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For Immediate Release

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Painting in Partnership is Ready for EPA's New Rules for Pre-1978 Housing

EPA's new rules on lead dust took effect on April 22 of 2010. Painting in Partnership (PIP) is pleased to announce that it meets all of the requirements outlined in these new regulations.

PIP is now certified by EPA as a "Lead-Safe Firm" and three of our employees have been certified as "Certified Renovator", after completing the training required by EPA and passing the test.

These new regulations are intended to protect the population segments who are at the most at risk regarding lead dust: children under six years of age and pregnant women. These risk groups who live in pre-1978 homes should make sure they hire "Certified Firms" for any renovation project that disturbs lead surfaces.

Here are key highlights of the new regulations:

- 1) For a definition of "child occupied" please refer to the "Renovate Right" pamphlet published by EPA. You can download a copy at www.epa.gov/lead
- 2) For non-child-occupied housing (or without a pregnant woman), there is currently an "opt-out" clause that allows the homeowner to waive the EPA rules. Please note that the EPA has stated their intent to do away with that option.
- 3) These new rules apply whenever 6 square feet of lead surfaces are disturbed inside of a house or 20 square feet outside.

- 4) The rules apply to any contractor who disturbs those lead surfaces, such as painters, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, window replacement contractors, remodelers and others.
- 5) The regulations requires the contractor to give the "Renovate Right" pamphlet to the homeowner and get a form signed by the owner confirming the receipt of that booklet and the actions to be taken.
- 6) The contractor doing work on pre-1978 housing must be certified by EPA as a "Lead-Safe Firm".
- 7) The workers doing work on pre-1978 housing must be supervised by someone working for the "Lead-Safe Firm", who has been certified by EPA as a "Certified Renovators", after taking an 8-hour class and passing a test.
- 8) During the course of the renovation work, EPA rules must be followed. Violations may lead to a \$37,500 fine per day, per violation for the contractor.
- 9) Dust and debris must be contained as per EPA rules.
- 10) Following the completion of the work, the interior work area must be cleaned as per EPA rules.
- 11) Project documentation must be kept for three years.

Painting in Partnership was the first contractor to become nationally accredited by the Painting and Decorating Contractors of American (PDCA). Taking the initiative to become "Certified Renovators" and following lead-safe practices, is another example of our commitment to uphold the highest level of professional standards.

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