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Contact: Philip R. Carrizosa, 415-865-8044

Daisy Yee, 415-865-8929

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Local Architect Selected for New Southeast Los Angeles Courthouse

San Francisco—The Los Angeles firm of CO Architects has been selected to design the new Southeast Los Angeles 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 nine-courtroom courthouse for the communities of Huntington Park and South Gate.

This project, with an estimated total cost of \$129 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 Huntington Park Courthouse operates out of a shared-use building that is functionally and physically deficient and among the worst in the state in terms of security, overcrowding, and physical condition. The South Gate Courthouse was closed five years ago.

The new Southeast Los Angeles 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 early 2015.

Founded in 1986, CO Architects is now one of the largest firms in Los Angeles. The firm has broad experience in the civic, academic, science and technology, and healthcare sectors. CO Architects is already working with the AOC on design of a new courthouse in Porterville, Tulare County. The firm brings extensive experience in sustainable design to the project.

The new Southeast Los Angeles 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. More information about the project is at: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_lasoutheastla.htm

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