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## ARMSTRONG TEASDALE ANNOUNCES BILLABLE HOUR CREDIT FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

On the heels of Armstrong Teasdale's creation of a dedicated Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) department, the firm announces it will now recognize 25 hours of approved DEI time as billable working attorney hours on an annual basis.

Aligned with the firm's six strategic goals – one of which is centered on diversity and inclusion – this investment encourages firm attorneys to make the most of their contributions to advancing the diversity of the broader legal profession.

Approved activities will include participation in DEI-related recruiting events and training, as well as key organizations in which the firm holds membership, such as the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity and the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance (LFAA), the latter of which the firm joined in 2020. In addition, billable hours will include leadership in key DEI initiatives and activities, affinity bar associations and organizations, and hours as otherwise preapproved by the department. The program is anticipated to be widely adopted and accepted.