

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Contact:**  
Amy Borrus  
Deputy Director  
202.261.7082  
[amy@cii.org](mailto:amy@cii.org)

## CII Welcomes Court Ruling That Lets PCAOB Continue to Operate

**Washington, D.C., June 28, 2010** —The Council of Institutional Investors is pleased that the U.S. Supreme Court has held that the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) may continue to operate as before, with only a minor change to its existing structure.

While the Supreme Court modified how PCAOB members may be removed, it did not question the importance of the PCAOB's mandate under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act to regulate the auditors of public companies or the validity of any other aspect of that landmark corporate reform law.

The PCAOB is the cornerstone of the reforms that restored public confidence in U.S. financial markets after the devastating revelations of financial fraud at Enron, WorldCom and many other public companies.

"The PCAOB has played a vital role in improving the quality of public company financial reports," said Ann Yerger, executive director of the Council of Institutional Investors. "Its careful, independent oversight of the auditing profession has enhanced investor protection and helped to restore confidence in the integrity of the markets."

Shareowners depend on fair, accurate financial statements in making investment decisions. Fair, accurate statements, in turn, depend on high-quality audits that are a product of rigorous oversight of the auditing profession by an independent authority. The Supreme Court's decision does not alter the PCAOB's ability to continue to play that role.

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*The Council of Institutional Investors (CII) is a nonprofit association of public, union and corporate pension funds with combined assets that exceed \$3 trillion. Member funds are major long-term shareowners with a duty to protect the retirement assets of millions of American workers. The Council strives to educate its members, policymakers and the public about good corporate governance, shareowner rights and related investment issues, and to advocate on members' behalf.*