



U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Press Release

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Contact: Gary Mote or

Mildred Quinley 404-331-3200

GSA Awards Construction Contract for New Armed Forces Retirement Home

ATLANTA – The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) announces the award of the Design Build Services in connection with the replacement project for the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) in Gulfport, Mississippi, to Yates Construction of Biloxi, Mississippi in the amount of \$188,883,476 dollars. Public Law 109-234 appropriated most of the funding for construction of the new facility and designated GSA as the lead construction agent on behalf of AFRH and the Department of Defense.

The Yates Design/Build Team is made up of W. G. Yates & Sons Construction Company, URS Corporation, and SFCS. Located in Biloxi Mississippi, Yates is the 23rd largest contractor in the United States and 2nd in multi-unit Residential according to Engineering News Record. URS Corporation who will provide design and engineering services is the largest architecture and engineering design firm according to Engineering News Record. SFCS will serve as the lead architect and is recognized experts in the design of senior care facilities in the United States.

Hundreds of veterans that lived at the AFRH-G facility were evacuated and relocated after the destructive winds and storm surge of Hurricane Katrina forced the closure of their home in August 2005. Now, the 11-story high rise overlooking the sandy beaches of the Mississippi Gulf Coast is undergoing remediation and ultimately demolition, which is expected to be completed January 2008. Yates will take over the site at that time and the construction of the new facility will begin.

This is a major milestone to reach in this project. The goal is to not only build a new facility for our country's veterans - a place they are proud to call 'home' - but for it to be a place that captures the spirit of the veterans and maintains their proud military heritage, now and for generations to come.

The timeframe for the Design Build Services phase is as follows:

- Design Services commence September 2007
- Construction commence January 2008
- Substantial completion July 2010."

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