



Public Information Office  
**United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Ninth Circuit Staff Plays Key Role in Judiciary's Effort to Reduce Energy Costs**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – An architect who manages space planning for federal courts in the western United States has received national recognition for helping guide an inter-governmental effort to reduce the judiciary's energy use and costs.

Clifford Harlan, the assistant circuit executive for space and facilities in the Office of the Circuit Executive for the Ninth Circuit, was selected for a Director's Award for Excellence in Court Operations by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The award is the top honor achievable by judiciary staff. He shares this award with Dave Carlson, an architect in the Fifth Circuit, and John Domurad, chief deputy of the Northern District of New York.

For the past two years, Mr. Harlan has co-chaired an interdisciplinary group of judiciary and General Services Administration officials working to improve and make more consistent GSA's delivery of services to the judiciary in their role as landlord to the federal courts. Mr. Harlan's group focused on developing better forecasting tools for energy usage, enhancing opportunities to reduce tenant overtime energy costs, and exploring options to encourage greater energy savings within the judiciary. Mr. Harlan co-chaired the group with Judge Gregory K. Frizzel of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma and James Mullins of the GSA.

In June 2015, Mr. Harlan presented the group's findings to the Space and Facilities Committee of the U.S. Judicial Conference, the national governing body for federal courts. Key recommendations included modifications to the process by which GSA estimates overtime utility costs; an internal judiciary guide for best practices for server room design and sub-metering; and policy proposals for sharing energy cost savings between the judiciary and GSA.

“Cliff has done remarkable work in strengthening the judiciary’s partnership with GSA,” said Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, who concurred in Harlan’s nomination for the award.

“When fully implemented, the recommendations made by this group will significantly improve the services GSA provides to the judiciary,” he said.

As the assistant circuit executive for space and facilities, Mr. Harlan and his staff provide project management and assistance in all phases of building projects within the Ninth Circuit. These services include programming, planning, budgeting and coordination with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Marshals Service and the GSA. Past projects include new courthouses in San Diego and Fresno, California; Eugene, Oregon; and Billings, Montana. Current projects include a 600,000-square-foot courthouse under construction in downtown Los Angeles.

Mr. Harlan, who received his B.A. in architecture from Princeton University, is a licensed architect with more than 25 years of experience. Prior to becoming the assistant circuit executive in 2008, he had been the circuit architect working on various court building projects. Before joining the judiciary, he had worked in the private sector in the San Francisco Bay area.

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