

For Immediate Release

Contact: Catherine DeLoughry
Allegheny Conference on
Community Development
412-496-8538 (cell)
cdeloughry@alleghenyconference.org

Dennis Yablonsky To Assume Allegheny Conference on Community Development Leadership Role

PITTSBURGH – (March 23, 2009) - The Allegheny Conference on Community Development announced today that Dennis Yablonsky has been named chief executive officer of the organization, succeeding Michael Langley, who is in the final year of his contract. The appointment is effective March 24, 2009.

“We welcome Dennis to the conference and we thank Mike for his outstanding leadership and many contributions,” said John Surma, Chairman of the Board of the Allegheny Conference.

“Dennis’ Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania roots run deep and his experience is broad,” Surma added. “We are fortunate to welcome him to the Conference and eager to pursue our strategic plan for improving the prosperity of our region.”

A native of Pittsburgh, Yablonsky has more than 30 years of management and leadership experience. Previously, Yablonsky was Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development under Governor Edward Rendell from February 2003 to October 2008, where he played a lead role in the development and implementation of an economic stimulus program that included significant investments in the Commonwealth’s infrastructure. Under Dennis’ leadership, DCED also focused on helping existing Pennsylvania businesses expand and attracting out-of-state businesses. Dennis spent the first 24 years of his career working for and leading two successful software companies: Cincom Systems in Cincinnati, Ohio and the Carnegie Group here in Pittsburgh. At Cincom Systems, an independent software company based in Ohio, he progressed through the company’s organization to eventually become chief operating officer and to help grow the company into a \$125 million global organization.

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In 1987, Yablonsky became chief executive officer of the Carnegie Group in Pittsburgh. By 1999, he turned the unprofitable enterprise into a \$32 million publicly traded software solutions company that became integrated into Logica North America. In 1999, Dennis became the founding CEO of the Pittsburgh Digital Greenhouse and, in 2001, the Pittsburgh Life Sciences Greenhouse, innovative models for doing technology-based economic development.

“I am honored to have the opportunity to lead an organization that has done so much for the revitalization of the Pittsburgh Region over the past six decades,” Yablonsky said. My six years in public service have provided me with relevant experience and a broadened perspective that I think uniquely prepares me to lead the Allegheny Conference. I look forward to working with all of the Conference’s partners to build on the unique strengths that exist in our region.”

Yablonsky will be the Allegheny Conference’s sixth chief executive officer since it was formed in 1944. He is preceded by Langley, Rick Stafford, Bob Pease, Ed Magee and Park Martin.

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The **Allegheny Conference on Community Development and Affiliates** – the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania Economy League of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance – work in collaboration with public and private sector partners to stimulate economic growth and improve the quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information, visit www.alleghenyconference.org.