

*National
Winner*

US \$25M or greater,
but less than US \$100M

WILLIAM J. NEALON FEDERAL BUILDING & UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Scranton, PA



JUROR'S COMMENTS

The design helps reflect the dignity and stature of the building's users and blends in well with the existing context.

This 113,500 sq. ft., \$24 million courthouse addition and 156,500 sq. ft., \$10 million renovation succeeds in making these two buildings into a unified complex whose courtrooms, access and circulation are tightly integrated. The new building avoids stylistic references to the existing building's neo-classical ornament, while it is careful to respect the older building's exterior materials and proportions, making them read as different generations of the same family.

The unity of the complex is created by the large steel-framed, sky-lit atrium through which the public accesses both buildings, requiring only a single security checkpoint. Clusters of steel jacketed, concrete encased steel columns carry the exposed steel bridges that cross the atrium to the courtrooms in the existing building, providing dramatic overlooks of the space. Steel pipes form the bowstrings of the trusses supporting the main skylight of this central space, which substitutes for the classical rotunda. The high roof structure cantilevers toward the existing building to hand the atrium clerestory en-





closed to a seismic joint above the existing building's parapet, so that load is not transferred from the new building. A grand steel staircase connects from the main level to second and fourth floor arcades that access the new building courtrooms and bridges, while exposed steel frames the surroundings of the open-backed elevators. The ends of girders, rafters and stair stringers are cantilevered, tapered and capped to enhance the layered, decorative quality of the exposed structure. The warmth of the older building's brick serves to soften the new building's palette of concrete, stone and steel.

PROJECT TEAM

ARCHITECT:

Bohlin Cywinski Jackson,
Wilkes-Barre, PA

OWNER:

United States General Services Administration, Region 3, Philadelphia

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

Ryan-Biggs Associates, Troy, NY

STEEL FABRICATOR:

Amthor Steel, Erie, PA (AISC member)

STEEL ERECTOR:

Mid-Valley Contracting, Olyphant, PA

STEEL DETAILER:

Amthor Steel, PA (AISC member)

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:

Mascaro Construction Company,
Pittsburgh

SOFTWARE:

AutoCAD, RAM Steel (4.1), RISA 2D

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Michael Thomas, Exeter, PA, and
Matt Wargo, Philadelphia

