



## **Pape-Dawson Expands Operations in Houston Region Through Acquisition of Local Firm ArborLeaf**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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HOUSTON, TEXAS — Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc., one of Texas' largest civil engineering firms, is growing their footprint in Houston through the acquisition of local firm ArborLeaf Engineering & Surveying. Led by Managing Principal - Greater Houston and Licensed Engineer, Michael Preiss, Pape-Dawson will be expanding from 78 to 100 employees in the region with the acquisition. This acquisition is a unique merger of like-minded firms committed to delivering high-quality projects, nurturing client relationships, and serving community needs. Purchase price is confidential.

Mr. Preiss notes that "Our office has experienced rapid growth since 2009, spurred by the needs of our clients and our community. As we celebrate our 10-year anniversary in the Houston market this year, we are excited to add ArborLeaf's talented team and incredible experience to our family. Above all else, Pape-Dawson prioritizes nurturing client relationships, developing successful projects and maintaining a strong internal culture. The ArborLeaf team's priorities align perfectly with ours, and together we strengthen our capability to serve the growing needs of this region."

Walter Smith, President of ArborLeaf, Licensed Engineer, Registered Land Surveyor and recently elected Waller County Precinct 2 Commissioner, opened ArborLeaf in 2004 and has worked with numerous public and private clients in the Greater Houston area over the years. Approximately 80% of ArborLeaf's work has been land surveying, while 20% has been civil engineering. The three registered surveyors at the firm possess more than 125 years of combined experience and will be an asset to Pape-Dawson's strong surveying team. Mr. Smith states that "Selling to Pape-Dawson made sense from every angle. They're a high-integrity, high-quality firm with a great reputation and a family-oriented atmosphere. I, and the ArborLeaf team, are excited to join and contribute to Pape-Dawson's service capabilities in Houston." Mr. Smith's role at Pape-Dawson will be as a Vice President focused on nurturing client relationships. All existing employees at ArborLeaf will be retained by Pape-Dawson.

Over the years, Pape-Dawson's Houston team has served clients on a variety of large-scale projects including more than 300 McDonald's locations in South Texas, the British International School of Houston, Village of South Hampton, numerous projects for HEB including their second Snack Plant in Texas, the first two IDEA School campuses in Houston, and the expansion of State Highway 36 for TxDOT. The teams in Houston have supported residential builders and developers such as DR Horton, KB Home, LGI Homes, Pulte Homes, and Land Tejas Companies in expanding their communities in the Houston region; as a result of which Pape-Dawson has engineered and provided construction phase services for more than 9,400 new single family lots covering over 2,600 acres of new developments in

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the area. Pape-Dawson's Houston team is also currently working with both the Harris County Flood Control District and Fort Bend Drainage District on modeling and remapping the Counties' floodplains post Hurricane Harvey.

With offices in Houston, San Antonio (headquarters), New Braunfels, Austin, Fort Worth and Dallas, Pape-Dawson provides professional engineering consulting and surveying services in the land development, environmental, water resources, hydrology/hydraulic and transportation service areas throughout Texas. Founded in 1965, the firm lists at #137 on Engineering News-Record's ranking of Top 500 Design Firms, and ranks #1 on ENR Texas/Louisiana's list of Site Development/Master Planning firms, #4 in Retail Development, and #9 in Civil Engineering Services. The firm has more than 580 employees statewide.

To learn more about Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc., please visit [www.pape-dawson.com](http://www.pape-dawson.com)



**Michael Preiss, P.E.**  
**Managing Principal – Greater**  
**Houston, Pape-Dawson Engineers,**  
**Inc.**



**Walter Smith, P.E., RPLS**  
**President, ArborLeaf Engineering**  
**& Surveying**

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