



News Release

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MLK, JR. FEDERAL BUILDING AND COURTHOUSE NAMED OFFICE BUILDING OF THE YEAR ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING ALSO EARNS RENEWED ENERGY STAR® DESIGNATION

NEWARK, N.J. - The Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse in downtown Newark has just been named "*The Office Building of the Year*" in the government category by the Building Owners and Managers Association's Middle Atlantic Conference. The Middle Atlantic Conference is the BOMA section comprised of 15 local BOMAs, from Massachusetts to Washington, D.C. It has over 3,500 members representing real property owners and managers and more across the mid-Atlantic/northeast regional area. The building, owned and operated by the U.S. General Services Administration, is now under consideration for recognition in the international level of the BOMA competition.

In addition, an energy efficient design as well as technologies, systems and products integrated by the U.S. General Service Administration into the building has helped this facility once again earn the Environmental Protection Agency's prestigious Energy Star® designation. EPA estimates that Energy Star® label buildings use 35 percent less energy on average, and that also saves taxpayer dollars.

"We are extremely proud of these achievements," said GSA Regional Administrator Denise L. Pease. "GSA's Northeast and Caribbean Region is completely committed to superior management of the federal assets in our care, and this TOBY award is confirmation of that. In addition, we are also committed to supporting President Obama and his administration's environmental efforts. The Energy Star® designations for our buildings are not only proof of our commitment to good environmental stewardship but also demonstrate lowered energy costs, and that's good news for taxpayers."

Located at 50 Walnut Street, the 5-story, Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse was completed in 1992. In 2001 it became the first government building in New Jersey to be recognized as an ultra energy efficient federal building under the federal Energy Star® building label program. It's energy saving achievements are largely due to distinct energy efficient design elements

included in the construction, such as insulated exterior walls and thermally efficient windows that contribute to a well-sealed building envelope. It is the GSA's region top energy performing facility. It is anticipated that, with just a few additional energy efficient modifications/installations, the building will have net-zero energy performance.

The Energy Star[®] is recognized nationwide as a symbol for superior energy efficiency and environmental protection. It signifies that a building's energy performance rates in the top 25 percent of facilities nationwide. Energy Star[®] labeled buildings use an average of 35 percent less energy and are responsible for 35 percent less carbon dioxide emissions than average buildings. Nationally there are over 12,000 Energy Star[®] buildings. GSA has 149 buildings that have achieved an Energy Star[®] label, and has an additional 176 buildings that are eligible. Thirteen of these Energy Star[®] federal facilities are located in GSA's Northeast and Caribbean Region.

Energy Star[®] was introduced by EPA in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Today, the Energy Star[®] label can be found on more than 50 different kinds of products, new homes, and commercial and industrial buildings. Products and buildings that have earned the Energy Star[®] designation prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy-efficiency specifications set by the government.

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As the federal government's workplace solutions provider, the U.S. General Services Administration works to foster an effective, sustainable and transparent government for the American people. GSA's expertise in government workplace solutions include:

- Effective management of government assets including more than 9,600 government-owned or leased buildings and 210,000 vehicles in the federal fleet, and preservation of historic federal properties;
- Leveraging the government's buying power through responsible acquisition of products and services making up more than 11 percent of the government's total procurement dollars;
- Providing innovative technology solutions to enhance government efficiency and increase citizen engagement; and,
- Promoting responsible use of federal resources through development of governmentwide policies ranging from federal travel to property and management practices.

For more information about ENERGY STAR visit www.energystar.gov.
For more information about GSA's Energy Star buildings visit www.gsa.gov.