

THOLOS

VOLUME 30

SENATE MOVES

Stronger Together

HOUSE MOVES

Suite Stakes

FEATURE

On the Move



TABLE OF CONTENTS



4

SHOPTALK
Tools of the Trade

6

SENATE MOVES
Stronger Together

12

HOUSE MOVES
Suite Stakes

20

FEATURE
On the Move

Moonshot

A view of the total lunar eclipse (blood moon) in March 2025 near the U.S. Capitol's Senate Pediment.

According to NASA, "during a total lunar eclipse, Earth lines up between the moon and the sun, hiding the moon from sunlight. When this happens, the only light that reaches the moon's surface is from the edges of the Earth's atmosphere. The air molecules from Earth's atmosphere scatter out most of the blue light. The remaining light reflects onto the moon's surface with a red glow, making the moon appear red in the night sky."





SHOPTALK

Tools of the Trade

The AOC's Capitol Building Sheet Metal Shop craftspeople utilize traditional, handheld tools alongside current technologies to shape, fit and repair metalworks.

BY MADELEINE LUCCHETTI
PHOTOGRAPHY BY THOMAS HATZENBUHLER
& JAMES ROSENTHAL

Capitol Building Sheet Metal Shop



“We’re working in the U.S. Capitol. We get to be part of history; we see the old-school methods that helped shape the trade and the building itself.”

JASON STONE, SHEET METAL MECHANIC SUPERVISOR



DEEP NOTCH STAPLER

This tool can be used to fasten materials and create flexible ducts. Stapling the canvas reduces vibration in a duct line, especially in machines that produce more noise. Used internally in a multipart system, stapling can eliminate whirring or clanging, quieting an entire machine.



MALLET

Newer versions of this tool are available, but many take a shine to this decades-old tool that precedes the most veteran Capitol Building metal workers. In sheet metalworking, a mallet is used to smooth creases and hammer out dimples. Conversely, they can create dents or visual effects to mimic aging.



COMPASSES

In an increasingly digital world, traditional compasses are hard to find in sheet metal shops. But the experts here believe they are vital in metal crafting and use them often: for finding circumferences, bisecting a circle or fabricating something with radial lines.



SHEET METAL TONGS

This small, simple tool is the team’s most used. The tongs have adjustable screws that bend the metal at different depths consistently. Alongside a tape measure, Stone believes mastery of these tongs is one of the most important skills for a sheet metal worker.



SENATE MOVES

Stronger Together

WRITTEN BY ERIN NELSON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RODNEY NORMAN

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) manages the office moves process for Members of Congress. On the Senate side of campus, that work falls under the Senate Office Buildings jurisdiction. It manages the suite selection process, suite designs and renovations as well as the move process for senators who select new offices and newly elected senators. The selection process is based on seniority. As senators make suite selections, AOC staff are assigned to specific Senate moves, serving as move coordinators to oversee the process. As of June 2025, the Senate jurisdiction has successfully completed 29 of 32 moves.

Every shop within the Senate Office Buildings is involved in the congressional moves, which ensures that all senators have an office set up to meet the needs of their constituents. The large effort also requires support from other AOC jurisdictions and offices, including the Office of the Chief Engineer, Construction Execution Branch, Information Technology Division, and the Photography and Technical Imaging Branch.

This significant undertaking requires close collaboration, constant communication and the ability to coordinate dozens of details from one move to the next — all while managing the shops' regular day-to-day responsibilities. Learn more about the process and shops involved that make moves possible after each congressional election cycle.



WHO

Every shop within the Senate Office Buildings jurisdiction is involved in the congressional moves process.

Air Conditioning Shop
Audio Visual Electronics Shop
Electrical Shop
Facilities Support Division
Fire Electronics Shop
Floor Care Shop
Furniture Shop
Labor and Custodial Operations Shop
Masonry Shop
Paint and Refinishing Shop
Plumbing Shop
Service Center
Sheet Metal Shop
Upholstery Shop
Wood Crafting Shop

WHAT

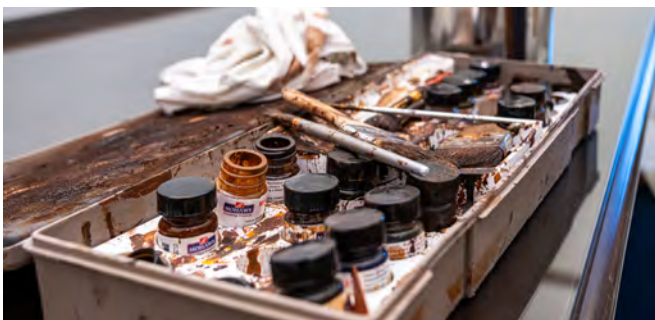
The Senate Office Buildings jurisdiction manages the congressional moves process for senators from beginning to end, including suite selection, designs and renovations.



WHEN

Every two years following an election, suite selection occurs over three months beginning in late November.







Photography by Rodney Norman & Thomas Hatzenbuehler

WHERE

The Senate Office Buildings jurisdiction is responsible for overseeing moves in all three Senate office buildings.

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

First occupied in 1982 | 1,271,020 square feet

Despite mixed architectural reviews, the contemporary design of the Hart Building made strides in planning, circulation, and adaptability, reinventing and redefining the congressional office building.

DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

First occupied in 1958 | 750,520 square feet

Design features of the Dirksen Building reflected modern developments, including an auditorium with modifications for television, a telephone exchange system and a fluorescent lighting system.

RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

First occupied in 1909 | 698,921 square feet

A modern building for its time, the Russell Building boasted such amenities as a forced-air ventilation system, steam heat, individual lavatories with hot and cold running water, telephones in every office, and electricity on many circuits.



HOUSE MOVES

Suite Stakes

Office selection is luck of the draw.
But preparation leaves nothing to chance.

BY MADELEINE LUCCHETTI | PHOTOGRAPHY BY SEAN GREENE

Before the buzz of swearing-in ceremonies and inaugural celebrations, Members and their staff identify the office spaces where they'll work during their term.

Once there's a firm count of Members who will be departing due to retirement, resignation or election loss, a select number of House offices across three buildings, Cannon, Longworth and Rayburn, are available for selection by incumbent Members. Much like other sought-after real estate, there's high demand for offices with the best views, biggest windows and most floor space. Those closest to the Capitol, and those formerly occupied by historic and noteworthy Members — or sometimes, even family members — are also coveted.

In the weeks between the general election in November and the start of the new Congress on January 3, the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) House Office Buildings (HOB) partners with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to meet with Members and their staff. Together, the teams review and update floor plans before the lotteries begin.

The Lottery

The stakes aren't as high as they are in the famous short story "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson or a big jackpot, but the lottery still inspires a lot of jitters for returning and new Members. Incumbent Members are ranked by seniority and can choose new offices first. They are separated by congressional class and pull numbers over a five-day lottery. Freshman Members then select an office from those remaining during a similar single-day lottery in which a randomized selection order determines who gets to pull the first number out of a wooden box. This year, Joe Yates, Executive Director of Facilities Operations, HOB, and Kornell Rancy, Deputy Executive Director of Facilities Operations, HOB, led the spirited events. As each Member's number was read aloud, the room erupted in groans of commiseration or cheers and high-fives.



AOC team members carefully preside over the office lottery process, ensuring each available office space is reflected in the pool.



Kornell Rancy displays the chip selected moments before by a Member who will choose fourth in the lineup.



▼ Henry Torres and Maurice Foxx keep a flow of boxes moving. A Member office functions as a home on Capitol Hill, so it's common for Congress to bring mementos from their states and districts.

In the months leading up to the general election, the AOC determines a location for the lottery, runs the numbers to calculate Member seniority, and updates the suite selection website (which allows Members to browse available suites through 360-degree tours and can be filtered by amenities and building features).

Clearly, much has been digitized; the current lottery system is a modernized version of a very historic tradition. The House Suite Selection process began in 1908, when the 60th Congress gathered as a page plucked names and numbers from a box. The Members then examined floor plans pinned to blackboards and chose their offices. Ever since, every Member has received an office — which is more than earlier Congresses could say. Before the construction of the Cannon House Office Building was completed in 1908, Members worked from their desks in the House Chamber of the Capitol Building.

With the construction and opening of new office buildings across campus, the

moves process evolved to its current status as a well-oiled machine. Dubbed a “move chain,” it’s a sequence of steps set in motion when a suite is vacated and then selected by an incumbent Member or a Member-Elect. A move chain begins when a departing Member moves from their suite and ends when a Member-Elect’s office is set up. When it’s time to move a Member, the HOB team experiences its fair share of nerves, too. Before a single box can be moved, there’s a checklist of tasks to complete.

Trading Spaces

Once the lottery is finished, the AOC and CAO jointly assign a two-person Move Coordinator (MC) team — one from the AOC and one from the CAO — for each returning Member move and all new Member office setups.

The AOC MC team member functions as a liaison between a Member office and any pertinent AOC responsibilities (e.g., carpentry, locksmithing, waste management, electrical work, paint). Folks like project managers, engineers and architects

DID YOU KNOW?



3,800+
work orders
submitted



192
total moves and
new member setups

come from their typical HOB duties to become MCs. They act as seasonal specialists and return to their normal job duties once the moves are complete.

Brian Bradley, a Facilities Operations Specialist, worked as a Senior Move Coordinator throughout this most recent transition. “One of the greatest sources of motivation for me during a transition has been the knowledge that all of us have committed to working tirelessly, side by side, to ensure a smooth and successful transition,” Bradley said. “The months of preparation and training have prepared us well for the demanding schedule of six days a week and 10-to-12-hour workdays, for weeks on end.”

Bradley and other MCs partner with Field Coordinators to ensure hands-on involvement at every step of the process. The moves schedule is highly choreographed to ensure multiple move crews aren’t trying to use the same elevators or hallways. Painting can’t begin until everything is out. Plumbing and HVAC need to be inspected to ensure repairs won’t interrupt the move-in.



Gamal Traore delivers packed boxes of personal belongings to a Member office.

MANY MOVING PARTS

The moves are a science, with AOC teams responsible for:

- Removing pictures and shelves
- Relocating power for new suite layouts
- Changing or re-lamping lights
- Repairing plaster and painting suites
- Changing locks and providing keys
- Moving boxes, flags and pictures
- Cleaning rooms
- Installing Member name plaques and state seals
- Hanging pictures, shelves and televisions
- Tapping in new water filtration lines for water filtration systems
- Installing cable and legislative clocks
- Shredding papers and recycling items



Move teams make Members’ new offices feel like home. Relocating art and other wall hangings was a mighty task, but Yolanda Brown-Wheeler met it with a smile.

▼
Curtis Amburgey
replaced a steam
radiator isolation
valve in the
Longworth House
Office Building.



Each turnover comes with its own set of challenges (especially with ongoing renovations like the Cannon Renewal project), and Kendra Powell, an HOB Building Inspector who served as a Field Coordinator during the moves, says the key to success is communicating well.

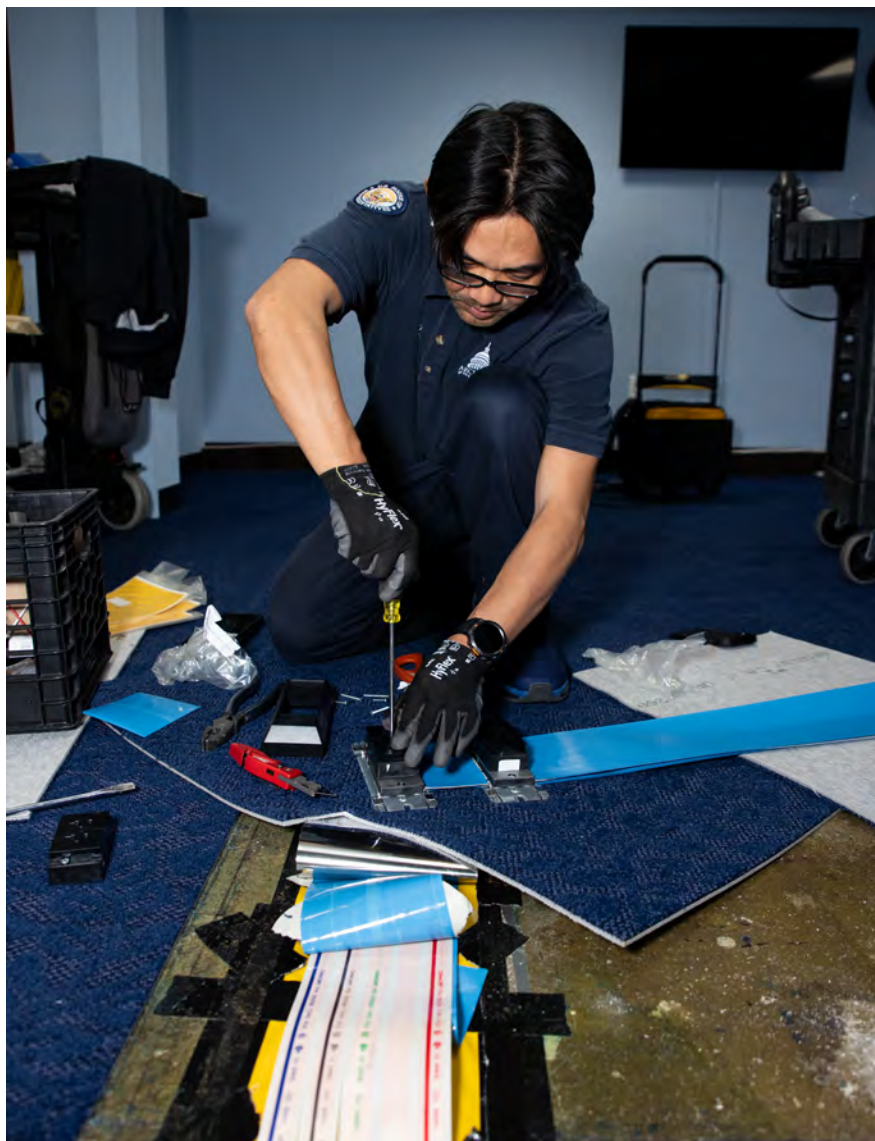
“Given the diverse range of individuals involved during the moves — each with their own personalities, characteristics and generational perspectives — it’s very important to adapt or tailor how we communicate to ensure the information given is understood clearly,” Powell said. “I would rather over-communicate than under-communicate.”

The work involves carpenters, plumbers, electricians, heating and cooling technicians, painters, plasterers, locksmiths, masons, laborers and custodial workers. Everyone has a job — or two — to do. HOB’s Kristen Frederick, who oversees House committee and Member transitions, described each as a staggering amount of work.

“The AOC’s involvement in the House Transition is truly a team effort — it encompasses nearly every member of the HOB jurisdiction and requires vast amounts of institutional knowledge, coordination with other House support

“The AOC’s involvement in the House Transition is truly a team effort — it encompasses nearly every member of the HOB jurisdiction and requires vast amounts of institutional knowledge, coordination with other House support agencies, and continual engagement with Members and staff.”

KRISTEN FREDERICK
House Committee and Member
Transition Program Officer



Electrician Norman Ardis Trinidad ensures power strips and outlets are fitted seamlessly into office carpeting.

DID YOU KNOW?



3,120
gallons of
paint used



4,000+
new keys cut



▼
Shiny office keys, organized by building, await new Members and their staff on swearing-in day of the new Congress.

agencies, and continual engagement with Members and staff,” Frederick said. “While the work is physically exhausting, it’s also satisfying to know that we played a role in ensuring that a new Congress is ready to begin working for the American people on day one.”

In a grueling few weeks, the AOC’s participation in the Congressional Transition ensures fair, coordinated and organized moves at one of the busiest and most exciting times on Capitol Hill.

Together, HOB and CAO completed 127 House moves for returning Members and 65 new Member office setups after the 2024 election.

“It’s truly inspiring to witness how everyone is dedicated to their roles and comes together to make sure that everything runs smoothly,” Bradley said. “The unity and teamwork displayed as we prepare for the new Congress to take office is a testament to our collective commitment to service and excellence.”

Even when the last Members are settled into their spaces, the next cycle isn’t too far away. Planning and preparations for the 120th Congressional Transition are already underway.

“I honestly look forward to the moves every other year,” Powell remarked. “They’re an opportunity to work and connect with different people and share their excitement – this is an experience they’ll never forget.”



FEATURE

ON THE MOVE

WRITTEN BY ERIN NELSON

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PHOTOGRAPHY AND TECHNICAL IMAGING BRANCH

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) plays a vital role in the congressional moves process every two years, requiring coordination across the Capitol campus to ensure a successful start for each new Congress.

AOC employees work around the clock and touch nearly every space on the Capitol campus. They support events both large and small, but much of that work is done behind the scenes, including efforts related to congressional moves.

From the obvious logistics of moving boxes and furniture to the more obscure roles of facilitating the turnover of new keys to excited staff and creating detailed virtual tours of Member offices on campus, the AOC's jurisdictions work with many

supporting offices to ensure a seamless transition from one Congress to another.

The work is extensive — requiring agency resources for nearly a year in addition to overseeing other special events, like weather emergencies and congressional ceremonies, while also managing daily tasks and unplanned emergencies. The challenges are numerous — short deadlines, competing priorities and a long list of logistical details requiring the most careful coordination to make sure everyone everyone stays on schedule. The House

moves begin and conclude in December, there are IT applications to develop and update, new office layouts to design, and thousands of photos to take to capture all the work along the way.

Caring for the historic Capitol campus also comes with many challenges, but AOC employees continue to rise to meet them at every turn. The 2024-2025 congressional office moves cycle was no exception. Read more about their work below as we celebrate another successful transition.

“I am exceptionally proud of the professionalism, dedication and expertise AOC employees demonstrated throughout the congressional moves cycle. I am continually impressed by the breadth of talent of our employees and how well everyone works together to meet our mission, no matter how small or large the task. I would like to offer my appreciation to every employee who played a role in ensuring Members of Congress were moved in a safe and timely manner. Thank you!”

THOMAS AUSTIN, ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL



1

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

“I am incredibly proud of the unwavering commitment and collaborative spirit our team demonstrated during this move cycle. Each member contributed their expertise, ensuring a seamless transition for our new congressional occupants. This experience truly highlights the power of unity in achieving a common goal.”

**JOE DIPIETRO,
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS**

The Office of the Chief of Operations (OCO) served as the central coordinator between the jurisdictions and all supporting offices during the recent congressional office moves. The team’s primary role was to organize the supporting offices to ensure their efforts were synchronized throughout the move cycle.

The congressional moves are a major agencywide effort and present several challenges, including tight timelines, coordination among multiple offices, both internally and externally, and the need to comply with various logistical requirements. One key challenge is making sure that all aspects of the moves — such as staffing, technology requirements and office designs — are seamlessly aligned and executed on time. To overcome these challenges, the Office of the Chief of Operations emphasized the need for proactive communication and collaboration between the offices, including regular updates to senior leadership on the progress and potential impacts of the moves. This allowed for a supportive environment

where all offices could contribute to the success of the moves.

Part of that communication effort included holding joint meetings at key intervals; monitoring progress on hiring temporary workers with the Human Capital Management Division and the development of the suite websites with the Information Technology Division; and working with the Office of the Chief Engineer regarding architect support for suite planning sessions. The joint meetings also helped to ensure coordination with the Capitol Power Plant’s Electronics Branch, which provided video and television support, and the Photography and Technical Imaging Branch, which was tasked with delivering the suite video tours.

By bringing AOC offices and colleagues together for regular meetings, the Office of the Chief of Operations ensured that staff remained informed and that potential issues were addressed promptly, ultimately contributing to a smooth transition for the new Congress.

▼
Employees from OCO were instrumental in facilitating proactive communication and collaboration between AOC offices, ensuring a successful moves cycle for the new Congress.



2

CAPITOL BUILDING | OCO

The Capitol Buildings jurisdiction's Planning, Evaluations and Operations team serves as the lead for coordinating moves in the U.S. Capitol. They work with congressional leadership and Capitol Hill partners to help Member offices navigate a variety of needs during the transition.

The Capitol Building assists offices by moving items such as personal art and boxes, creating personalized door signs, and working with staff to develop drawings for each new space. It also facilitates certain aspects of the transition including painting requests and key services. Like other jurisdictions, the Capitol Building team works through office moves while overseeing its normal day-to-day work, but it also has the unique responsibility for planning and building the infrastructure to support the presidential inauguration every four years.



Top: The Capitol Building's Paint Shop supports congressional moves every two years.

Bottom: Employees from the Electronics Branch supported nearly 1,000 television resets during the recent moves cycle.



“I feel I can speak for all when I say it is one to use as an ‘around the fireplace stories’ to tell others. Each one of the members of my team is proud to serve Congress and all the Capitol Hill associates, knowing that what we do is visible by the nation. Every one of us has a certain mission that we are called to fulfill; ours has been service to our country and family, and I am proud to say that here, we have such fulfillment.”

**ROBERT GATEWOOD,
ELECTRONICS BRANCH GENERAL SUPERVISOR**

3

CAPITOL POWER PLANT | OCO

On a normal day, one of the responsibilities of the Capitol Power Plant's Electronics Branch is to provide Capitol Hill offices with cable television. During the congressional moves cycle, the branch also supports nearly 1,000 television resets, working to prepare for disconnections and removals, reinstall cable infrastructure to accommodate new office configurations, reconnect newly installed televisions and verify the quality of service for all.

This requires a large effort and is supported solely by the branch's in-house staff of 13, including electronics mechanics, work leaders, supervisors and the general supervisor. The team handles the tasks associated with the moves in conjunction with their daily tasks and works together to balance schedules to avoid burnout and also get the job done within the short time-frame required for the moves.

4

Office of the Chief Engineer

The Office of the Chief Engineer (OCE) provides support for the congressional moves on many levels. For the 2024-2025 moves, architects in OCE's Design Services, with additional staff from the Senate Office Buildings (SOB) and U.S. Botanic Garden (USBG), supported the House moves by meeting with Members and their staff to understand how Members intended to use their offices. OCE also has an architect who is dedicated to the Senate moves and provides space planning support for the offices. Once the architects have met with Members, they use that information to develop detailed floor plans to meet the office's needs. Like much of the AOC's work related to moves, the architects' work began months prior to the actual moves and involved attending briefings to review standards for the required space planning work and meeting with OCE's Technical Service Branch to review office drawings and further define them prior to distribution.

OCE's Technical Service Branch has a team of computer-aided design (CAD) experts who started working on the moves in the early spring of 2024. They coordinated closely with the AOC's

House and Senate jurisdictions to update the CAD drawings that were then used by the architects during design meetings.

Two challenges that must be overcome in any congressional moves cycle include balancing workloads and keeping pace with the fast-moving process. The House moves last approximately three weeks for the architects and require a significant investment of time. The architects work diligently and swiftly, preparing for Member meetings by downloading existing and future office space plans and reviewing them so they're familiar with the office layouts, including heating elements they have to avoid in the layout or accessibility issues that must be considered prior to the meetings. When meeting with Members they learn about their office needs and then must quickly translate those needs and operational requirements into a space plan in about an hour. Then they start all over with a new office. Architects can have four move meetings in one day, requiring flexibility and the very best time management skills to ensure the entire process stays on track.

▼
Staff from OCE, SOB and the USBG worked together to develop and update floor plans for Member offices.



5

HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO)

Moves would not be possible without the AOC's dedicated staff, who are recruited, onboarded and supported by the Human Capital Management Division (HCMD).

During the congressional moves cycle, HCMD works collaboratively with the hiring managers and administrative support staff from the House Office Buildings and Senate Office Buildings jurisdictions to ensure they have the staff necessary to facilitate the high number of moves. HCMD provides support to create and update position descriptions, develop recruitment strategies to attract talent for open positions, and

welcome new employees to the AOC in onboarding sessions led by the division; they are also responsible for processing new employees' HR-related paperwork to ensure they receive their pay and benefits — all critical steps in a successful hiring process.

A key hiring challenge is the volume of employees that are onboarded over a short period of time. HCMD manages the increased hiring surge through enhanced collaboration and communication with their own colleagues as well as the many stakeholders involved across the jurisdictions. For this moves cycle,

the Talent Acquisition Branch modified HCMD's approach by assigning a three-person recruitment team to ensure that both the House and Senate jurisdictions had sufficient applicant pools from which to hire new office moves staff. HCMD also maintained open and continuous job postings without a closing date to continue the talent acquisition process until positions could be filled. These are just a few examples of how HCMD staff worked strategically to quickly and efficiently recruit and identify qualified candidates to execute the agency's mission of service.

“Year after year, HCMD is excited to be a part of the congressional office moves. Our primary goal is to provide human capital strategic and tactical assistance to [House Office Buildings] HOB and [Senate Office Buildings] SOB leadership as well as AOC employees on the front lines as they work to carry out the AOC's mission to support Congress. As Chief Human Capital Officer, I continue to be tremendously proud of the HCMD team and their commitment to this important work.”

TERESA BAILEY, CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER



▼
HCMD employees oversee the recruitment and onboarding of new employees to ensure jurisdictions have enough staff to facilitate the high number of moves.



Policy and Special Programs Division | CAO

The Policy and Special Programs (PSP) Division oversaw two important initiatives for the congressional moves in 2024. PSP developed a memorandum that provided guidance to AOC employees on the handling of United States flags during the course of official duties. Flags are among the most common items that are moved from office to office by AOC employees. The new memorandum ensures that all employees handle the United States flags with respect and in accordance with the United States Flag Code as the agency supports various events and projects, including congressional office moves.

Additionally, PSP oversees the agency's uniform program as part of its general duties. In preparation for the moves, the division ensured that all jurisdictions had enough uniforms in stock to immediately provide them to temporary employees hired to assist with moves. Thanks to the division's early preparations, AOC employees presented a standardized and professional appearance to tenants and the public as they carried out the important work in support of the moves.

“The Policy and Special Programs Division was proud to support the 119th Congressional Moves team. The Policy and Special Programs team and the entire Office of the Chief Administrative Officer are always standing by to support the operational needs of the AOC.”

BRIAN KOHLER, DIRECTOR



Top: The PSP team oversees the uniform program and worked to ensure temporary employees had immediate access to uniforms.

Bottom: ITD employees provide critical technology support for the moves process.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION | CAO

The Information Technology Division (ITD) plays a major role in facilitating the various technological needs required for the moves cycle. Three ITD branches — the Application Development and Support Branch, Infrastructure Management Branch, and Customer Engagement Branch — worked for several months prior to the November election and continued working through the spring in support of the transition of the new Congress.

8

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT BRANCH | CAO

The Application Development and Support Branch (ADSB) serves as the primary technical lead for the House and Senate congressional move applications. The branch develops and supports applications that the AOC uses to manage the suite and locker selections and move process, and Members and staff use to view available suites for selection. ADSB also works closely with the House and Senate jurisdictions to assist them with using the applications and to make data updates as needed. For the 2024–2025 move cycle, the branch completed a major development

effort, expanding the functionality of the House Transition application for House administrators and providing Members with information about the selection and move process and schedule, selection status information, and suite browsing capability.

Supporting these systems is challenging from both a technical and business perspective, as they provide important and high-visibility services for Congress and must work seamlessly to ensure the moves stay on track. These specialized applications are

unique to congressional moves and are only used every two years for a handful of weeks for the House moves and a few months for the Senate moves. ITD teams work together to ensure they can hit the ground running; there is no opportunity to phase in or pilot the systems before their full launch. ADSB works closely with the other branches in ITD to monitor all the systems to ensure that they're functioning properly and address any issues as quickly as possible to avoid disrupting the suite selection proceedings.

▼
Staff from ITD met to discuss updates for their ongoing projects related to congressional moves.



9

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT BRANCH | CAO

The Infrastructure Management Branch (IMB) worked closely with the House Office Buildings jurisdiction and ITD network team to conduct site surveys, evaluating the requirements for extending network access to designated rooms, and to prepare requisite equipment and ensure redundancy in the network infrastructure and equipment supporting the moves. The IMB also designed the technology setup for the room that was used to host the House lottery, deploying the network infrastructure and developing policies for the display, selection and browsing workstations used throughout the event. They also coordinated the effort to provide laptops, printers and large screens. The team worked with ADSB colleagues to troubleshoot performance and access issues throughout the event and monitored all technical performance to ensure Members could participate in the fast-paced lottery and suite selection process with no disruptions.

10

Customer Engagement Branch | CAO

The Customer Engagement Branch supported the complete IT equipment setup configuration and provided full, on-site IT support throughout all the congressional move sessions. The branch worked side-by-side with transition staff to ensure a seamless and uninterrupted event and was quick to respond to any technology issues that arose. The team provided dedicated, in-person support to the House team for the entire lottery and suite selection period, which included a few long days. In addition, the team procured and prepared all required IT equipment, imaging laptops and desktops used during the lottery and suite selections. Throughout the process, members of the branch worked together

to maintain a reliable inventory of backup equipment so they could quickly address any potential disruptions. They prioritized resolving issues by immediately escalating them to ITD colleagues and worked to communicate status updates to staff participating in the sessions, ensuring issues were resolved as soon as possible to support the fast-paced schedule.

Working laptops, applications and printers are easy to take for granted, but a successful moves cycle would not be possible without the critical support from ITD's many teams working behind the scenes to ensure each part of the process is seamlessly supported by the essential technology.

▼
PTIB staff create virtual tours of every Senate and House office suite and document the moves process across campus.

*Photo by
Jen Packard*



“It’s truly rewarding to be part of the moves and suite selection process, and a point of pride, considering their historic significance. I relish the opportunity to work together with so many of my talented colleagues across the agency and multiple jurisdictions on such significant work.”

LUKE WALTER, PHOTOGRAPHER

11

PHOTOGRAPHY AND TECHNICAL IMAGING BRANCH | CAO

Before the first move begins, the Photography and Technical Imaging Branch (PTIB) provides photography and authoring for virtual tours of every Senate and House office suite, totaling more than 535 offices, for the respective suite selection websites. Each tour is built around half a dozen or more individual 360-degree panoramic photos of key spaces within each office suite, and a set of thousands of images that the branch keeps up to date in coordination with AOC jurisdictions as offices are renovated over the years. These virtual tours allow Members to get their first look at a number of office suites online that would otherwise take much longer to see in person.

Capturing the images needed for the tours involved coordinating many logistical moving parts to get access to each space, which often occurred in the early morning or on weekends to limit disruptions to offices. Photographers walked the miles of corridors over several weeks to photograph each space. Once PTIB had captured the images, they had to carefully organize the files to ensure a feasible workflow so everyone could contribute to tour authoring for specific suites. They have also honed their skills in assembling a virtual tour that gives the viewer a clear sense of the office, coming as close as they can to an actual visit. As the tours were finalized, PTIB handed the files over to ITD for upload

to the suite selection website and coordinated the reviews and any necessary edits with the jurisdictions.

PTIB is also responsible for photographing and documenting the changes that are made to the suites during the moves process. The documentation of this work naturally includes physical changes to the suites, like new carpeting and paint, but it also includes capturing the efforts of the AOC’s dedicated employees from across all trades who work around the clock to ensure each suite is perfect before the keys are turned over to its new tenants.



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Washington, DC 20515

THOLOS VOLUME 30

The Architect of the Capitol strives to meet its mission 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to **serve** Congress and the Supreme Court, **preserve** America's Capitol, and **inspire** memorable experiences for all who visit the buildings and grounds.

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