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**PLDW Partner and Employment Attorney William E. O’Gara to Provide Workshop at the  
Newport County Chamber of Commerce HR Roundtable, Oct. 9**

Providence, RI – September 27, 2013 – Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) Partner William E. O’Gara, who leads the firm’s Litigation and Employment Teams, will be the featured speaker at the Newport County Chamber of Commerce HR Roundtable, October 9 from 8:30 am to 9:30 am in the Chamber headquarters at 35 Valley Road, Middletown, RI.

Attorney O’Gara, who is the 2013 Rhode Island “Lawyer of the Year” for his practice of Labor Law – Management, will present the topic, “Recent Legal Changes that Will Impact Every Rhode Island Employer”. To register, please log onto [Newport County Chamber of Commerce Events](#).

Mr. O’Gara’s remarks will cover new changes in Rhode Island’s employment laws that directly impacts even the smallest Rhode Island employers. The issues include the expansion of TDI benefits and the requirements that all employers provide leave, as well as “ban the box” legislation that was enacted. The third topic will be the Marriage Equity law and the Supreme Court’s decision striking down the Defense of Marriage Act.

Mr. O’Gara has been practicing law for over 20 years. His practice is extensive with a significant depth of experience handling diverse matters before federal and state courts and administrative agencies, including the Rhode Island Commission on Human Rights and the Massachusetts Commission against Discrimination. He routinely represents employers in matters ranging from sexual harassment to retirement issues. His diverse practice includes defending wrongful termination and discrimination claims, contract negotiations and matters of union representation. Attorney O’Gara is a frequent lecturer on human resources management topics, and is a contributor and editor of human resource

and personnel policy handbooks and guides for small and large private and public sector entities. He is also the editor of the firm's monthly Employment *ADVISORY*.

To reach Mr. O'Gara, email [wogara@pldw.com](mailto:wogara@pldw.com) or call 401-824-5100. For more information about PLDW, contact David C. Sweet, Director of Administration, at [dsweet@pldw.com](mailto:dsweet@pldw.com), or visit [www.pldw.com](http://www.pldw.com).

**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, employment, 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).