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New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority welcomes James Stephen Poole as new Executive Director

At the Authority's meeting today, Chairman Roger B. Jacobs announced that the Board appointed James Stephen Poole as NJEFA's new Executive Director. Following a 10-day gubernatorial veto period, Poole will take over the reigns of the agency from Acting Executive Director, Mary Jane Darby, who was appointed interim head of the agency last July.

Poole joins the Authority having most recently served as a Senior Director of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority. While there, Poole has had oversight responsibility for three operating units involved in the development of elementary and secondary schools throughout the State under New Jersey's School Construction Program.

Poole is also a long-time veteran of public finance in New Jersey having served for more than 17 years in the New Jersey Department of Treasury's Office of Public Finance. Eight of those years he served as Director where he managed the issuance of over \$20 billion of State general obligation bonds, short-term notes, State-backed debt and Authority conduit debt. Poole is a graduate of Villanova University where he received a B.S. in Finance and Seton Hall University where he received an MBA in Finance.

On welcoming Poole to NJEFA, Chairman Jacobs said, "Our clients will be well served by Jim's vast experience in the municipal markets and knowledge of credit considerations, especially with complex financing structures. We look forward to working with him to ensure that the financing needs of New Jersey's colleges will continue to be met with the highest level of service." Jacobs also thanked Mary Jane Darby for stepping up to lead the agency during the period of transition. He noted, "The Authority staff and Mary Jane continued to provide excellent service to our clients and are to be commended." Darby will continue to serve as the Authority's Director of Project Management, a position she has held since 2002.

Since 1966, NJEFA has been New Jersey's largest financing entity for development of campus facilities at public and private colleges and universities. An independent and self-supporting agency, NJEFA finances a wide array of projects including construction, renovation, and acquisition of academic and research facilities; libraries; technology infrastructures; student housing; student life and athletic facilities; parking structures; and refinancing of existing debt. Since its inception through October 1, 2010, the Authority has completed 447 transactions with a total value over \$12.6 billion and a record of zero defaults.