



Thursday, July 14, 2011

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue (Auditorium)
San Francisco, CA 94102

AGENDA

Symposium on General Order 156 to Examine Barriers to Procurement Opportunities for Diverse & Emerging Law Firms within California's Public Utility Companies

- 2:30 p.m.** Welcome and Opening Remarks
Commissioners Timothy Alan Simon & Catherine J. K. Sandoval
- 2:45 p.m.** A Report on Diverse Legal Spending of California's Public Utility Companies
Samuel Kang, General Counsel – The Greenlining Institute
- 3:00 p.m.** Panel I – General Counsels of California's Public Utility Companies –
Discussion on Transparency and Opportunities for Diverse and Emerging Law Firms
- Moderator – *Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon*

Panelists:

Sanford Hartman, Vice President & Managing Director Law Department, PG&E
Erbin Keith, Vice President External Affairs & General Counsel, SCG
Jesus G. Roman, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Verizon
Isabelle Salgado, General Attorney and Associate General Counsel, AT & T
Dave Smith, Vice President & General Counsel, SDG&E
Russell C. Swartz, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, SCE

Questions:

1. Do you have GO 156 numeric goals in contracting with diverse law firms? How do you measure success in the program?
2. What are your specific commitments to the program? Do you have short-term, mid-term, long-term plans for out sourcing opportunities to diverse and emerging law firms (i.e., partnering relationships and/or joint ventures with major law firms)?
3. How do diverse and emerging law firms get work from your company? What type of law practices do you outsource?
4. Describe the process used within your company to hire outside attorneys/law firms. Who makes the hiring decision?

3:45 p.m. Panel II – Diverse and Emerging Law Firms – A Roundtable Discussion

Moderator – *Commissioner Catherine J. K. Sandoval*

Panelists:

Clifton Albright, Esq., Albright, Yee & Schmit

Sergio Garcia, Esq., Reed Smith LLP

Sharon Godbolt, Esq., Kelly, Godbolt & Simon, LLP

John W. Harris, Esq., Harris & Associates

Francesca Herrera, Esq., The Marquez Law Group

Emmitt House, Esq., Gonzalez Saggio & Harlan LLP

John Lim, Esq., Partner, Lim, Ruger & Kim, LLP

Monica Zent, JD, MBA, ZentLaw

Questions:

1. What are the economic benefits of contracting with diverse and emerging law firms to ratepayers and utilities?
2. What barriers to obtaining work from utilities have been identified by diverse and emerging law firms?
3. What suggestions have been offered to remove those barriers?

4:45 p.m. Special Guest – *Chaka Patterson* – Skadden Arps

5:30 p.m. Reception & Awards Recognition to Follow – The Miller Law Group

