

**MULTNOMAH BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**Board of Directors Resolution**  
**Dated: March 7, 2006**

WHEREAS:

1. Multnomah County Commissioners Naito and Rojo de Steffey have, on February 24, 2006, introduced a resolution calling for the county “to acquire a site as the first step towards constructing a new facility for the Fourth Judicial District Circuit Court in, or in proximity to, downtown Portland’s Government Center area by December 31, 2006”; and

2. The Commission’s resolution further calls for development of a preliminary plan for such site acquisition within 60-days; and

3. The proposed resolution further observes that ORS 203.135 grants to the county “the power of eminent domain . . . to acquire any right or interest in real property for . . . public building or public institution purposes”; and

4. The existing courthouse was originally constructed between 1911 and 1914 and has long since become both inadequate and unsafe for conducting court business and maintaining a correctional facility; and

5. Repeated studies of the needs of the county and the community document the need for a new courthouse facility; and

6. The Multnomah Bar Association has consistently advocated on behalf of the community for the acquisition of a site for, and the construction of, a new downtown courthouse facility; and

7. It is fit and proper that the county acquire a suitable site for a new courthouse in this, the centennial year of the Multnomah Bar Association;

THEREFORE, the board of directors of the Multnomah Bar Association RESOLVES:

1. To support the adoption of the resolution by the full County Commission at its March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; and
2. To authorize the president of the board of directors or his designee to attend the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Commission to present testimony in support of the above-referenced resolution; and
3. To support the use of the county’s power of eminent domain to acquire a site for a new courthouse in, or in proximity to, Portland’s Government Center, should the exercise of such power be necessary to the acquisition of such site;

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2006

/s/ Kelly T. Hagan, President