



# Press Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GREATER BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ELECTS PAUL G. AFONSO TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Boston, MA, May 19, 2008** – The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce has elected Paul G. Afonso to its Board of Directors. The former Chairman of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (Department of Public Utilities), Mr. Afonso is Co-Practice Leader of Brown Rudnick's Government Law & Strategies Group in Boston. He also currently serves as the Executive Director for the New England Energy Alliance, a coalition of energy providers, businesses, and trade organizations focused on the future of energy supplies. Mr. Afonso succeeds Marilyn D. Stempler, a Litigation Partner at Brown Rudnick, who served on the Chambers Board for 11 years.

"The Chamber works to help progress the most important economic issues and projects in Greater Boston. Energy matters continue to be focal point for the Boston business community, and we are delighted to have Paul on our Board. His knowledge and experience within the energy regulatory environment will be an asset to our membership," said Paul Guzzi, president and CEO of the Chamber.

Mr. Afonso said, "The Boston Chamber is a valuable resource for and driver of our local business, government, and civic communities. I am honored to join these distinguished business leaders who comprise the Chamber Board, and I will do my best to help advance the mission of the Chamber."

With over 20 years of energy, legislative and regulatory experience, Mr. Afonso is noted for his expertise in regulatory policies and legislation related to electricity, gas, water, cable television, telecommunications, pipeline engineering and safety, railway, trucking and bus services. While at the DTE, Mr. Afonso also acted as Chairman of the Energy Facilities Siting Board, the agency charged with reviewing major generation, electric transmission, gas storage facilities and certain gas pipelines. Additionally, he served a term as President of the



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regional body of New England public utility regulators - New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners.

Mr. Afonso joined the law firm of Brown Rudnick in June 2006 as Co-Practice Leader of the Boston Government Law & Strategies Group, and divides his time between the Boston and Washington, D.C. offices, helping clients navigate through complex state and federal regulatory policies.

## **About THE GREATER BOSTON CHAMBER**

THE GREATER BOSTON CHAMBER is a broad-based association representing more than 1,700 businesses of all sizes from virtually every industry and profession in our region. At the crossroads of business and government, Chamber members work together to ensure the long-term advancement of Greater Boston as one of the world's great metropolitan regions. For more information, please visit [www.bostonchamber.com](http://www.bostonchamber.com).

## **About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP**

Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm represents clients from around the world, providing business-focused solutions that address today's ever-changing, ever-demanding competitive marketplace. With an entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, Brown Rudnick offers a broad slate of capabilities and talents in areas that include: Government Law & Strategies, Energy, Real Estate, Corporate & Securities, Intellectual Property, Finance, Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Complex Litigation, and Health Law. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnick.com](http://www.brownrudnick.com).

The Brown Rudnick Center for the Public Interest is a measure of the Firm's strong commitment to the community and serves as an umbrella entity encompassing the Firm's pro bono legal work, charitable giving, community involvement and public interest efforts. For more information, please visit [www.brownrudnickcenter.com](http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com).

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