

# **GOVERNOR PATRICK IS RECOGNIZED FOR GROWING DIVERSITY IN STATE GOVERNMENT**

BOSTON – Thursday, May 23, 2013 – Governor Deval Patrick Tuesday was recognized for his Administration's efforts to create a state government that reflects the diversity and inclusiveness of communities throughout Massachusetts at the Commonwealth Compact's 5th Anniversary celebration. Under Governor Patrick's leadership, over one quarter of executive branch employees are people of color and over half are women.

During his first month in office, Governor Patrick signed Executive Order 478 which reestablished the Commonwealth's commitment to hiring a diverse workforce by promoting inclusion in hiring and board appointments, and providing enhanced access to state services and contracts for all Massachusetts residents. That executive order also outlined a specific process to implement the hiring of people with disabilities, resulting in the creation of the Disability Task Force to establish and implement best practices for recruiting, hiring and promoting persons with disabilities.

As Massachusetts' presence in the global economy continues to grow, the Patrick-Murray Administration has focused on ensuring that all of the Commonwealth's residents have a place in expanding and strengthening our economy for future generations. State business with minority-owned and women-owned companies has increased by over 40 percent overall; 16 percent for minority-owned businesses and 51 percent for women-owned companies, since Governor Patrick took office. There has been a 10 percent increase in women and a 57 percent increase in minority individuals in Executive Branch managerial positions, since 2007, and a 25 percent increase in women and a 207 percent increase in minority individuals serving as senior managers within state government during that time. Minority-owned businesses continue to be an engine for job creation in the Commonwealth, with over 47,000 minority-owned firms in Massachusetts spanning multiple industries including high-tech, health care, construction, hospitality, education and financial services.

## *About Commonwealth Compact:*

Commonwealth Compact was created in 2008 by Steve Crosby, then Dean of UMass Boston's McCormack Graduate School, with the help of former Suffolk County District Attorney, Ralph Martin, and former Boston Globe publisher, Steve Ainsley. Its mission is to establish Massachusetts as a uniquely inclusive, honest and supportive community of - and for - diverse people. Commonwealth Compact is committed to increasing, retaining and promoting the representation of people of color and women throughout their organizations.