity through its innovative space design and equipment selection.

**Lighting.** The lighting throughout our office space uses energy efficient fluorescent lights. The lighting in our private offices is controlled by motion sensors to save energy, and the lights have bi-level switching that allow for a lower level of electric consumption as well as automatic daylight control. In addition, each administrative and secretarial work station has an individual task light for better control of light in personal work spaces. Overall, our lighting is 20% more energy efficient than the stringent requirements of the California Energy Code.

**HVAC.** Our HVAC design uses smaller units to cool smaller areas, which makes the system more energy efficient and allows our employees more ability to individually adjust the temperature where needed. The HVAC system performs 20% more efficiently than required by the California Energy Code. Our office space is also designed to provide 30% more ventilation than required by the California Energy Code, and is partially controlled by carbon dioxide sensors.

**Equipment.** All computers, printers, appliances and other office equipment purchased are Energy Star certified and all power controls are set to optimize energy conservation. Our new Data Center uses an innovative server “hot aisle containment” cooling system that radically decreases the energy required for cooling compared to the usual cooling systems in play for data centers. Procopio has a firm-wide policy to turn off all computer monitors and other office equipment every night and to shut down all computers when not in use for long periods of time, such as weekends or days out of the office.

4. Water Conservation

The availability and consumption of water is a major concern in Southern California. It is estimated the impacts of climate change and the increasing Southern California population will both reduce the availability of our local water sources and increase the demand put upon these sources. We focus on reducing the firm’s demand on local and imported fresh water sources. For example, the firm installed low flow toilets and urinals and motion sensor water faucets in all bathrooms, and dishwashers on each floor are only used when full.

5. Paper Management and Waste Reduction

As part of its sustainability program, Procopio also considered methods by which to reduce the amount of waste generated by the firm. Aside from best management practices for paper, as discussed above, Procopio has reduced waste by implementing the following practices:

- **Paper.** We have taken the step of forgoing formal letterhead. All other paper used for copy or printing is at least 30% recycled.

- **Toner cartridges** – the machines used by the firm to print, fax and photocopy documents each use toner cartridges that are part of a recycling program implemented by the vendor.

- **Water bottles** – the firm has eliminated plastic water bottles and now provides filtered tap water to clients and employees rather than bottled water. The firm used to consume several hundred bottles of water each day and the environmental impact of this consumption was too substantial to ignore. Procopio provides each employee and attorney an eco-friendly insulated bottle capable of holding hot and cold beverages in order to reduce the amount of paper coffee cups and water bottles that were thrown away by the firm each day. Any paper cups used are also made of at least 30% recycled content.
• **Paper products.** All paper products that are used are either recycled via an approved confidential shredding vendor program or via a regular recycled program. This includes documents and all paper-based office supplies such as binders, redwells and file folders. Coffee grounds, tea bags and all other compostable waste are gathered and recycled through an employee program. Any remaining trash is disposed of through the building’s recycled waste program.

• **Electronic waste.** All old technology equipment, batteries and other electronic waste are disposed of through an approved e-waste vendor. Employees and attorneys can dispose of personal batteries through a battery drop-off collections container located on the firm’s premises. Old office equipment, furniture and supplies that cannot be recycled or reused are donated.

6. **Procurement Policies**

The manufacture and distribution processes of the items we purchase as a firm are responsible for the emission of greenhouse gases and the production of waste. To minimize these impacts, Procopio considers sustainability in the purchase of all firm supplies, equipment and services by establishing a preference for recyclable, biodegradable, recycled content, waste minimization, hazardous-chemical free, energy and resource conservation, locally manufactured and organic products. The firm exercises these product preferences while considering the purchase of food and beverage containers, utensils, napkins and paper towels; and,

7. **Employee Comfort, Natural Light and Education**

Procopio focused on maximizing natural light throughout its offices. For example, natural light enters the interior halls and work areas through glass fronted offices, clear story windows in internal walls, and through a skylight that allows natural light to penetrate down through a four-story open interconnecting stairway. The attorney lounge and the staff lunch room both offer views and natural light.

Where an old cooling tower used to be located, Procopio created a roof garden that is open to the sky for everyone to go outside to take a breath of fresh air and enjoy the waterfall, planters, benches and green living wall.
8. Implementation

The long-term success of the Procopio Sustainability Initiative depends upon the support and implementation of the program throughout the firm. To achieve this critical element of the initiative, Procopio educates its employees and attorneys regarding why and how Procopio is changing the way the firm operates by:

- Circulating science and legal updates concerning sustainability and climate change
- Increasing the use of electronic books and training modules, thus decreasing the reliance on printed materials.

The Procopio Sustainability Initiative establishes a public awareness of the firm’s social responsibility and environmental ethic, and these values are important to clients and the firm. Procopio educates its clients through a variety of programs like the following:

- Leadership in community and environmentally conscious business groups
- Speaking engagements at conferences and publishing articles
- Leadership via the firms’ Energy and Environment Practice Group
- Announcements of the Procopio Sustainability Initiative on Procopio.com, social media channels and other electronic media (e.g., KPBS and news spots).
- Leadership via the firms’ Energy and Environment Practice Group and Climate Club programs

Procopio’s initiatives provide an internal ethos and energy that is compelling to its employees and attorneys and to future hires, as well as provides an external appeal to clients, future clients and the community at large, and most importantly, it is the right thing to do.
9. About Procopio

Simply, we are not just another law firm. We are a full-service business law firm brimming with professional problem solvers who understand our clients’ businesses and agencies and work tirelessly to mitigate business and legal risks. Procopio is the largest San Diego-based law firm and one of most well-established law firms in the Western Region of the United States. While based in the United States, we serve our clients’ interests around the world. We have the infrastructure to support smaller and mid-sized companies, as well as large multinationals. We advise companies at every stage in the business life cycle, helping to plan, finance and operate their businesses.

We have more than 150 attorneys – based in San Diego, Silicon Valley, Phoenix and Austin – serving our clients around the world with innovative approaches and passion for the law. Yes, we want to meet and exceed your expectations. Equally importantly, we believe in, and invest in, long-term and trusted relationships with our clients. We structure and manage our practice with our focus firmly fixed on what matters to you: experienced business attorneys acting as partners to deliver the most intelligent and pragmatic legal solutions in the most cost-effective fashion.

At Procopio, we foster a culture of innovation, and our people are among the most skilled and experienced in the industries we serve. Our clients appreciate our hands-on, communicative and collaborative approach. Practice areas include:

- Appellate
- Aviation
- Beer, Wine & Spirits
- Class Actions
- Construction
- Corporate and Securities
- Digital Media
- Education and Charter Schools
- Emerging Growth and Technology
- Energy and Environment
- Family Law
- Finance, Restructuring and Bankruptcy
- Health Care
- Intellectual Property Counseling
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- International Law
- International Tax
- Labor and Employment
- Land Use
- Latin America
- Licensing
- Life Sciences
- Litigation
- Medical Technology
- Mergers & Acquisitions and Strategic Joint Ventures
- Native American Law
- Patent Prosecution and Counseling
- Private Client
- Public Agencies
- Real Estate
- Sports and Active Lifestyle
- Tax
- Technology Transactions
- Trade Secrets
- Trademark and Copyrights
- Trusts, Estates and Probates
- White Collar Criminal Defense
Procopio is a full-service business and litigation law firm committed to thoughtful problem solving and improving your bottom line. With more than 150 attorneys based in San Diego, Silicon Valley, Phoenix and Austin—we’re passionate about knowing your business and helping you grow and protect it for the long term. Procopio has the flexible infrastructure to support both small to mid-sized companies and large multinationals at every stage of the business life cycle. Our global reach across Asia and Latin America further expands our international partnerships and cross border capabilities.

At Procopio, we are focused on what is important to you—providing smart, innovative and practical solutions in a cost-effective manner to help your business thrive.

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