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## **U.S. District Court Celebrates the Quentin N. Burdick U.S. Courthouse Ceremonial Courtroom**

Fargo, ND - July 27, 2007. The U.S. District Court will dedicate the Ceremonial Courtroom in a formal ceremony at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 30, 2007, at 655 1st Avenue North in Fargo, North Dakota. The event will serve a dual purpose; to commemorate the completion of the courtroom renovation project and congratulate U.S. District Judge Rodney S. Webb on assuming Senior Status. In addition, this is an opportunity to connect the U.S. District Court, local dignitaries, building owner, project team, and the local bar association.

The renovation project was a collaborative effort among the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Judge Rodney S. Webb, and local contractors. A primary project goal and challenge was to preserve the dignity and historic look of the courtroom, while integrating state-of-the-art courtroom technology. The project was successfully completed in July 2006. The new courtroom utilizes evidence presentation systems, video conferencing, and other information technology to aid in the trial process, while maintaining the strong historic presence of the courtroom.

Judge Rodney S. Webb played an integral role in the project and will be recognized for his contributions and assuming Senior Judge Status. President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Webb to the federal bench in 1987. He served as Chief Judge for the District of North Dakota from 1993 to 2002, when Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland was sworn in as Chief Judge. This includes the period of time that the new federal courthouse was built. Judge Rodney S. Webb took Senior Status in January 2002.

Constructed in 1931, the Quentin N. Burdick U.S. Courthouse is a prominent federal building located next to the Fargo Central Business District. The building's architecture is classified as Renaissance Revival style. The building's exterior, consisting of limestone and prominent round-top entries with granite steps at each end, remains largely original; and in 1993, the building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is owned and managed by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

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