

## **PS&S** Professionals Donate Time to Create 9-11 Memorials

**WARREN, NJ, (October 10, 2011)** Communities across the nation recently held special memorial services to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9-11 terror attacks. Many chose to mark the occasion by unveiling memorials constructed in large part from steel artifacts from the World Trade Center. For **Todd Heacock** and **George Reichert**, structural engineers at PS&S, an award-winning design and engineering firm, this was an opportunity to donate their professional skills to help communities across New Jersey create lasting monuments to those tragic events.

Heacock and Reichert assisted in many aspects of the projects, including working with suppliers of other monument components and with municipal Departments of Public Works employees to coordinate monument assembly.

“Memorials are an important means of helping people remember the sacrifices of the past and for bringing communities together,” said **Mike Gennaro**, the President and COO of PS&S. “That is certainly true with regards to 9-11, and it is very gratifying to see our employees volunteering their skills to helping communities throughout New Jersey.”

No two monuments are the same yet each incorporates artifacts from the World Trade Center. For example, Heacock was instrumental in engineering the 9-11 Memorial in New Providence. It consists of two twisted steel columns salvaged from the World Trade Center which were mounted on a concrete base to symbolize New York City’s Twin Towers. Converting the artifacts into the memorial required substantial engineering expertise to ensure their soundness and longevity. Gennaro, who also serves as the Council President for the borough, helped obtain the artifact and assisted in the dedication ceremonies on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Likewise, Reichert is actively engaged in creating 9-11 memorials. In addition to assisting with the New Providence project, he is working on two others. The first is located in Bethlehem Township in Hunterdon County. On Bethlehem’s behalf, Reichert oversaw all aspects of the memorial project, including successfully petitioning the Port Authority of New York / New Jersey for a steel beam and to detail an aluminum frame to symbolize the Twin Towers. He worked closely with town employees and other suppliers to renovate the Township’s Memorial Park to incorporate the 9-11 Memorial.

Reichert is overseeing a second memorial project, in Franklin Township, also in Hunterdon County. For this project the County Board of Chosen Freeholders has approved construction of a memorial park, and Reichert serves as President of Remember Together Foundation, a 501 (C) 3 non-profit organization which is raising funds for the project. At the moment Reichert is overseeing the collection of artifacts from the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA. Once complete, the memorial will be designed in such a way so that visitors can stand with their backs to the flagpole at the center of the memorial so that when viewing each of the artifacts they will be facing the proper direction for each of those locations. Hopefully, the project will be completed in time for a dedication ceremony on September 11, 2012.

Finally, Reichert, a volunteer firefighter, is working with the First Aid Council of New Jersey to create a 9-11 memorial dedicated to First Responders. The exact site for the monument is still to be determined but will most likely be located at a training facility.