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WICHITA FIRM WINS \$4.7 MILLION CONTRACT FOR NEW VA REGIONAL OFFICE BUILDING; "ONE CENTRALIZED LOCATION FOR WICHITA AREA VETERANS," SAYS DOLE

Washington, D.C. -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that Breckco Construction, Inc., Wichita, has been awarded a \$4.7 million contract to construct a VA administrative office building at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Wichita.

The new two-story building will be located adjacent to the VA Medical Center, located at 5500 East Kellogg. The permanent colocation of the Regional Office and the Medical Center will help to eliminate existing operating and space deficiencies. current Regional Office is located at 901 George Washington Boulevard.

"The bottomline is that it's good news for the veterans. There will be one centralized location for all veteran services whether they need paperwork or medical assistance. Veterans will now have greater accessibility without having to go back and forth between the two current facilities," said Dole. "And let's face it, it's just common sense to have these two services at the same location. It's a cost-effective move."

The contract, \$4,727,762, was awarded by the Department of Veteran's Affairs through the Small Business Administration. It is one of several steps that Secretary Edward Derwinski is taking in determining the needs of veterans' while also following the budget trimming process that all federal departments must contend with this year. In the area of medical services for veterans, however, the department's budget has been increased by \$1 billion for FY91 from last year.

Breckco Construction, Inc. has been in the Wichita area for 18 years.