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DASNY's Williams to Keynote MWBE Event

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NEW YORK -- **Paul T. Williams**, President and CEO of the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), will serve as keynote speaker for Anchin, Block & Anchin's Building the Future event recognizing outstanding MWBEs in the construction arena. The event is sponsored by Anchin and Carver Bank, in cooperation with the New York Building Congress.

The awards event will take place at 8 a.m. on **Thursday, April 28, 2011**, at Club 101, 101 Park Avenue. Awards will be given in three categories: Fastest Growing MWBEs, Outstanding Community Service, and Corporate Advocacy. The Corporate Advocacy Award is new this year and is designed to honor the individual or organization that has gone beyond the expected to promote the MWBE community. Nomination forms for each award category are available at www.anchin.com and will be accepted until Wednesday, March 30, 2011.

"We are delighted and honored that Paul Williams will address this year's event," said Phillip M. Ross, CPA, and co-chair of Anchin's Construction Services team. "He is a tireless advocate on behalf of MWBEs and clearly has an insider's view on the construction industry across the state. His comments will be insightful and informative for our audience."

As DASNY President, Williams oversees the Authority's five operating divisions, offices in Albany, New York City, and Buffalo, and DASNY's workforce of over 550 employees.

Williams was first appointed to the Dormitory Authority in June 2008; his appointment was renewed in December 2010 by Governor Andrew Cuomo. As chairman of the *Task Force to Increase the Utilization of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises in State Debt Offerings*, Mr. Williams helped launch a new era for State procurements, including the adoption of new rules and procedures to increase MWBE utilization in State contracts.

DASNY is a significant builder of large scale public projects, including court houses, hospitals and other health care facilities, educational facilities, and dormitory construction, its original mission. DASNY's construction portfolio includes more than 600 projects valued at over \$6.3 billion.

DASNY is also one of the largest issuers of tax-exempt debt in the nation, issuing for higher education, healthcare and state-supported services, with a portfolio of outstanding bonds worth approximately \$42 billion.

Registration for the April 28, 2011 event is available at www.anchin.com. Early-bird registration through March 31 is \$75 per person for MWBEs and \$95 for all others. After March 31, tickets for the event will cost \$95 for members of MWBE firms and \$125 for all others.

At last year's event, keynote speakers included Jay Walder, President/ CEO of the Metro Transit Authority (MTA), and Michael Garner, MTA's Chief Diversity Officer. Nine awards were presented to large and small MWBE firms, including architect, construction, and engineering firms, subcontractors, and suppliers.

About Anchin: Anchin, a full-service accounting and advisory firm with 55 partners and a staff of 350, is the premiere provider of professional service firms to the construction industry. Anchin's commitment to the

construction sector includes two outstanding industry events each year, the State of the Construction Industry each fall and the Building the Future event each spring honoring MWBEs. For further information about professional services provided by Anchin, visit www.anchin.com.