

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

THE EXPERTS
Robson Forensic

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

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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PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

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

EDUCATION

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

Continuing Education:

Structural Forensic Engineering, HalfMoon Education Inc., January 2019

Masonry: Structure and Design – Opportunities with 2018 IBC? Delaware Valley
Association of Structural Engineers, November 2018

Using Engineered Lumber and Timber Products, HalfMoon Education Inc., June 2018

ASTM Workshop on the Multifactorial Analysis of Slip and Fall Events: Implications for
Forensic and Safety Professionals, January 2017

Mid-Atlantic Wood Solutions Fair – Pennsylvania Convention Center HSW, October 2016

- UMass Design Building: Leading the Way with Mass Timber
- Building the T3 Minneapolis Office: Seven Stories of Success
- An Overview of The First CLT Hotel in the US
- Modern Post-Frame Structural Design Practices
- The Role of Control Layers in Building Enclosure Design
- Energy Efficient Wood-Frame Assemblies: Options for Compliance with the IECC

Engineered Lumber Design and Construction, HalfMoon Education Inc., May 2016

Legal Issues for Architects, HalfMoon Education Inc., March 2015

Complying with 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, HalfMoon Education Inc.,
February 2015

Complying with ADA Standards for Accessible Design, HalfMoon Education Inc., April
2014

Solar Electric and Hydronic Systems, HalfMoon Education Inc., March 2014

PVC Roofing Materials: On The Move. CSI Building Knowledge Improving Project
Delivery, May 2013

Symposium on Building Walls Subject to Water Intrusion and Accumulation ASTM, April
2013

Complying with New ADA Standards for Accessible Design, HalfMoon Education Inc.,
December 2012

The Role of the Architect in Disaster Preparedness and Assistance, (CalEMA Safety
Assessment Program) NJ Society of Architects, December 2012

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

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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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, (NCARB certified)
International Code Council
New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA)
American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM)
E-06 Building Committee

PRESENTATIONS/SEMINARS

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