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MEDIA CONTACT:
Sheree Noble
Kevcon, Inc.
(760) 432-0307

KEVCON, INC. RENOVATES LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY
Company Set To Begin Challenging Major Project At Dallas VA Medical Center

Escondido, Calif., December 2, 2011 – Kevcon, Inc., a firm that specializes in providing general contracting and construction management services for federal, state and city government projects, will begin a major renovation of the Long Term Care (LTC) facility at the Dallas VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Dallas, Texas, in early 2012. The Dallas VAMC, which serves as the referral center for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) North Texas Health Care System, has offered veterans and their families access to the LTC facility since 1985. With minimal renovation work done over the last 25 years, the one-story building is due for an interior remodel that will not only improve its aesthetics, but also the way it functions—and the process itself promises to pose some logistical challenges that Kevcon is already tackling.

“The focus of this project is to increase the number of patient toilet rooms, construct additional nurse stations and storage areas and improve the building’s energy efficiency by replacing the original lighting fixtures with more efficient LED fixtures,” explains David Shanks, project manager for Kevcon, Inc. “As this is a working hospital and construction will be taking place while the majority of the building is occupied, there are several challenges that the project management team will be addressing.”

While 10 percent of the facility’s patient rooms have private bathrooms, the other 90 percent of rooms share a toilet room. The goal is to demolish 24 existing bathrooms and expand the building footprint in order to build 48 new patient toilet rooms. In addition, the existing 10 private bathrooms will be remodeled to match the new toilet rooms. What’s more, Kevcon will construct four new nurse stations throughout the facility; the two current nurse stations will be demolished to make way for patient and visitor lounge areas, while four indoor courtyards will be filled in and transformed into the new nurse stations. The end result will give the nursing staff more convenient access to patients, and vice versa. Finally, the LTC facility’s outdated corridor and non-corridor lighting will be replaced with LED lighting; the change, which will involve 196 new LED down lighting fixtures being installed in the corridors and 316 similar fixtures being placed in non-corridor spaces, will save money and benefit the environment while improving the overall look and feel of the interior space.

Planning and preparation will be key to ensuring that the renovation project does not disturb operations at the LTC facility over the next several months. The Kevcon team has already identified three main goals while outlining the phasing of the project: to provide access and egress of construction personnel and materials to the work areas, to mitigate the presence of

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noise, dust and inconvenience to hospital staff and patients and to coordinate with hospital administration to assist in staff scheduling and planning for patient room vacancies.

“As we work on this project, we want to show that we are able to tackle a challenging project in coordination with the owner of the property while still allowing that owner to operate and manage the facility during the construction process,” Shanks notes. “Construction and operating a facility are not normally two things that go together, but with constant communication among everyone involved, we’ll prove that it can be done.”

Work on the LTC facility renovation will begin in winter of 2012, with a completion timeframe set for late summer or fall.

About Kevcon, Inc.

Founded in 1988, Kevcon, Inc. is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business that offers construction and engineering, construction management, design-build services and more for a wide array of federal, state and city government projects, including veterans’ medical facilities, national veterans’ cemeteries, community parks and education buildings. As a veteran-owned, controlled and operated company, the firm is dedicated to employing qualified veterans who possess the applicable education, experience and skill to support Kevcon’s core competency. The recipient of the 2011 San Diego District Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Kevcon is recognized in the industry for its exemplary work, high ethical and safety standards and outstanding customer service. For more information, call (760) 432-0307 or visit www.kevcon.us.

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