



Office of the District Court Executive

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**CHIEF JUDGE LORETTA A. PRESKA AND CONGRESSMAN JOSÉ E. SERRANO ANNOUNCE FUNDING FOR
NEW SECURITY PAVILION AT UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

Loretta A. Preska, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (SDNY), and Congressman José E. Serrano (NY-15) announced today that the court received \$10.44 million to build a security pavilion outside the Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, located at 500 Pearl Street in Lower Manhattan.

"We gather here today to celebrate a success of bipartisan government action to improve the security of our courthouse and of the people who come here every day to do business," said Chief Judge Preska. "We have been pursuing the means to construct this pavilion since September 11, and today's triumph is long overdue."

The pavilion will enhance security at and speed entry to the busy federal courthouse, home of many high-profile proceedings. The project was conceived after 9/11, but funding for the pavilion was not found until recently.

Congressman Serrano, who was instrumental in appropriating funds for the project, said: "I was happy to be able to intercede on the Moynihan Courthouse's behalf from my seat on the Appropriations Committee. We know that keeping our federal buildings secure is of the utmost importance, especially one with high sensitivity trials involving national security like Moynihan. Waiting years after 9/11 was unacceptable." No new appropriation was made to fund the pavilion; funds were reprogrammed from completed or cancelled projects.

Other key representatives who helped secure funding for the project were also on hand for today's announcement:

"This new security pavilion is an essential modernization of the Moynihan Courthouse that will ensure that Manhattan's federal court is a safe space for all who use it," said Congressman Jerrold Nadler (NY-10). "For the wheels of justice to operate smoothly, it is vital that our courthouses be secure. This is especially true in my district in Lower Manhattan, where we are still very much living in the shadow of 9/11."

Representative Peter King (NY-2), said: "As the leading terrorist target, New York's security is essential. I am proud to have played a part in ensuring funds for the Moynihan Federal Courthouse's new security pavilion. It is imperative that all those who work for justice can do so in a secure environment."

The U.S. General Services Administration will oversee construction, which is slated to begin in October and completed in April 2015. The 4,500 square foot glass and steel structure will be situated on the west side of the courthouse.

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