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**Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West Announces that
John (Jay) R. Gowell has joined the firm as a Partner**

***Mr. Gowell will join the Business Law Team in the areas
Of Corporate, Public Finance, Real Estate & Commercial Lending***

Providence, RI – January 6, 2012 – Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) is pleased to announce that John (Jay) R. Gowell has joined the Business Law Team as a Partner in the firm. Mr. Gowell has extensive experience in the areas of corporate law, finance and real estate development in both the private and public sectors. He is a former partner of a regional law firm and has acted as special counsel to the State with respect to matters involving economic development, public finance, procurement and transportation.

“Attorney Gowell is a highly respected and experienced business lawyer who adds tremendous depth to our Business Law Team for both private and public clients. The firm is experiencing a surge in transactional work and Jay’s experience and respect in the legal and business community is a perfect fit for PLDW,” states Gary R. Pannone, PLDW Managing Partner. “Jay is a highly regarded business lawyer who has been involved in many high profile projects in Rhode Island. We are pleased that he has decided that the PLDW platform and its lawyers best suit his practice and client base.”

In addition to his real estate and commercial lending expertise, Mr. Gowell's background includes corporate law in the areas of mergers, acquisitions and divestitures as well as being listed as a bond counsel in the Bond Buyer "Red Book". He also has unique experience in representing companies engaged in variety of transactions relating to the marine industry which have been financed with traditional lending or venture capital.

Mr. Gowell is a resident of the Town of East Greenwich and has been active in the community in leadership roles and as legal counsel for charitable and other not-for-profit organizations. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra and Music School, the Board of Trustees of the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce and the Brown University Civic Leadership Council. Since 2005, he has chaired the East Greenwich Public Schools Building Committee which successfully implemented a significant, multi-year building program, including construction of a new 108,000 square foot middle school and major improvements to a high school.

Mr. Gowell earned his J.D. from the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Law in 1981 and was a member of the Law Review. He graduated with a B.A. from Trinity College in 1977. He is admitted to practice in state courts in Rhode Island and Massachusetts and the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island. He is a former partner with Burns & Levinson LLP and founder and partner-in-charge of the Providence, RI office of Peabody & Arnold LLP.

The PLDW Business Law Team members routinely deal with complex business transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, real estate development projects and commercial lending. The firm represents developers and lending institutions in negotiating, structuring and closing complex business and real estate transactions, including mixed use developments, affordable housing, hotels and retail centers.

For more information about PLDW, contact David C. Sweet, Director of Administration, at dsweet@pldw.com or call 401-824-5100, or visit www.pldw.com

About Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC

The attorneys and staff at Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC (PLDW) develop practical, cost-effective solutions for their clients. In addition to the practice of law, the firm is very supportive of the communities in which they serve their clients. 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 is based upon a team approach to problem solving with lawyers that are trained in more than one discipline. The primary areas of practice for the firm include administrative, corporate, municipal law, civil litigation, government relations, real estate, 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 derived from an authentic appreciation for their clients and the community in which they serve. For more information, visit www.pldw.com.