

Fact Sheet

James A. McClure FB and U.S. Courthouse

Built in 1966. Renovated in 2002 (312,446) Gross square footage)



550 W Fort Street
Boise, ID 83724-0101
www.gsa.gov

Property Manager: Ryan Aten
Phone: (208) 334-1243
Cell: (208) 562-9962

The federal government built the James A. McClure Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in 1966 to support the U.S. Courts and other federal agencies. It serves that purpose today. This urban-unique building flanks a historic residential neighborhood, nestled against the Boise foothills, and rests on 8.5 acres that adjoin several park-like acres owned by the Veterans Administration. The nine-floor building contains a mechanical penthouse, with seven stories above grade and a basement below grade.

The building structure includes a framework of steel girders coated with asbestos fireproofing. The exterior facade consists of precast concrete and glass, with a rubber membrane design. A geothermal water system heats the building. The air conditioning consists of two 350 ton chillers, with a free cooling loop added in 1999. Ventilation occurs through constant volume variable temperature mixing boxes with some package units for cooling conference rooms, judge's chambers, and local area network (LAN) rooms. Building lighting features include fluorescent fixtures that have been retrofitted with parabolic reflectors, T-8 lamps, and electronic ballasts.

On Wednesday, December 12, 2001, President George W. Bush signed a law designating the building the James A. McClure Federal Building and United States Courthouse. James A. McClure served as a U.S. Senator from Idaho (1973-1991), a U.S. Congressman from the 1st District of Idaho (1967-1973), and an Idaho State Senator (1961-1966). He helped preserve important Idaho wilderness areas like Sawtooth National Forest, and Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. But he fought for the rights of ranchers to continue to graze cattle there. On energy policy, his specialty, McClure pushed for bipartisan agreement on issues like the strategic petroleum reserve, which he helped steer through Congress as insurance against an oil cutoff by foreign suppliers. He met regularly with leaders of oil-producing nations, and drove an electric car.

Primary tenants are the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Military Entrance and Processing Station. Vacancy in this building remains low, and is anticipated to remain that way.

Sustainable Features

GSA completed a solar photo voltaic feasibility study to install 582 PV modules on the roof that would generate 162.96 kilowatts. Currently, a study to renovate the heating, ventilating, and distribution system is in the funding process.

The building received approximately \$1.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to.

- Replace the cooling tower
- Replace the condensed water and chilled water pumps
- Install solar blinds in the lobby windows and solar film on all windows
- Modify isolated areas of building HVAC duct work,
- Upgrade lighting and lighting controls
- Replace the floor isolation dampers and supply fan VFDs
- Upgrade the building automation system