

**DARA THOMAS, P.E., LEED® AP**

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree in Civil Engineering with a specialization in Structural Engineering, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL June 1982.

## **SUMMARY**

Ms. Thomas has worked in the Tampa Bay area since 1982 as a structural design and forensic engineer and project manager. Her responsibilities in forensic investigations include inspections, evaluation, research, construction accident reconstruction, slip-tests (Coefficient of Friction) using the Brungraber Mark III tribometer and compilation of summary reports and is a LEED® AP (accredited professional).

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

National Council of Engineering Examiners  
International Code Council (ICC)  
NARI - Tampa Bay Chapter

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES**

State of Florida Registered Professional Engineer (1988). # 40290  
State of Louisiana Registered Professional Engineer (2004) # 31135  
State of Ohio Registered Professional Engineer (1996) # 60745  
State of North Carolina Registered Professional Engineer (2003) #28783  
State of Georgia Registered Professional Engineer (2008) # 033398  
State of Alabama Registered Professional Engineer (2008) # 29865  
State of Virginia Registered Professional Engineer (2008) # 45278  
Florida Threshold Inspector (1992). # 968

## **CAREER HISTORY**

**Forcon International Corp.** - Senior Structural Engineer responsible for investigations and expert witness services associated with structural failures, construction defects, property damage, moisture intrusion, building code compliance, and other issues related to structural engineering.

**Dara M. Zolkower & Co., Inc.** , Dunedin, FL - Principal of private structural engineering consulting firm 1989 -2008.

**McCarthy & Associates**, Clearwater, FL - Duties included structural design, engineering and inspection of commercial, residential, and industrial buildings and structures as well as management of draftsmen and junior engineers.

**Chris Walker & Associates**, Bradenton, FL- Duties included structural design, engineering and inspection.

**Paxton & Associates**, Tampa, FL- Duties included structural design, engineering and inspection.

**Tylk, Wright & Gustafson**, Clearwater, FL - Duties included structural design, engineering and inspection, heavy emphasis on field inspections.

## **EXPERIENCE**

Forensic Engineer and Expert Witness.

- Structural settlement and cracking
- Code compliance
- Evaluation of fire damage of concrete, steel or timber structures.
- Spalled and cracked concrete structures
- Evaluation of termite damaged structures
- Moisture Intrusion
- Roof ponding
- Evaluation of structural defects resulting in bodily injury.
- Evaluation of beam and floor deflection.
- Structure and foundation repair due to storm damage and erosion.
- Construction accident reconstruction.
- Evaluation of vibrations alleged to have caused property damage.

Design of Commercial, Industrial and Residential Buildings and Structures.

Structural Systems:

- Two-Way reinforced flat plate concrete slabs.
- Post-Tension concrete slabs.
- Prestressed precast hollow-core, Condec or Filigree slabs.
- Tilt-up concrete wall panels.
- Masonry.
- Steel Joist and composite joist floor systems.
- Composite metal deck/steel beam design.
- Long span steel trusses.
- Timber systems of all varieties.
- Timber and concrete pile foundation systems for residential construction in V-Zones.
- Aluminum structures.
- Foundation systems for pre-engineered/fabricated metal buildings.
- Retaining walls
- Foundation and Pier Repair
- Concrete restoration and waterproofing
- Sea walls
- Bleachers and Stadiums
- Storefront and Design
- Second story additions.