

Miller Honored With Sustainable Leadership Award

Tonkon Torp's Max M. Miller, Jr., has been honored by the Oregon State Bar with one of two new awards for sustainable leadership. Miller earned the award in recognition of his volunteer leadership in moving the legal profession to embrace sustainability. The Sustainable Future Section congratulates Miller on this well-deserved acknowledgment of his commitment to sustainability.

Miller has a long record of developing and nurturing sustainability initiatives within his firm, in Portland's business, legal, and civic communities, and on behalf of clients. In 1999, when Tonkon Torp hosted a seven-week Northwest Earth Institute discussion course on sustainable living, Miller was intrigued by the question of how to encourage businesses to adopt sustainable practices and perspectives. He and several colleagues formed an internal sustainability committee at Tonkon Torp, which he has chaired since its inception over a decade ago. During that time, the group has morphed from a guerrilla green team tactical strike force to a management-sanctioned committee working on firm-wide initiatives. Miller was also the principal drafter of his firm's sustainability policy, which addresses everything from waste and energy-use reduction to policies on procurement, business travel and commuting, and use of green building materials in office-space improvements.

Under his leadership, Tonkon Torp's sustainability committee has transformed many of the firm's operations to embrace sustainable office practices, and has educated firm employees about sustainability from both personal and business perspectives. The committee has been a leader in the legal community, providing outreach and networking with other firms to share best practices in sustainability. It opened its sponsored discussion courses and presentations to those outside the firm and encouraged others to participate in organizations and efforts that provide support and resources to the sustainability effort.

Beyond the internal committee focus, Miller has been a tireless mentor to Tonkon Torp lawyers wishing to become more involved in external sustainability issues. He founded and co-chairs the firm's Sustainability Practice Group as well as chairing the Environmental and Natural Resources Practice Group, where he works with clients in renewable energy, manufacturing, and responsible stewardship of Oregon's natural resources. An original member of Oregon Lawyers for a Sustainable Future, he has served on the Office Practices Committee and participated in a pilot leadership training pro-

gram. In 2007, he encouraged Tonkon Torp to host a CLE program by the Center for Earth Leadership called "Dimensions of Sustainability: Emerging Context for the Practice of Law." Tonkon Torp did host that program and continues to host Center for Earth Leadership programs.



Miller served on the Oregon State Bar Sustainability Task Force in 2009. He was on the Portland Business Alliance's Sustainability Committee from 2006 to 2009 and was an instructor and facilitator for the Alliance's Green Team Forum, which instructed business members on best practices for green teams. He also brings his sustainability and environmental perspective to his role on the Mayor's Economic Cabinet of the City of Portland.

Miller is a sought-after speaker for business, civic, and legal organizations that are examining sustainability issues. He has spoken at the Law Firm Alliance annual meeting, OLSF presentations, OSB CLEs, OSB Leadership College, OSB Sustainable Future Section programs, and the Portland Business Alliance Green

Team Workshop. His leadership and knowledge of best practices led to an invitation to serve on the editorial board of a national publication, *Sustainability: The Journal of Record*.



Section Chair Jim Kennedy and award recipient Max Miller at the Section's First-Year Celebration, which was held at Ater Wynne's office.