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For more information contact: Leah Gurowitz 202/879-1700

D.C. COURTS TO ABATE LEAD PAINT IN COURT BUILDING A -- CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION PROGRAM, PROBATE DIVISION, AND SOME CIVIL COURTROOMS TO MOVE TO MOULTRIE COURTHOUSE TEMPORARILY --

As part of a routine test upon commencing external renovation on Court Building A, the D.C. Courts have found elevated lead levels in a number of tested areas inside the building. Although the air quality of the building has been tested and determined to be safe, the Courts have hired an environmental contractor to clean immediately all areas of the building. As an extra precaution, Court Building A will be closed for approximately two weeks, beginning today, while the cleaning takes place.

Court Building A contains four courtrooms, in which all probate and some civil cases are heard. The building also houses court offices, including the Probate and Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Divisions, the Crime Victims Compensation Program, and the Supervised Visitation Center, as well as the Board of Professional Responsibility and Bar Counsel. These functions will be shifted to other locations which will be listed on the D.C. Courts' website www.dccourts.gov.

The D.C. Courts are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for their employees, parties with cases before the court, and other members of the public. While this short-term building closure will cause some level of inconvenience, it will ensure that the building remains healthy and safe.