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KEVCON, INC. BEGINS TENANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN HOUSTON
Company moves forward with challenging renovation at Houston VA Medical Center

Escondido, Calif., April 2, 2012 – Kevcon, Inc., a firm that specializes in providing general contracting and construction management services for federal, state and city government projects, recently began a major renovation of the Gastrointestinal (GI) Department of the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Houston, Texas. The \$2.5 million tenant improvement project involves the reconfiguration of 12,000 square feet of space on the third floor of the six-story building and will consolidate vital components of the department, such as GI examination and procedure rooms, patient recovery areas and staff offices, which currently are located in non-adjacent spaces. Moving forward, the Kevcon team will face certain logistical challenges with the three-phase project, which must be completed on the middle floor of an occupied, working hospital that will continue to function while the renovation is underway.

“For the Department of Veterans Affairs, patient care is the number one priority. Because the VA is our client, patient care becomes our responsibility and number one priority as well,” notes David Shanks, AC, project manager for Kevcon, Inc. “With this project, we will be able to show the VA that we can take a complicated project and tackle it while keeping in mind their unique perspective and meeting their objective when it comes to maintaining excellent patient care.”

During the first phase of the project, Kevcon will begin the demolition of the key area being renovated and concentrate on remodeling the space for the department’s Bronchoscopy and GI examination and surgery rooms, patient and family waiting areas and recovery spaces. The second phase of work will shift the focus to completing new offices that will replace the current ones being used by the medical staff; the final phase will allow the team to demolish and remodel the vacated former offices, which will be transformed into additional functional space in the main area of the department.

For the Kevcon project management team, the key to making the project work will be a highly coordinated effort not only with the VA, but also with hospital administration to make certain that normal daily activities are not disrupted during the construction process. According to Shanks, ensuring proper traffic control of construction personnel and materials to and from the project site is of the utmost importance, as the team will often have to use the same hallways as the medical staff and patients. In addition, the mitigation of noise and dust in the sterile hospital environment will be addressed, as will the best way to phase the project to assist staff members as they relocate from their old offices to the newly renovated ones. Guidelines and rules are being

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established to make the process as seamless as possible, from scheduling deliveries and trash removal at specific low-traffic times at the hospital to setting up a negative pressure vacuum system to keep air—and by extension dust—inside the project zone.

“Our ultimate goal is to have a happy client,” Shanks says. “We want to make this process as painless as possible for everyone involved. So, our job is to get this project done on time, within budget and in a way that is satisfactory to the VA and convenient for the entire hospital staff.”

Once completed, the GI department will not only reside in a functional, state-of-the art facility, but it also will be warm and inviting for patients, families and visitors. Carpeting, wood finishes and a home-style color palette will be used to create a hospitable environment; Kevcon will work with architecture firm Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, LP, and an array of subcontractors to achieve the VA’s vision and bring the project to fruition. With work beginning in April a 180-day timeframe set by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the project is slated for completion by early fall 2012.

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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