

Brian C. Kramer, PE, GE



Quality Built
Chief Executive Officer and Principal Engineer

A natural problem-solver and communicator, Brian engages in each case he works on with passion. He is dedicated to making sure his assessments are accurate, analysis of technical issues thorough, and testimony presented in a way so even complex technical concepts can be understood by attorneys, jurors, and mediators.

When you put someone on the witness stand to testify on your behalf, credibility is essential. Few experts in the industry possess the leadership qualities, communication skills, professional qualifications, industry expertise, and engineering experience of Brian Kramer.

As CEO of Quality Built, LLC, Brian has deep connections with the insurance industry. Fifteen years ago Quality Built created a risk management program that has become the standard for underwriting construction for 30+ insurance firms. In fact, Quality Built created all of the compliance metrics used by most insurance carriers, kept up to data by QB's proprietary software platform, QBIN. This technology guides QB's Total Quality Management process which incorporates design review, inspection and mitigation services, and construction defect litigation consulting across the nation. With this constant stream of new data and analytics being entered into the system from thousands of projects each year, Brian and other Quality Built Forensics experts are aware of trends in defect risk before lawsuits are ever filed.

For the past 20 years, Brian has been a practicing civil, geotechnical and materials engineer, directing design engineering and construction oversight on projects ranging from single-family homes to heavy civil construction.

Areas of Specialty:

Structural distress related to geotechnical issues, construction materials testing, and concrete performance.

Technical Experience:

Residential, commercial, infrastructure, and public use facilities:

- Geotechnical investigations, analyses and evaluations relative to development.
- Construction phase quality assurance and oversight: materials testing and inspection, grading observation.
- Forensic consulting, expert witness testimony, forensic evaluations, and construction defect litigation cases: distressed structures and earthquake damage.
- Design input on slabs and foundation systems: pipe piles, dense aggregate piers, and deep foundations consisting of driven piles or caissons.
- Design and implementation of subsurface exploration programs: small and large diameter auger borings and cone penetrometer testing.
- Field testing and inspection supervision on major construction projects: field density testing, concrete field testing and inspection, soils and materials sampling, and production plant inspection.



Technical Experience (cont.):

- Performance analysis and design: slope stability analyses, flexible/rigid pavement design, and subgrade stabilization design.
- Excavation studies: tunneling, dewatering, and blasting zone of influence.
- Geotechnical report preparation: earthwork and foundation recommendations.
- Excavation stability analysis: anchored bulkheads and trench shoring
- Soils/Geotechnical Engineer of Record: plan review and approval.
- Review and observation: concrete and asphalt mix designs.
- Oversee plant inspection programs: concrete batch and asphalt production plants.
- Field testing and inspection oversight on major construction projects: field density testing, concrete field testing and inspection, soils and materials sampling.
- Geotechnical and materials specifications conformance review: project specifications and applicable codes, including Caltrans, SSPWC, DSA, OSHPD, and CBC.
- Materials testing and special inspection services technical oversight during construction: post-tensioned and pre-stressed concrete, reinforced masonry, structural steel, and reinforced concrete.
- Moisture vapor emission rate and relative humidity testing oversight and performance: concrete slabs-on-grade.

Consulting and Expert Testimony Experience:

- Over 15 years of expert witness experience as both a defense and plaintiff expert, Brian has been deposed on approximately 50 occasions and has testified in 6 trials.

Professional Experience:

2010 – Present

Quality Built, CEO, Expert Witness

Single, multi-family, and mixed-use development.

Provides technical oversight for engineers, architects, and building inspection experts. Serves as a forensic consultant and expert witness as Principal Engineer of Quality Built Forensics.

2003 - 2012

Twining Inc., Principal Engineer

For a firm with over 300 employees and five laboratories throughout California, Brian led a team of engineers, geologists, technicians, and scientists providing design and construction QA/QC on projects including: LAX 25L Replacement Runway, UCI Hospital, Bolsa Chica Restoration, and multiple Caltrans projects.

1998 - 2003

Testing Engineers – LA, Founder, President and Principal Geotechnical and Materials Engineer

The firm provided geotechnical and materials engineering, testing, and inspection services to public and private sector clients. In this role, Brian was retained as expert witness in hundreds of construction defect litigation cases, providing testimony in depositions and at trial.

1992 - 1998

Ninyo & Moore, Staff Engineer through Senior Project Manager

One of the largest geotechnical and environmental consulting firms in Southern California. Brian served as a geotechnical expert on construction defect litigation cases. He also served as Senior Project Manager for engineering analysis, construction testing, and inspection of major private and public sector projects.



Education, Certifications & Training:

Master of Business Administration

University of California, Irvine

Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering,

San Diego State University

Registered Geotechnical Engineer

California, GE 2571

Registered Civil Engineer

California, RCE 54282

Professional Affiliations:

- Advisory and Development Council Member, California State University, Long Beach, College of Engineering
- Member, Young Presidents Organization (YPO)
- Member, San Diego State University Alumni Association
- Member, Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Society
- Former Board Member, California Transportation Foundation

Recent Publications:

Geotechnical Services: Understanding Risk and Increasing Quality Below the Foundation

www.qualitybuilt.com, 2015

[LINK TO ARTICLE](#)

Optimizing Sub-Slab Design and Construction: Water as Both an Asset and Liability

www.qualitybuilt.com, 2014

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