

NSPS is pleased to announce the selection of John M. Palatiello & Associates, Inc. as its new government affairs consultant to represent the society before the U.S. Congress and Federal agencies. JMP&A will advise and counsel NSPS on legislative strategy and provide lobbying services to advocate NSPS policy positions to enhance NSPS members' professional image, permit members to carry out their professional practices under a legislative framework that is consistent with their professional ethics and standards of practice, and create market opportunities in the Federal government. The firm will also keep NSPS informed of actions in Congress and Federal agencies affecting NSPS members' business and professional practice, and keep government officials aware of NSPS policy positions. JMP&A will also provide regular reports, newsletter content and articles to keep NSPS members informed on government-related activities affecting their profession and educated on government policies. John Palatiello, who was ACSM's first Government Affairs Director, in 1982, and a former ACSM Assistant Executive Director, will provide overall strategic services to NSPS.

JMP&A was formed in 1987 and John Palatiello has been an effective advocate for the surveying and mapping profession in Washington, DC for more than 30 years. Mr. Palatiello and his firm's accomplishments include Congressional enactment of the first National Surveyors Week resolution and a proclamation by President Ronald Reagan, reinstatement of the surveyor as a lead professional under the Surface Mining Act, amending the Brooks Act to include surveying and mapping, liability limitations for surveyors in the "Superfund" program, preserving cash accounting for surveyors for tax purposes, and the recently enacted MAP-21 Act that reforms FEMA flood mapping.

"Our team takes great pride in representing the surveying profession and I am personally honored to once again be working with the NSPS," commented John Palatiello.

John L. Byrd will be the registered lobbyist representing NSPS. Byrd is the Government Affairs Manager for JMP&A and has worked in the public policy arena for 12 years. Prior to joining JMP&A, Mr. Byrd worked as an aide to Senator George Allen (R-VA). He has a bachelor's degree from James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA masters in Business Administration from Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC. Nick Palatiello will lead government affairs communications efforts.

NSPS will soon release an on-line legislative priorities questionnaire to solicit surveyors' views on issues JMP&A should address.