



P: 202 580 6527 | E: agorokhovsky@scglegal.com

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SCG Legal Recognizes Member Firms for Outstanding Commitment to DEI

June 27, 2024 (Washington, DC) – <u>SCG Legal</u>, a premier global network of 123 independent law firms connected across 63 countries, is celebrating members for their participation in its inaugural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advocate™ Certification Program. This recognition underscores the dedication of these law firms to fostering and/or enhancing their diversity and inclusion efforts through a comprehensive, year-long certification process.

Developed in collaboration with <u>Coston Consulting</u>, a Black-owned business advisory firm with expertise in the legal sector, the proprietary Advocate™ Certification Program aims to recognize and support firms actively working to cultivate an internal culture of inclusion and belonging, have a positive influence towards the same mission in the broader legal sector, and expand opportunities for diverse representation.

The firms that participated in the inaugural DEI Advocate™ Certification Program include:

- <u>Boutin Jones</u> (US: Sacramento, California);
- Mills & Reeve (UK);
- Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Colombia);
- Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland); and
- <u>WeirFoulds</u> (Canada: Ontario).

Alina Gorokhovsky, chief executive officer of SCG Legal, emphasized the network's dedication to inclusivity within the legal community: "Recognizing the global impact of our network, we understand our leadership role in shaping the industry to ensure everyone has an opportunity to thrive. Through strategic initiatives like our DEI Advocate™ Certification Program, SCG Legal demonstrates its commitment to fostering collaboration, cooperation, and collegiality among our members as we focus on issues of critical importance to the firms and the clients they serve."

The Advocate™ Certification Program requires firms to choose three or more areas of focus from core competency categories that include but are not limited to hiring and recruiting; inclusion and belonging; representation in leadership; equity; and cultural awareness and DEI training. The SCG/Coston team works with each firm individually to advance efforts through customized approaches and accountability measures. Participants also meet in facilitated group sessions, which builds community through the sharing of best practices, lessons learned, and unique challenges.

To earn SCG Legal's DEI Advocate™ Certification, firms are required to submit a detailed report articulating the activities, personnel, and outcomes associated with the key competencies chosen at the start of Program engagement. Firms are not compared against one another as each has a unique DEI environment and opportunities. Progress is scored based on specific criteria: strategy; accountability; creativity/innovation; commitment; impact; and participation.

SCG Legal extends its congratulations to the recognized firms and reaffirms its commitment to a diverse and inclusive legal landscape.

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About SCG Legal

SCG Legal, a worldwide network of 123 independent law firms, was founded in 1989 and includes firms—80% of which are Chambers ranked with Chambers-ranked attorneys in the balance—that house legal, regulatory, and, in many countries, public policy practices. Members serve clients in major commercial centers and capitals in more than 63 countries, every U.S. state capital city, and the District of Columbia. The 2023 edition of Chambers Global Guide has recognized the network as a Global Elite. Firms in the network are unified by a culture of premier legal practices and industry leadership; an elevated dedication to client service and responsiveness; a commitment to diversity and inclusion; and a devotion to transparent, innovative, and fair billing practices. For more information, please visit scglegal.com.