

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **COREY A. LEON RECEIVES DESIGNATION OF CERTIFIED ECONOMIC DEVELOPER FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

Corey A. Leon, Director of the Development and Rehabilitation Incentives Department at AKT Peerless Environmental Services, LLC (Detroit, Michigan) recently earned the designation of Certified Economic Developer (CEcD), a national recognition that denotes a mastery of principal skills in economic development, professional attainment and a commitment to personal and professional growth. The CEcD exam was administered by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) on February 2 and 3 in Orlando, FL at the Wyndham Orlando Resort.

With 14 years of economic development experience, Corey Leon has worked on Detroit's most significant development projects such as the American Axle & Manufacturing headquarters, ArvinMeritor's Fort Street facility, the Book Cadillac Hotel, the Fort Shelby Hotel, and the Broderick Tower. Anthony Kashat, Principal at AKT Peerless Environmental Services said, "Corey's commitment to urban economic development, passion for the city of Detroit, and dedication to his clients' urban redevelopment projects evokes a strong sense of pride in our great city, and excitement within our organization. Economic incentives are vital to making Detroit's comeback possible, and AKT Peerless is proud to have individuals like Corey Leon among its expert staff."

The CEcD designation recognizes qualified and dedicated practitioners in the economic development field and sets the standard of excellence within the profession. Candidates must pass a rigorous and comprehensive three-part, two-day examination, which tests a practitioner's knowledge, proficiency and judgment in the key areas of economic development, including business retention and expansion, marketing, finance, workforce development, community development, real estate, strategic planning, and management.

As highly competent economic development practitioners, Certified Economic Developers work with public officials, business leaders and community members to create leadership to build upon and maximize the economic development sector. Excellence in the economic development profession improves the well-being, quality of life and opportunities for individuals, businesses and communities. There are currently more than 1,100 CEcDs in the United States.