ROBERT C. TAPELLA

Public Printer

As the nation's 25th Public Printer, Tapella serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), one of the nation's oldest and most venerable agencies with revenue in the excess of $1 billion. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., Tapella oversees production and distribution of information products and services for all three branches of the Federal Government. Many of the country's most important information products, such as the *Congressional Record* and the *Federal Register* are produced at GPO's main plant located five blocks from the U.S. Capitol. This 1.5 million square foot complex is one of the largest information processing, printing and distribution facilities in the world.

Biography

President George W. Bush nominated Tapella for the position of Public Printer and he was confirmed by the United States Senate on October 4, 2007. As Public Printer, Tapella is committed to making GPO thrive as one of the largest digital information factories in the world. Tapella's priorities are to take GPO to new levels of service in GPO's work for the United States Congress, production of the nation's passports for the State Department, meeting the printing needs for Federal agencies and working with the library community to provide permanent public access to the documents of our democracy. Making sustainable environmental stewardship one of his top priorities, Tapella has set out goals for GPO to be a good steward of its resources, one of which is to move GPO's headquarters into the first LEED Platinum printing plant in the country. LEED is a voluntary green building rating system with benchmarks for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

During his first year as Public Printer, Tapella oversaw GPO authenticate, by digital signature, the first-ever electronic budget distributed by The White House, the opening of a secure production facility in Stennis, Mississippi for the production of blank passports as well as the creation of the Official Journals of Government business unit that will better serve Congress and the Office of Federal Register.

Prior to becoming Public Printer, Tapella served as a senior executive at GPO for five years. He was part of the team that took GPO from a survival mode to the thriving operation it is today. Tapella helped turn GPO's financial situation from years of significant losses into the profits the agency enjoys today. He was a principal architect of GPO's, *A Strategic Vision for the 21st Century*. This vision outlines ways for GPO's internal operations to run more efficiently, give employees the opportunity to learn about new technologies and create a system that will give the public a one stop site to authentic, published Government information. That system is GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys), which will have its first public release in 2009.

Tapella has more than a decade of experience as a professional staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also has an extensive background in graphic arts. At the age of 12, he learned the art of calligraphy, illumination and bookbinding. Two years later Tapella became a freelance designer with *The New Scribes* in San Jose, California. He built his own design business that included work in print brokering, direct mail, corporate communications and strategic planning.

A California native, Tapella is an alumnus of the American Council of Young Political Leaders and an alumnus of Leadership Sunnyvale. He is a 1991 graduate of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, one of the country's leading schools in printing and graphic communications.