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**PAUL, WEISS LAUNCHES ESG AND LAW INSTITUTE, PARTNERS WITH  
BERKELEY LAW**

**New York and Berkeley, Calif., September 29, 2021** – Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP today announced the launch of the [ESG and Law Institute](#), a forum of businesses and academic institutions dedicated to the independent study of issues relating to the intersection of ESG (environmental, social and governance), business and the law.

As organizations ramp up their sustainability and social impact commitments, new legal risks and regulations arise, creating an urgent need for centralized, solutions-oriented research and analysis that will help boards, executives, institutional investors and lawyers navigate this new legal landscape.

The Institute's inaugural academic partner is UC Berkeley School of Law's Business in Society Institute, one of the nation's leading academic programs focused on ESG, business and the law. Paul, Weiss lawyers and Berkeley Law professors will convene roundtable discussions and collaborate on research within the Institute, creating a centralized hub of ESG resources and thought leadership.

"Companies urgently need guidance in areas where legal risks and corporate governance are colliding with corporate sustainability and social responsibility initiatives," said ESG and Law Institute executive director and co-chair of the ESG Advisory Practice at Paul, Weiss, David Curran. "GCs, boards and executives need to navigate this nuanced and important area, and the Institute aims to provide the kind of detailed, up-to-the-minute information and analysis required to make sound business decisions that are in compliance with current and emerging regulations."

Under the innovative partnership, the ESG and Law Institute will also provide two \$25,000 fellowships to select Berkeley Law students to conduct research and analysis and be involved in programs and events focused on leading-edge ESG topics. Additional academic partners and fellowship recipients will be selected following the Institute's launch.

"ESG issues are increasingly part of sound risk oversight for corporate directors and executives today, and our mission is to prepare Berkeley Law students for this new business reality," said Amelia Miazad, faculty director and senior research fellow at Berkeley Law's Business in Society Institute.

**Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP**

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“We are excited about this wonderful partnership, which will deepen the experience for our students and support important research,” said Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of Berkeley Law. “We are grateful for the investment into our ESG program and the creation of the new fellowships, affording new opportunities for analysis of this important area.”

The Institute’s launch comes nearly a year and a half after Paul, Weiss created its Sustainability and ESG Advisory Practice to help clients navigate the legal, business and political ramifications of developing and implementing ESG initiatives. The practice will maintain an active leadership role within the Institute and partner with business and professional associations, ESG experts and other academic institutions to organize roundtable discussions, conduct research and identify emerging issues in the field.

“As we expand our firm’s presence in the Bay Area, we are proud to partner with the region’s premiere public university to bring businesses the best intel in ESG,” said Paul, Weiss chairman Brad S. Karp. “The fellowships that Paul, Weiss underwrites will help make Berkeley Law’s best-in-class legal education accessible to the next generation of lawyers, who will undoubtedly need a sophisticated understanding of ESG in their future practice.”

*Sign up to receive regular updates on the ESG and Law Institute’s [website](#) and follow the Institute on [LinkedIn](#) for updates on upcoming events and to learn more about how to collaborate with the Institute’s stakeholders.*

#### **About Paul, Weiss**

Paul, Weiss ([www.paulweiss.com](http://www.paulweiss.com)) is a firm of more than 1,000 lawyers with diverse backgrounds, personalities, ideas and interests who provide innovative and effective solutions to our clients’ most complex legal and business challenges. We take great pride in representing the world’s leading companies in their critical legal matters and most significant business transactions, as well as individuals and organizations in need of pro bono assistance.

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