



**News Release**  
**U.S. General Services Administration**  
**Northeast & Caribbean Region**

**GSA R2-07-111**  
**For Immediate Release**

**GSA Exercises Construction Option for New Buffalo U.S. Courthouse**

(NEW YORK – August 20, 2007) U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) announced today that the federal government is exercising the construction option to Mascaro Construction Company LLP in the amount of \$104,351,500 for construction of Buffalo's new federal courthouse. Work is expected to begin in October 2007.

"We are delighted to begin construction on this remarkable building. It will not only serve the needs of the federal judiciary, but as a catalyst for the revitalization of Niagara Square and downtown Buffalo," said GSA Regional Administrator Emily Baker. "In addition, all of Buffalo will benefit by the construction jobs and subcontracting opportunities that accompany a project of this size."

The courthouse will be a 10-story tower and is planned to achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Rating. The building will feature an integrated art installation by artist Robert Mangold in the glass entry pavilion. It will be located on approximately 1 ¾ acres on the northwest corner of Niagara Square. The courthouse will provide the U.S. District Courts with five courtrooms and six chambers, the U.S. Magistrates with four courtrooms and four chambers and a U.S. Court of Appeals judge's chamber and a satellite library.

In preparation for construction, Mascaro Construction Company LLP of Pittsburgh, PA held two pre-bid conferences in Buffalo during March and April of 2007, reaching out for subcontractors and suppliers to participate in the project. Mascaro intends to support the federal government's small-business contracting goals by subcontracting at least 40% of the contract to small businesses. This includes participation by small, disadvantaged, woman-owned, service disabled veteran-owned and HUBZone small businesses. More information on subcontracting opportunities can be obtained by calling Mascaro at (412) 321-4901.

The new U.S. Courthouse on Niagara Square continues GSA's commitment to the city of Buffalo. The Federal Government occupies close to 1 million square feet of space in downtown Buffalo housing over 2,500 employees in the existing Dillon Courthouse as well as a number of leases. During the past several years new buildings have been constructed downtown to accommodate space needs for many of the federal agencies relocated from the former Dulski federal building which was sold for \$6.1 million last fall. This has not only added to the Buffalo tax rolls, but has also provided economic stimulus

for future growth. In all, GSA has added approximately \$10 million in additional rentals to downtown Buffalo.

-30-

Founded in 1949, GSA serves as a centralized procurement and property management agency for the federal government. GSA manages more than one-fourth of the government's total procurement dollars and influences the management of \$500 billion in federal assets, including 8,300 government-owned or leased buildings and 170,000 vehicles. GSA helps preserve our past and define our future, as a steward of more than 420 historic properties, and as manager of **USA.gov**, the official portal to federal government information and services. GSA's mission to provide superior workplaces, expert technology solutions, acquisition services, purchasing and e-travel solutions and management policies, at best value, allows federal agencies to focus on their core missions.

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