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Architects & Planners LLP

3307 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20007
202 333-8000
202 333-8843 (Fax)

11 June 2009

Mr. Robert A. Aird
Robert A. Aird, Inc.
5711 Industry Lane, Suite 29A
Frederick, MD 21704

Re: DC Court of Appeals

Dear Rob:

I want to take this opportunity to commend you and your organization on the wonderful job you did restoring the plaster in the Old DC Courthouse renovation for the DC Court of Appeals. As you know, the plaster walls, ceilings, and trim in the building were in horrendous condition from decades of neglect. You have done a tremendous job restoring the plaster with the intricate mouldings, patterns and designs that were there as well as replicating existing designs in such a way that the building has been restored back to the jewel it was after its most recent major renovation in 1917. The building is truly beautiful and the plaster work is one of the most important elements in having restored the building to its former glory.

Your on site team, led by Elmer Funes, demonstrated their craftsmanship and professionalism every day through a long, difficult process under trying conditions. They are to be commended for their work and they and you should be proud of the role you played in bringing back to life such a significant, historical site in Washington, DC. Of all of the trades involved in the project, I hold your team and your work at or near the top of all the work done on the job. The level of craftsmanship and quality in their work demonstrated that they and you took pride in your work and were willing to do what it takes to do a job right. You all demonstrated that you understood, appreciated, and respected the historic nature of the building and the building fabric that you were asked to restore.

The Court of Appeals personnel are very pleased with how the building came out. You all played a major part in that. Again, I wish to commend you and your team and I hope that we will have the opportunity to work together on a project again in the future.

Sincerely,

Chris E. Wiley, AIA, LEED AP
Associate
Manager of Construction Administration