

# Robson Forensic

Engineers, Architects, Scientists & Fire Investigators

## RONALD A. FERMANO JR., R.A., NCARB Architect & Safety Expert

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010 to **Robson Forensic, Inc.**  
present *Associate*

Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony for failure analysis, and towards the resolution of commercial and personal injury litigation involving trip and fall injuries, construction materials failures, code compliance issues, construction claims, and professional liability. Areas of expertise include:

**Trip Accidents:** Measurement and analysis of stair geometry and construction; single steps; misalignments of walking surfaces; gratings; sidewalks – obstructions and maintenance; unmarked sloped areas.

**Snow and Ice:** Analysis of site and building drainage issues contributing to the formation of ice as related to slip accidents.

**Issues for Special Users:** Barrier-free standards, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, access for persons with disabilities, special requirements for the elderly and children.

**Building Safety:** Codes, standards; lighting levels and uniformity; unprotected openings in floors and walls; guard rails; glass and glazing.

**Security:** Site planning and design, site and building exterior lighting, facility planning, door hardware.

**Conspicuousness of Hazards:** Placement, effectiveness, and illumination of warnings; signage; color and contrast of adjacent materials.

**Building Failures:** Foundation cracking, settling, or failures due to soil conditions, grading, and water intrusion; roof and wall collapses; construction means and methods.

**Construction Materials Failures:** Water intrusion related issues; brick, stone, and concrete spalling; gutter and flashing system failures; roofing system failures; expansion joint failures; sealant and caulk system failures, window system failures.

**Building Design and Planning:** Building codes and standards; means of egress; security; retrofitting requirements, access for persons with disabilities.

**Site Design and Planning:** Site planning; zoning; grading and drainage; control of storm water; parking lots; access for persons with disabilities.

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### 1997 to 2010 **Three Dimensions Architectural Group, Inc.**

*President, Registered Architect*

Daily responsibilities consisted of client proposals and meetings, preparing Architect/Owner Contracts related to client's program. This covered a broad spectrum of work product relating to commercial, residential, renovations, fire/storm damage and rehabilitation of existing structures (under New Jersey Rehabilitation Code).

- Prepared construction documents and specifications.
- Coordinated documents with outside design professionals, structural, MP&E, fire suppression and site design.
- Supervised and delegated tasks to fellow employees for daily and weekly workloads.
- Prepared bid packages and coordinated bidding process (bid opening, bid review, preparation of bidder's recommendations, and coordination of bid award with client).
- Orchestrated preconstruction meetings.
- Set regimented inspection schedules while in turn performing job inspections with field reports, processing payment requests, and finalizing project completion documents.

Expertise in all phases of facility types including: hotel/motel, restaurants, retail space, office buildings, industrial facilities, commercial properties of all types, single family custom and track housing along with multi-family residential, historical restoration and rehabilitation of existing structures to new uses.

### 1987 to 1996 **Nicholas J. Piro, Jr., A.I.A.**

*Architecture Internship, Office Manager*

Managed projects on a day-to-day basis, overseeing draftspersons and CAD operators. Prepared field reports for renovations and rehabilitations of existing structures for new uses along with historical rehabilitations and renovations. Prepared tenant fit-ups in malls and strip malls, coordinated consultants for handicap renovations and self-evaluations to meet ADA compliance regulations. Contended with construction codes on multi-family design projects and fire restorations to same. Acquired New Jersey State Architectural License.

### 1985 to 1987 **The Cabinet Shop**

*Construction Intern*

Designed and installed kitchens, bathrooms and office furniture. Use of hand and power tools along with heavy equipment and deliveries.

### **D & V Construction**

*Masonry Intern*

Daily responsibilities in the field consisted of CMU masonry walls, brick veneers, flat concrete installation, site grading, footings (wall, pier and column), lintels and headers. Operation of tools and heavy equipment relating to the masonry trade.

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**RONALD A. FERMANO JR., R.A., NCARB**  
**Architect & Safety Expert**

## PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Registered Architect: New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware  
Certified XL Tribometrist (CXLT)

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Architecture, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, May 1993

### *Continuing Education:*

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards: Professional Development Program titled, Building Envelope. 10 Contact Hours in Health, Safety, Welfare and Sustainable Design, March 8, 2012

Institute for Design Professionals: Ensuring Compliance with the 2010 Standards for Accessible Design and Applicable Building Codes, Hamilton, NJ, November 1, 2011

ASTM Workshop on Conducting Periodic Facade Inspections, April 29, 2011

Law of Construction Defects and Failures: Defining Construction Defects and Failures, Types and Causes of Defects and Failures, Liability for Defects and Failures, Strategies for Reducing Defects and Failures, October 2010

Ceramic Tile Fundamentals, American Olean

Membranes for Ceramic and Stone Tile, Custom Building Products

Innovations in Decking and Railing Systems, Health, Safety and Welfare Requirements, CertainTeed

Windload and Design Pressure, Andersen Windows

Mold, Mold Prevention and CMU's, Anchor Concrete Products

Designing with CMU's for Aesthetics, Health and Safety, Anchor Concrete Products

Unique/Special Applications of Segmental Retaining Walls, Anchor Concrete Products

Evaluating Floor Performance, Introduction to Residential Engineered Wood

Products, Fire Facts about Engineered Lumber, Introduction to Engineered

Lumber in Commercial Construction, by Trus Joist A Weyerhaeuser Business.

Bituminous Membrane Roof Systems and Bur's, CertainTeed

Up On the Roof Asphalt Shingles, CertainTeed

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## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, (NCARB certified)  
International Code Council  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA)

## **PRESENTATIONS/SEMINARS**

2009 International Residential Building Code Revisions for Pennsylvania (Presenter),  
Lorman Education Services, 2010.

EXPERT NOT RETAINED