

JAMES A. ABRON, P.E.

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Public works executive, program manager, construction manager, professional engineer

KEY MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Administration and Management

- Demonstrated expertise in organizational development and performance enhancement
- Implemented cross training, job rotation and employee recognition programs resulting in higher employee morale, enhanced productivity and a more flexible workforce
- Implemented benchmarking, cost and performance standards at department and division levels
- Extensive experience managing both field and office, multicultural and unionized workforces

Construction Management

- Managed over \$750 million worth of civil, transportation, environmental and architectural projects
- Extensive construction administration expertise gained through training, education and experience
- Comprehensive experience formulating and managing capital improvement programs
- Industry certified in construction contract administration

Project Management

- Integrated modern project management methodology in a low PM mature environment
- Extensive project management training experience at the university and professional level
- Developed department-wide quality improvement programs
- Industry certified in project management

EMPLOYMENT

Director of Infrastructure Management	Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd.	Toledo, Ohio
Director of Public Works	Wayne County, Michigan	Detroit, MI
Division Manager/Principal Engineer	City of Oakland, Public Works	Oakland, CA
Adjunct Professor	U.C., Berkeley Extension	Berkeley, CA
Instructor	Diablo Valley College	Pleasant Hill, CA
Instructor	Keller Graduate School of Management	Chicago, IL
Fee Arbitrator	Arbitration Works, Inc.	Sacramento, CA

EDUCATION

B.S., Engineering	1973	Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana
P.D., Engineering	1982	University of Wisconsin, Madison
M.B.A.	1990	Golden Gate University, San Francisco, CA
CERTIFICATE - TQM	1995	California State University, East Bay

CREDENTIALS

Professional Civil Engineer	State of California	No. 32754
Land Surveyor	State of California	No. 5069
General Building & Engineering Contractor	State of California	No. 362182
Professional Engineer	State of Michigan	No. 046389
Project Management Professional	Project Management Institute	No. 3262
Certified Floodplain Manager	Am Assoc of Floodplain Managers	US-06-01785
Certified Construction Contract Administrator	Constructions Specifications Institute	No number
Construction Documents Technologist	Constructions Specifications Institute	No number

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Infrastructure Management, Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., Toledo, Ohio. 2002 to Present. Currently serving as a discipline director for 100-person firm based in four states specializing in water and wastewater engineering projects. Projects have included CSO Long Term Control Plans, capital improvement plans for municipalities and a sewer authority, sanitary sewer inflow/infiltration studies, WWTP and pump station energy efficiency studies, pipeline feasibility studies, water and sewer rate studies, and the design of numerous pump station, pipeline and sewer interceptor rehabilitation projects. Mr. Abron served as director of the Lansing, Michigan branch office with profit and loss responsibility from 2002 to 2004.

Director of Public Works and Drain Commissioner, Wayne County Michigan. 1999 - 2001.

Mr. Abron was responsible for the operation and maintenance of 225 mgd WWTP, five Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) basins, 13 pumping stations, 1,400 miles of countywide drains, and a 150-mile long countywide sanitary sewer interceptor system. Mr. Abron implemented benchmarking, computerized maintenance management and other cost reduction strategies at the Wyandotte WWTP as well as began an ISO 14001 study for the WWTP.

Mr. Abron managed a \$300 million capital improvement plan consisting of WWTP expansion, 13-mile, 120-inch diameter sanitary storage tunnel, two new CSO basins, and a 40 MGD sanitary pump station. As managing director of the capital program, Mr. Abron was responsible for internal project staffing, overseeing project consultants, overall budget control, stakeholder relations with regulators and other jurisdictions, and setting the terms for negotiation of major construction claims. With daily construction management duties exercised by subordinate on-site construction managers, Mr. Abron functioned as the project executive, holding monthly status meetings where cost and schedule variances were reviewed, payments were approved, and change orders were adjudicated.

Department Head, Design & Construction Services Department, City of Oakland, CA (pop. 400,000). 1998 - 1998. Interim director of department consisting of 139 employees responsible for Traffic Engineering Division, Construction Division, Storm & Sanitary Sewer Division and Street & Structures Division. Mr. Abron was responsible for the planning, design and construction of the \$50 million annual capital improvement program.

Division Manager. City of Oakland. Construction and Field Services Division. 1990 - 1999. As the principal civil engineer, Mr. Abron was responsible for implementation of the construction phase of City's capital improvement program which averaged over \$50 million annually. Mr. Abron managed a staff of 55 engineers, architects and technicians through four subordinate managers. These duties included overseeing the operations of the Materials Testing Laboratory and 12-person Field Surveying Office.

Project assignments included the Lake Merritt dredging, the construction of new libraries, fire stations, multi-story parking garages, major street reconstruction projects, lead and asbestos abatement of City owned buildings, athletic fields, rehabilitation of City's sanitary sewer collection system, construction of relief sewers and the renovation of a major storm water pumping station. A project list is available upon request.

Mr. Abron consolidated and updated the agency's construction management processes by writing two manuals, the **Construction Manual of Practice** and the **Resident Engineer's Legal Reference**. These manuals were used as the basis for an 18-week mandatory training course, taught by Mr. Abron, for all capital project inspectors and engineer/architects in the Division.

Additional Major accomplishments:

- Reduced change order costs and litigation expenses through the creation of an interdepartmental rotation program and development of staff training programs;
- Management of significant portions of the disaster recovery and reconstruction effort after California's Loma Prieta Earthquake (1989) and Oakland Firestorm (1991);
- The introduction of modern project management techniques modeled after the Project Management Institute Body of Knowledge;
- Implementation of a Total Quality Management initiative resulting in a streamlined punch list process and faster contractor payments.

Supervising Civil Engineer, City of Oakland, Construction & Field Services Division. 1987 - 1990.

Supervised staff of architects, engineers and inspectors responsible for inspection and construction management of multitude of street, sewer, architectural and environmental (asbestos, lead abatement and UST) projects. A project list is available upon request.

Project Construction Engineer, City of Oakland, Construction Division. 1985 - 1987.

Project Construction Engineer for two major capital improvement projects - the Medical Hill Parking Garage (eight story post tensioned structure) and Maritime Street - a four lane, three mile long highway between the Oakland Army Base and Naval Supply Center.

Civil Engineer, Development Services Division. Mr. Abron volunteered for a 1-year tour undertaken during evening hours to assist the Division during a personnel shortage. Mr. Abron reviewed, approved and issued permits for parcel maps, subdivision tracts and other private developments. He also reviewed and approved structural calculations and issued building permits for private building projects.

Assistant Civil Engineer, City of Oakland, Planning and Design Division. 1982 - 1985. Design engineer on street, sewer, retaining wall and bridge projects. Mr. Abron was responsible for the plans, specifications and estimates of assigned street and sewer projects. Performed design calculations and manual drafting of drawings. Provided design support such as shop drawing review and drafting of change orders during construction phase of project. Successive one-year temporary assignments as a structural plans checker and subdivision development reviewer occurred during this period.

Junior Civil Engineer, City of Oakland, Construction Division. 1979 - 1982. Mr. Abron was assigned to Materials Testing Laboratory and Surveying Section. There, he supervised engineering technicians in the sampling and testing soils, asphalt, concrete, and rock aggregate. In the surveying section, Mr. Abron performed survey research, drafted legal descriptions, monument coordination and closure calculations and field (construction stakeout, boundary and topographic) survey work as an instrument person or party chief.

Company Owner, Abron Construction Company. Oakland, California. 1974 - 1979. Mr. Abron was a self-employed general contractor primarily performing residential and small storefront renovations in the San Francisco bay area. Duties included marketing, estimating, bidding, proposal presentation, purchasing and general supervision of field superintendent.

Miscellaneous Employment

Arbitration Works, Inc. Sacramento, California. 1995 - 1998. Independent fee arbitrator assigned to State of California, Contractor State License Board cases. Mr. Abron resolved cases between prime contractors and their subcontractors as well as disputes between owners and prime contractors. Graduate: American Arbitration Association Training Course.

Consortium Management Company, Inc. Walnut Creek, California. 2004-2008. Principal and Owner. Consortium is a consulting firm providing services in the areas of training, project management, construction management and construction administration. Clients have included engineering firms and construction trade organizations.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

M.B.A.	Golden Gate University. San Francisco, CA.
P.D., Engineering	University of Wisconsin, Madison. (Professional Development) Masters level graduate degree. Major: Construction Management
B.S., Engineering	Purdue University. West Lafayette, Indiana. Major: Urban Systems Engineering (Civil Engineering)
CERTIFICATE	California State University, East Bay (Hayward). Major: Total Quality Management

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

CA Professional Civil Engineer # 32754	MI Licensed Professional Engineer No. 46389
CA Prof. Land Surveyor License # 5069	MI Storm Water Operator-Industrial Site (I-07186)
CA General Bldg & Eng Contractor # 362182	MI Storm Water Operator-Construction Site C-09801
CA Community College Instructor's Credential	
Certified in Eng, Arch, Business, Real Estate	

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

Certification	Sponsor
Certified Project Management Professional	Project Management Institute
Certified Construction Contract Administrator	Construction Specifications Institute
Construction Documents Technologist	Construction Specifications Institute
Certified Floodplain Manager	Association of State Floodplain Managers

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society of Civil Engineers (Fellow)	AACE International
Association of State Floodplain Managers	U.S. Green Building Council, N. CA Chapter
Project Management Institute	Construction Management Association of America

MISCELLANEOUS

Statewide Chair, Collection Systems Committee Keller Graduate School of Management U. C., Berkeley Extension, Business & Management Department. Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, CA	MI Water Environment Association, 2005 Adjunct Instructor in project management Adjunct Professor - taught project management from 1997 to 1999 Evening Instructor - taught construction management classes from 1990 to 1997 Director of Certification from 1996 to 1998. Coordinated instructors and taught project management certification classes.
Northern CA Chapter, Project Management Institute	

PUBLICATIONS

- Asset Management by the Numbers. The Forum (J & H Quarterly Newsletter). January 2004
- The Impact of CMOM on Local Jurisdictions. Public Works Magazine, June 2003, Page 84-85
- CMOM: Are You Ready? The Forum (J & H Quarterly Newsletter). April 2003
- Arsenic Treatment Options for Communities. The Forum (J & H Quarterly newsletter). April 2002
- Manual of Construction Management Practice. City of Oakland, CA, Public Works Agency. 1995
- Resident Engineers Legal Reference. City of Oakland, CA, Public Works Agency. 1990

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2005 Michigan Rural Water Association. Overseeing Projects – Developed and taught 1 day seminar. DeWitt, Michigan. April 14, 2005.
- 2005 Collection Systems Maintenance Practices. Michigan Water Environment Federation Association, CWEA/MWEA Certification Workshop, DeWitt, Michigan. April 7, 2005.
- 2005 Michigan Rural Water Association. Overseeing Projects – Developed and taught 1 day seminar. Harrison, Michigan. January 12, 2005.
- 2004 Collection Systems Maintenance Practices. Michigan Water Environment Federation Association, CWEA/MWEA Certification Workshop, Lansing, Michigan. April 21, 2004.
- 2004 What Operators Need To Know About CMOM. Operator Training Committee of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, February 24, 2004.
- 2003 Prepare For CMOM – It’s Really Coming. County Sanitary Engineers Association of Ohio Convention, Columbus, Ohio, December 2, 2003.
- 2003 Asset Management for Small Communities. Jones & Henry Seminar Series. September 26, 2003 – Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, October 8, 2003 – Adrian, Michigan, October 16, 2003 – Kalamazoo, Michigan
- 2003 Financial Impact of CMOM on Small Communities. Michigan Municipal League Fall Convention, Detroit, Michigan. September 17, 2003.
- 2003 Collection Systems Maintenance Practices. Michigan Water Environment Federation Association, CWEA/MWEA Certification Workshop, DeWitt, Michigan. April 9, 2003.
- 2001 Making the Michigan Drain Code Work for You. Wayne County Division of Public Works Workshop. Plymouth, Michigan. March 21, 2001.