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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DIVERSITY EXECUTIVES & PROFESSIONALS OBTAIN HIGH HONORS FROM IDC**

*12 individuals at leading employers achieved diversity and inclusion credentials*

**July 2, 2014 (Plainfield, IN)** – The Institute for Diversity Certification, a subsidiary of The Society for Diversity, recently announced that 12 executives and professionals earned diversity and inclusion credentials after passing the June exam. These new designees either earned the Certified Diversity Executive (CDE) credential or the Certified Diversity Professional (CDP) credential by scoring 80% or greater on a proctored online exam in June, and completing a candidate project.

Ed Burns, CDP, Registrar for the Institute for Diversity Certification (IDC), stated, “This program has a broad appeal because the skills learned from IDC are useful for diversity and inclusion leaders, as well as anyone else who works in a management capacity or on a global team. Our Candidates work really hard, and I am proud to see so many of them earn their credentials.”

The following executives earned a CDE credential:

- *George Braxton, CDE, Esq., Defense Contract Management Agency*
- *William Coleman, CDE, State of Tennessee*
- *Dr. Amanda Lords, CDE, U.S. Air Force Academy*
- *Dr. Salome Nnoromele, CDE, Eastern Kentucky University*
- *Tiffany Overton, CDE, Rolls-Royce*
- *Brenda Stevens, CDE, Malone University*

The following professionals earned a CDP credential:

- *Denise Ammaccapane, CDP, Sodexo*
- *Alexandra Contreras, CDP, Colgate-Palmolive*
- *Stacye McCall, CDP, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*
- *Jaime Penaherrera, CDP, Latino Health and Education Consortium*
- *Kimberly Powers, CDP, Harris Teeter*
- *Adewale Soluade, CDP, Commerce Bank*



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To prepare for the exam, candidates study on their own, participate in an 8-week online class, or attend a 3-day preparation course in the classroom. Many elected to take the online course. "I was very impressed with the framework and structure of the online class," explained Stacye McCall, CDP. "Each of the instructors was knowledgeable, engaging and allowed time for questions and answers, as well as knowledge sharing."

"Like so many in the D&I field, my career started elsewhere and gravitated to an area of need for an employer," said George Braxton, CDE, Esq. "When I realized that I wanted to focus my career in D&I, I also realized that the breadth and depth of the discipline went well beyond talent acquisition and management. After reviewing several certification courses, I determined that the Society for Diversity's CDE certification was ideal for me to pursue."

Roughly 200 candidates have participated in The Institute for Diversity Certification's (IDC) unique diversity and inclusion education program since 2011. Once candidates become designees, they may peer review Candidate Projects or instruct IDC's online preparation courses. This provides candidates with a much broader perspective from which to view diversity and inclusion—by engaging with experts from the corporate, nonprofit, education and government sectors.

Out of the 12 new designees, one individual scored the highest in IDC history. Adewale Soluade, CDP, Inclusion and Diversity Manager at Commerce Bank, was the recipient of this premier honor. Additionally, Dr. Amanda Lords, Senior Climate and Culture Analyst at the U.S. Air Force Academy, is the first designee to possess both CDP and CDE credentials. Dr. Lords obtained her CDP credentials in December 2012.

"Candidates who obtain credentials will forever reflect their knowledge and expertise in the field of diversity and inclusion to colleagues and managers," believed Burns.

There is one more opportunity to earn diversity credentials before the end of the year in the November exam window. The deadline to apply is August 22, 2014. The 2015 exam cycle begins in April. For more information on the credentialing process or to apply, visit [www.diversitycertification.org](http://www.diversitycertification.org) or call 1-800-983-6192.

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#### **ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR DIVERSITY CERTIFICATION**

The Institute for Diversity Certification (IDC) was formed for the sole purpose of providing diversity and inclusion (D&I) management preparation courses and materials; administering diversity certification exams; and designating diversity and inclusion credentials to Certified Diversity Professionals (CDP) and Certified Diversity Executives (CDE). Our program is a global framework for recognizing and rewarding high quality, knowledgeable professionals who strive for excellence in the field of Diversity and Inclusion. IDC is a subsidiary of the Society for Diversity, the #1 nationwide professional association for diversity and inclusion with members in 42 states. Find out more about the Institute for Diversity Certification at [www.diversitycertification.org](http://www.diversitycertification.org).