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**NEWS**

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*Charnelle Hicks (right) receives honor from Business Journal Publisher Lyn Kremer.*

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**Charnelle Hicks, AICP, PP, President of CHPlanning, Ltd.,  
Honored as Minority Business Leader by Phila. Business Journal**

**Philadelphia, PA - September 2, 2009** – Charnelle Hicks, AICP, PP, founder and president of CHPlanning, Ltd., was honored as a Minority Business Leader at an inaugural event sponsored by the Philadelphia Business Journal. She is part of a group awarded at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel on Thursday, September 24, 2009.

According to the Philadelphia Business Journal, the Minority Business Leaders Awards Program “offers recognition to top level Corporate Executives and Advocates of ethnic backgrounds.”

Charnelle Hicks was profiled in the Philadelphia Business Journal regarding her award:

## **Minority Business Leaders Awards** ***Charnelle Hicks, President and CEO, CHPlanning, Ltd.***

**Environmental responsibility has not always meshed with urban planning and redevelopment. Charnelle Hicks’ CHPlanning Ltd. has made its way without contributing to the area’s city sprawl.**

**The president and CEO of the Philadelphia urban, suburban and airport development firm punctuated CHPlanning’s swift growth with the recent addition of a New Orleans office, a move meant to accommodate work that currently spans seven states.**

**“We work with communities to assess the assets they have and help the city establish a vision for where they want to be in the future,” Hicks said.**

**That vision usually involves the preservation of green space and the redevelopment of abandoned industrial areas — for instance, CHPlanning is creating a plan for the city of Chester and involved with redevelopment of the north Delaware riverfront.**

**But since her extensive work in the post-Katrina rebuilding of New Orleans, Hicks has decided to expand her company’s reach. Since CHPlanning was not involved in the overdevelopment craze of a couple years ago, they are flourishing at a time when many are fighting to survive.**

**“One of the reasons our business hasn’t suffered is that we’ve stayed away from greenfield production,” she said.**

**— Adam Cancryn**

CHPlanning, Ltd. is headquartered in Center City Philadelphia with offices also in Delaware County, PA and in New Orleans. It is a premier provider of planning services which has participated in a wide variety of initiatives enhancing communities, environments and business corridors. The 10 year-old firm has been recognized by the Philadelphia 100 as one of the fastest-growing privately held firms in the Philadelphia region and is a certified minority- and woman-owned business. For information: (215) 751-1400, or visit [www.chplanning.com](http://www.chplanning.com).