

OPENING STATEMENT

The Honorable José Serrano
Chairman, Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee
House Committee on Appropriations

Hearing on the General Services Administration
Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Request
April 28, 2010

The subcommittee will come to order. Today we hear testimony on the fiscal year 2011 budget request of the General Services Administration - GSA.

We welcome Administrator Martha Johnson, who was confirmed this February, to discuss the agency's fiscal year 2011 budget submission. Ms. Johnson served as co-lead for the Obama Presidential Transition Agency Review Team for GSA. Among other positions, she served as GSA Chief of Staff from 1996 to 2001, under then-Administrator David Barram. From 1993 to 1996, she was Assistant Deputy Secretary at the Department of Commerce. Congratulations on your confirmation. We are glad to have an Administrator in place and are happy to have you here for your first hearing before us.

The GSA has been supporting federal agencies and their workers since 1949 by acquiring goods and providing services and facilities to support the needs of those agencies. The GSA performs a wide range of services from the construction of border patrol stations to the management of many e-gov initiatives. Additionally, the GSA coordinates and evaluates government-wide policies related to the management of government property, technology and administrative services.

The Recovery Act provided GSA with \$5.55 billion for green projects, new construction including federal courthouses, land ports of entry, and initial construction of the DHS Consolidated Headquarters on St. Elizabeth's campus in D.C. This project, at 4.5 million total square feet, is the single largest commission in GSA's history. I look forward to a discussion of GSA's continuing implementation of the Recovery Act funds.

The Administration is requesting \$674.8 million in discretionary funding for FY 2011, which is a 13.5 percent increase over FY 2010. Given the President's freeze on non-security discretionary spending, we will need to take a close look at all agency requests for increases.

Administrator Johnson, this subcommittee looks forward to the remarks you will make today. I'd like to ask that you please keep your opening statement to five minutes. Your entire written statement will be submitted for the record.

At this time, I would like to recognize the subcommittee's ranking Member, Mrs. Emerson for any opening remarks she may wish to make.
