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For Immediate Release

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***Navigating Design-Build: Best Practices and Principles from Owner Representatives and Process Experts* deemed one of the most important learning and information sharing events by conference attendees**

Providence, RI (September 2, 2010) – Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) and the Design-Build Institute of America, New England Chapter, held *Navigating Design-Build: Best Practices and Principles from Owner Representatives and Process Experts* on August 26, 2010 at the Officer's Club in Newport, Rhode Island. Attendees at the day-long seminar, sponsored by AECOM, United Water and TCM, learned valuable lessons and opportunities from owner representatives and process experts about design-build, one of the nation's most effective and efficient alternative delivery methods of construction that bridges the public and private sectors in partnership. The conference host was PLDW Associate Robert Knychalski.

Keith Stokes, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, presented welcoming remarks on behalf of the State of Rhode Island, and laid the foundation for the growing importance of design-build as a method for enhancing economic development. The first panel discussion, entitled "Lessons Learned From Owners' Representatives", featured:

- Commander Gregor Bo, Naval Station Newport Public Works Officer
- Julia A. Forgue, PE, Director of Utilities, City of Newport, Rhode Island
- David Guertin, Director of Public Works, Town of Provincetown, Massachusetts
- Steve Coutu, Public Works Director, City of East Providence, Rhode Island

Each panelist discussed the challenges and opportunities of their ongoing or completed design-build project, how they were able to get their design-build project off the ground from contract development, procurement, and environmental and operational function areas, examples of issues or problems that arose in the use of design/build and the procurement process, and the role of design-build consultants in their projects, including engineers and legal advisors.

“After 50 years of residents voting ‘no’ and five special acts of legislation, the Town of Provincetown finally had approval to use design-build as an alternative to construct its new sewer system,” said David Guertin, Director of Public Works and featured panelist. “The Design-Build-Operate project delivery system worked – saving the Town time, money and effort. The design and construction took only 24 months to complete start to finish and we are now considered a model for other cities and towns looking to construct a sewer system. I encourage municipalities with an interest in keeping costs down and efficiency levels high on construction projects from inception to completion to consider design-build.”

The first panel was followed by a luncheon presentation on ‘How to do Business with the Military’ and a second panel of design-build process experts featuring William A. Lawrence, Associate at PLDW, Michael J. Walsh, PE BCCE of CDM, a global consulting, engineering, construction, and operations firm; and Steven Torres, Corporate Council for the City of Fall River, Massachusetts.

“By all accounts from those in attendance, the conference was one of the most important learning and information sharing events for participants looking to utilize the design-build alternative delivery method and for those looking to successfully market and secure new clients with their design-build business services,” said Teno A. West, PLDW Partner and leader of the Municipal Infrastructure Team at PLDW. “The opportunity to network and talk one-on-one with owner representatives and experts in the field of alternative delivery methods of construction is a key component of succeeding with design-build projects.”

Mr. West is the leader of the Municipal Infrastructure Team at PLDW and a national expert on public-private partnerships and water and wastewater law, solid waste management alternative energy projects, procurement law and design-build-operate initiatives. He represents municipalities and government agencies across the country in this practice area and frequently drafts the legislation required to undertake alternative procurements, as well as design-build and design-build-operate projects.

For further information about PLDW, log on to [www.pldw.com](http://www.pldw.com), or the Design-Build Institute of America at [www.dbia.org](http://www.dbia.org).

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**ABOUT PANNONE LOPES DEVEREAUX & WEST LLC**

The attorneys and staff at Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) are committed to developing practical and cost effective solutions while also being supportive of the community in a meaningful way. With offices in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Florida, PLDW has developed a business model that combines international expertise with a more cost-effective delivery system that involves cross training of lawyers and a more practical approach to problem solving. The primary areas of practice for the firm include administrative, corporate and municipal law, civil litigation, government relations, real estate and commercial lending and estate planning and special masterships. The partners' demand of themselves and those on the PLDW team, an unparalleled sense of urgency and responsiveness which is derived from an authentic appreciation for their clients and the community in which they serve. For more information, visit [www.pldw.com](http://www.pldw.com)