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press statement regarding Trump construction sign outside the Old Post Office

1 message

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The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) routinely allows signage to be placed on major construction sites informing the public about what is occurring and who is doing it. At present, there is signage in front of the historic Old Post Office in downtown Washington indicating that it is being converted to a luxury hotel by the Trump Organization. This sign complies with GSA regulations regarding size and placement. Since it is temporary, it does not require review and approval by either the National Capital Planning Commission or the Commission of Fine Arts.

GSA awarded a long term ground lease to the Trump Organization in 2014 to convert the Old Post office from a combined office/retail facility to a luxury hotel. This was done under Section 111 of the National Historic Preservation Act, mandating preservation and restoration of the building's historic features. When the lease expires, the building will revert to GSA control. The new hotel is scheduled to be opened in 2016. When it opens, the construction sign will be removed and permanent signage approved by the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts will be in place.

"This is the second historic building in Washington, DC, that GSA has managed to preserve and restore at no cost to the American taxpayer," commented Mafara Hobson (title). "This demonstrates GSA's commitment to preserving our nation's heritage and finding innovative ways to finance doing so."