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Architecture Partnership Selected for New Lakeport Courthouse *Sonoma-Based Firm Will Partner with National Firm*

San Francisco—Santa Rosa-based TLCD Architecture and national firm Shepley Bulfinch have been selected to design the new Lakeport courthouse, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) announced today. The proposed project, which is in the earliest phase of site selection, will provide a new four-courtroom courthouse, replacing the court's overcrowded and unsafe space in the Lakeport Courthouse.

This project, with an estimated total cost of \$71.7 million, was ranked as an “Immediate Need” in the judicial branch’s capital-outlay plan and is among the judicial branch’s highest-priority infrastructure projects. The Lakeport Courthouse, constructed in 1968, is a shared-use building, of which the court occupies only the fourth floor. This facility has significant security problems, severe accessibility deficiencies, is very overcrowded, and has many physical problems, preventing the court from providing safe and efficient court services to the public.

“We are fortunate that the Judicial Council has placed the Lake County courthouse as one of the first projects funded in the state, and we are very pleased with this selection of an architecture partnership that will bring both Northern California experience and national expertise to our new courthouse,” said Presiding Judge Richard C. Martin, Superior Court of Lake County. “This project is not only critically needed by our court, but it will be an important addition to Lakeport’s civic community and an infrastructure effort that will provide economic benefits for years to come. This expertise will help us ensure that we get it right, and the design of the building will harmonize with our community.”

The new Lakeport courthouse project is currently in site selection. The local court, AOC, and a project advisory group that includes members of the local community are reviewing a short list of potential sites. Once engaged, the architecture team can begin preliminary space programming, but architectural design must wait until a site is selected and acquisition is approved by the State Public Works Board. Site selection and acquisition typically take a year or more. The project is scheduled for completion in fall 2014.

Santa Rosa-based TLCD Architecture brings to the project more than 40 years of experience designing numerous Northern California civic buildings for government, academic, healthcare, and community clients. Nationally ranked firm Shepley Bulfinch, founded in 1874 and based in Boston, also has extensive civic architecture experience. An example of its recent work in California is the

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just-completed University of California Riverside Genomics Building. Both firms bring extensive experience in sustainable design to the project.

The new courthouse is among the first of 41 projects to be funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction, renovation, and repair through a portion of judicial branch fees, fines, and penalties and not county or state general funds.

More information about the project is at:

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_lake_lakeport.htm

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The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.