

Architecture
Planning
Interiors
Project Management



Rothe-Johnson-Fantacone

November 19, 1998

Honorable Eugene D. Serpentelli
Assignment Judge
Superior Court of New Jersey
Ocean County Court House
118 Washington Street
Toms River, New Jersey 08754

**Re: Ocean County Court House
Renovation of East and Central Wings
RJF #97186**

Dear Judge Serpentelli:

Enclosed you will find sketches SK-7G and revised SK-8 indicating the latest layouts of the historic courtroom and the reflected ceiling plan.

As we had discussed, the courtroom layout shows the inclusion of a backdrop curtain, in back of the bench, in the case noise and echoes should become a problem with all the hard surfaces that the restoration will present. You will note with the inclusion of the curtain, we cannot locate the bench back into the proscenium opening, as previously contemplated, since when drawn it will be on the top of the Judge's head. Also, we need circulation room between the bench/seating area and the curtain for the Judges to access their stations.

I suspect that this is the best we are going to do with the curtain element included, and I would be reluctant to delete the curtain for fear of sound problems generated by the hard surfaces and the shape of the apse.

Please review and we will finalize upon your return.

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In the meantime, in view of the schedule, we will start to develop initial construction drawings and details for those court areas that have been accepted.

Very truly yours,

William L Thole, AIA
Consulting Partner

WLT/cr
VIA UPS OVERNIGHT DELIVERY
cc: Mr. Joseph J. Harding, Director, Department of Management & Budget
Mr. Allan R. Johnson, AIA, Rothe Johnson Fantacone

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