



NEWS RELEASE

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DiSanto, Priest & Co. and Pirolli, Deller & Conaty to Merge *Merger of two CPA firms underscores changing nature of the profession*

Effective January 1, 2007, the Accounting firm of Pirolli, Deller & Conaty of Warwick will merge with DiSanto, Priest & Co, also of Warwick.

The merger will create an accounting firm and consulting service group with over 50 accounting professionals and over 80 total professionals, making it one of the region's premier multi-service firms.

For 35 years, Pirolli, Deller & Conaty has focused on providing corporate and personal tax and consulting services to local business, their owners, and high net worth individuals. In addition to a commitment to service excellence, the Firm has a rich history of civic service and service to the profession. Together the Firm's partners have served as presidents of the Northern RI and Central RI Chambers of Commerce, the RI Society of CPAs as well as serving on many civic Boards including Big Sisters, The Kent Center and the RI Public Expenditures Council. In addition, the Firm's activity and partners have been recognized nationally for their management practices and service to the accounting profession.

"Over the years, our working relationship with DiSanto Priest & Co. has grown to the point where a merger made perfect sense to better serve our clients." said Bill Pirolli, Managing Partner of Pirolli, Deller & Conaty.

DiSanto, Priest & Co. was founded on January 1, 2003, the result of a merger of two established Rhode Island CPA firms: Finkel, DiSanto, Forsythe, Sciuto & Martin, Inc. and Priest, Kortick, DeMerchant & Brough, Ltd.

"The professional synergies between our two firms made this merger not only a logical choice, but one where clients of both firms will benefit from increased services and management depth." said David DiSanto, Managing Partner of DiSanto, Priest & Co.

Nationally, the changing nature of the Accounting profession is creating a new kind of firm. With most fundamental accounting operations now performed by clients in-house, leading edge accounting firms are providing value-added services to complement client capabilities. "From the beginning, our plan has been to build a multidisciplinary group able to provide a wide range of services." says DiSanto. This commitment is evidenced by the Firms affiliation with Bentley Wealth Advisors, Bentley Consulting Group, Bentley Employee Benefits Group, and the Bentley Charitable Foundation. "Our clients will immediately benefit from this wide array of professional services." said Bill Pirolli. "The accounting profession continues its trend of consolidation to build strategic advantage. We have been positioning our practice for just such a merger for years."

The combined professional and management experience of the partners of Pirolli, Deller & Conaty will greatly enhance the Firms capabilities. In addition, their managing partner, Bill Pirolli, will also provide the partner group with a unique perspective of the profession. He is currently appointed to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants PCPS Executive Committee, serving on several leading-edge task forces. He has also served on the AICPA Governing Council and the prestigious Group of 100 Strategic Planning Committee. Bill is a frequent speaker both locally and nationally on issues related to trends in the profession and the management of an accounting practice. He is a past president of the Rhode Island Society of Certified Public Accountants, a professional organization serving over 1400 local CPA's, and a past president of the Central RI Chamber of Commerce.

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DiSanto, Priest & Co. is a multi-service professional advisory firm providing financial statement attestation, tax planning and compliance, benefit plan administration, business valuation, litigation support, and personal financial planning services. As one of the largest regional advising firms in Southern New England, DiSanto, Priest & Co. has developed a comprehensive approach to clients' personal and corporate financial matters, based on a unique combination of experience, strategic alliances, expertise and services to address the needs of a rapidly changing business environment.