

Boone County Fire Protection District

Headquarters Facility, Columbia, Missouri



The reception area provides a friendly atmosphere welcoming visitors to the headquarters.



The C.E.O. office accommodates a variety of activities.



The spacious boardroom is used for both private and public meetings.

Photographs by Deanna Dikeman



A precast concrete semi-circular wall acts as a backdrop for a sculpture from the statue side and a view-framing portal element from the building side.

The Headquarters Facility for the Boone County Fire Protection District consolidated the variety of administrative and maintenance activities and spaces, previously used throughout the city and county, into one central location. This two-phase project, formerly an insurance claim center and mail distribution facility, now houses all of the administrative functions of the Fire District. A new federal disaster task force warehouse and the maintenance garage/warehouse for the district's vehicle fleet, along with leasable space and miscellaneous storage round out the space allocation for this facility.

One of the first challenges of the project was to provide a single

identifiable public entry to the building and change its appearance, while not adding enclosed square footage to the building. The existing building utilized a garage in front of the main entry points to support claim evaluations, making it more inviting to cars than people. The addition of the "Volunteer Plaza" brought a monumental gathering area together with the main entry to change the character and appearance of the building while focusing attention to one specific point. This also allowed the headquarters to honor the volunteers, past and future that will support the Fire District through the commissioning of a statue for the center of the plaza.

