

May 26, 2011

## **Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West Announces New Attorneys and Professional Staff**

Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) announces the appointments of two new attorneys, Lee Apotheker and Benjamin L. Rackliffe as Associates, and the professional staff appointment of Christopher J. Kent as Government and Legislative Strategies Analyst.

“We are pleased to announce these important appointments to the growing PLDW team,” said Gary R. Pannone, PLDW Managing Partner. “Since the start of the firm five years ago, the partners envisioned designing a new model for practicing law using a team approach to deliver cost-effective solutions to clients. These appointments represent the success we continue to achieve in providing comprehensive, effective and efficient service to our clients.”

Benjamin L. Rackliffe joins the firm as an Associate and is a member of its Corporate & Business Strategies, Nonprofit Organizations and Litigation Teams. He concentrates his practice in the areas of closely held business, commercial lending and real estate, and will represent PLDW on the Roger Williams University School of Law

Pro Bono Collaborative. Prior to joining PLDW, Mr. Rackliffe was an in-house counsel to a hospitality and real estate development corporation in Newport, R.I. and an associate attorney for a Rhode Island-based construction and engineering litigation firm representing multinational and U.S. contractor corporations. Mr. Rackliffe earned his J.D. from Roger Williams University School of Law and his undergraduate degree from Providence College. He is admitted to practice law in Rhode Island, Connecticut and the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island, and is a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association.

Lee Apotheker joins the firm’s Municipal Infrastructure Team as Associate and concentrates his practice in the areas of municipal infrastructure projects, litigation, contract procurement, water law, solid waste management, design/build and design/build/operate projects, and other alternative delivery projects. Mr. Apotheker earned his J.D. from Pace University School of Law, cum laude, and his undergraduate degree in English Language and Literature from The University of Chicago, during

which time he studied at Tel-Aviv University in Ramat-Aviv, Israel. He is admitted to practice in the State of New York and the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. He is a member of the New York Bar Association, New York County Lawyers Association and Westchester County Bar Association.

Christopher J. Kent joins the firm's Government & Legislative Strategies Team in the position of Government and Legislative Strategies Analyst. He will assist and support the firm's government relations and lobbying efforts on behalf of clients before local, state and federal agencies. Prior to joining PLDW, Mr. Kent

was the Director of External Affairs and Community Outreach/Legislative Assistant for the Congressional Office of former Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy (2005-2010) and was the Congressman's Campaign Director in 2006 during his re-election campaign. His background also includes working as Finance and Compliance Officer for the U.S. Senate Election Campaign of Senator Sheldon Whitehouse in 2005. He is a graduate of Providence College.

For further information, please contact PLDW Director of Administration David Sweet, at [dsweet@pldw.com](mailto:dsweet@pldw.com) or call 401-824-5100.

PANNONE  
LOPES  
DEVEREAUX &  
WEST LLC  
*counselors at law*

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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).