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Sheppard Mullin to be Honored for Its Flexible Working Initiative That Promotes Wellness

Award will be presented during the Diversity & Flexibility Alliance Virtual Conference on Nov. 3

Washington, DC (October 12, 2022) -- The <u>Diversity & Flexibility Alliance</u> announced today that it will present its <u>2022 Flex Impact Award</u> to law firm, <u>Sheppard Mullin</u>. The Flex Impact Award, which recognizes initiatives that demonstrate a significant impact on the culture of workplace flexibility, will be presented during the Alliance's virtual annual conference on Thursday, November 3. Registration information is available <u>here.</u>

Sheppard Mullin will be recognized for its *Unplug & Recharge Program* which provides Associates and Special Counsel with up to 40 hours of "recharge time" annually. These hours, which can be taken by attorneys who bill at least 1750 client chargeable hours, are considered billable credit.

The Unplug & Recharge program, which has been extremely well received by Sheppard Mullin employees, allows attorneys the flexibility to take time to recharge at times that work best with their personal commitments. The program was born out of a design thinking workshop attended by senior members of firm management. Although the firm has always encouraged unplugging and recharging, the workshop gave leadership a platform to turn practice into policy.

"While many law firms have implemented flexible working policies, we were impressed by Sheppard Mullin's demonstrated commitment to creating a positive firm culture focused on the health and wellbeing of their employees," said Manar Morales, president & CEO of the Diversity & Flexibility Alliance. "We are pleased to see a firm putting financial resources behind their commitment to mental health and wellbeing, particularly in light of the increased stress brought on by the pandemic," she added.

"We are very grateful to receive this award. We are committed to mental health and wellness for all our attorneys and staff. Our Unplug & Recharge program is one of the ways we support our attorneys' well-being, and its successful adoption is a testament to our people and our

culture," said Lucantonio (Luca) Salvi, Partner & Chair of the Executive Committee, Sheppard Mullin.

In addition to Sheppard Mullin, an international professional services firm will also receive the 2022 Flex Impact Award. See our <u>website</u> for more information.

The <u>Diversity and Flexibility Alliance</u> is a think tank that collaborates with organizations to develop non-stigmatized flexible work policies that promote inclusive work cultures and help to advance more women into leadership positions. The Alliance provides practical research-based solutions, training workshops, and strategic advisory services that increase organizational effectiveness through diversity and flexibility.