

# ACCESS ALERT

## *GSA & USPS Adopt New Accessibility Standards*

The General Services Administration (GSA) and the United States Postal Service (USPS) have both adopted the new *Accessibility Standards* under the Architectural Barriers Act. These are incorporated in the *ADA-ABA Accessibility Guidelines* that were published by the U.S. Access Board in 2004, and replace the existing standards known as "UFAS" (Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards). These standards will take effect in 6 months, and should be used on new construction and alteration projects of all USPS and GSA facilities. As other federal agencies adopt the new *ADA-ABA Accessibility Guidelines* (also known as "*The New ADAAG*"), they will apply to more privately and federally-funded facilities nationwide. Electronic and hard copies of the standards are available from The U.S. Access Board web site (<http://www.access-board.gov/>)

Kessler McGuinness & Associates offers in-house seminars on the new *ADA-ABA Accessibility Guidelines*. For more information, contact Katherine McGuinness at [kmcguinness@kmaccess.com](mailto:kmcguinness@kmaccess.com) or 617-641-2802.

Kessler McGuinness & Associates, LLC, is a nationally known firm that specializes in accessibility compliance planning through access audits, access master plans, architectural plan review, accessible design review protocols, training and resource development. We also serve as expert witnesses for plaintiffs and defendants. Clients include airports, commercial property owners, educational institutions, government agencies, architects, and attorneys.