



PRESS RELEASE

MARCH 29, 2000

DENVER, CO – On March 29, 2000, the US General Services Administration (GSA) awarded a \$75,000,000 construction contract to PCL Construction Services of Denver for the new United States Courthouse Annex located at 901 19th Street in Denver, Colorado. The courthouse is GSA's most recent architectural addition to Denver since the 1960's and will complete the downtown's four-block federal district delineated by 18th and 20th Streets and Curtis and California. It is designed to meet the Judiciary's current space requirements and future expansion.

GSA's Rocky Mountain Region provides work environments for nearly 50,000 federal employees in its six-states. The agency is a leader in delivering and managing federal real estate by ensuring its federal customers have professional work environments that are safe and welcoming to the American public. This annex project is another in GSA's continuing commitment to Design Excellence, a program created to attract the best design talent available in order to create outstanding facilities to serve the American public.

Designed by Anderson Mason Dale Architects and Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum, the structure will house the United States District Court for the District of Colorado and the United States Marshals Service and will provide a critical interface to the central business district.

Among the first newly constructed United States Courthouses to meet the new Justice Department security standards, the design balances openness and security. This 190,000 occupiable square foot facility comprises a 10-story tower and an adjacent, two-story attached pavilion. Fourteen courtrooms, judges' chambers, court support areas, and office spaces are featured throughout the tower in addition to the special proceedings courtroom located in the pavilion. The pavilion is positioned on a southeast-oriented landscaped plaza and recalls a historic courthouse-in-the-square.

The pavilion's glass-enclosed public entrance contains a stone and masonry-clad rotunda, which provides direct access to the jury assembly, public elevators and a grand stair that leads to the second floor special proceedings courtroom. The tower's exterior features a dramatic glass curtainwall above the plaza that provides unobstructed views of the federal district. The tower and pavilion embody the values of the region and are sensitive to the architectural heritage of Denver.

GSA is committed to safeguarding the environment for future generations. As a demonstration of that commitment, the annex is a showcase for sustainable design. The building will consume half the energy of a typical courthouse using proven technologies for 100-year life expectancy. Other key "green features" include the aggressive use of daylighting and highly efficient mechanical systems. The exterior and interior finishes feature durable natural materials including stone, brick, wood and metal, and traditional cork flooring in the courtrooms.

In addition to its commitment to the environment, General Services Administration has pledged to make federal buildings an integral part of our nation's communities. GSA's design team has worked collaboratively with the City and County of Denver Planning Office and other public groups to make this

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building compatible with Denver's development objective.

PCL Construction Services has been in business since 1906. The company celebrates its 25th year doing business in the state of Colorado.

“As the owner and manager of the new annex, the General Services Administration is proud to provide another distinguished public building to the community of Denver. This building models the latest in environmentally friendly sustainable design features. As a result of the partnerships developed during this project, the annex will serve the federal judiciary for years to come.”

Susan Damour
Regional Administrator, US General Services Administration

“I believe this project will provide citizens with a dignified, safe, dispassionate, and functional forum for resolution of disputes under the rule of law for decades to come. Credit goes to the judges and staff of this court, Colorado's congressional delegation, the General Services Administration, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and our architects, Andersen, Mason Dale and Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum. We welcome our contractor, PCL, to the team.”

Judge Lewis T. Babcock
United States District Judge for the District of Colorado

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