

legal publishers, news organizations, educational institutions, and Government agencies moments after the materials are released. GPO makes this information public through its Federal Bulletin Board. The Court's new Web site did not replace the Hermes system, and access to orders and "bench" opinions of the Court continues to be provided through a link to the Federal Bulletin Board. Slip opinions are posted on the new Web site within hours after the "bench" opinions are transmitted to Hermes subscribers.

GPO's provision of technical support for the Supreme Court Web site demonstrates the variety of Web services GPO offers to its customers, including Web hosting, page design, page hosting, publishing, publishing training, site design, and site hosting services. In addition to the Court site, GPO hosts 17 Web sites for other Federal entities, including the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board, the General Accounting Office, and the Office of Management and Budget.

GPO-Designed Publication Wins Award

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced that *Medical Guidelines*, a brochure series designed by GPO's Typography and Design Division for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Health and Human Services, was selected to receive a Federal Design Achievement Award.

The award was in the Graphic Design category of the Presidential Design Awards 2000, fifth Quadrennial Competition, which recognizes excellence in Federal design in a variety of fields. A jury of designers, engineers, and architects selected the series from among 332 entries, which were evaluated using the criteria of purpose, leadership, performance, aesthetics, and cost.

The project was one of only 35 to receive the NEA's highest award. The award was presented in April 2000, at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Clean Opinion Received in Independent Audit of FY 1999 Finances

For the third consecutive year, GPO received an "unqualified opinion" in a comprehensive, independent audit of its financial operations, completed in early 2000 by the nationally recognized accounting firm KPMG LLP.

Under contract with the General Accounting Office, KPMG conducted a thorough audit of GPO's financial statements for FY 1999, concluding that they "are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles."

An "unqualified opinion" is "the highest level of assurance that an audit firm can give on financial statements," said Paul M. Geraty, KPMG partner and spokesman for the auditing team, in reporting his findings to GPO officials. Geraty reiterated that the audit results were "very, very positive."

The FY 1999 audit was the third consecutive financial audit since an annual audit requirement for GPO was enacted by Congress in 1996.

The KPMG audit "noted no instances of material noncompliance with laws and regulations we tested," although it recommended the establishment of certain data processing controls. The 1999 financial audit findings continued GPO's trend of "unqualified" audit opinions—the best that auditors can issue. KPMG audits of GPO's 1997 and 1998 finances each produced an "unqualified" opinion.

The recent financial audits followed a sweeping management audit of GPO by Booz-Allen & Hamilton, Inc., in 1998. In addition to validating strong customer support for GPO's operations in Congress, Federal agencies, and the public, Booz-Allen concluded that "the financial management history at GPO demonstrates that the agency has had considerable experience as a business-oriented operation." Booz-Allen also said "GPO has been a leader in providing Congress accrual-based accounting and financial statements," noting that the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990 requires all executive branch agencies to implement accrual-based accounting systems.