

**Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Candidate Application for Dispute Review Board (DRB)**

A. Contact Information

Name: Chad E Rajala		Date: 9/14/2012	
	City: Lansing	State: MI	Zip Code: 48933
Phone #: (517) 482-1682	Email Address: crajala@benesch.com		

B. Professional Licenses/Registrations (Please provide name/type of license, state, expiration date and number.)

Name/Type of License/Registration	State and Number	Expiration Year
Professional Engineer	Michigan - 6201049740	2013

C. Education/Related Training (Please list degree, college/other school and dates. Please indicate the location and date of your training.)

University/College/Organization/Trade School	Degree/Certificate	Date/Year
Michigan Technological University	BS Civil Engineering	1995
Lawrence Technological University	Masters of Business Admin.	Active

D. Construction Experience Summary

I have construction experience working in the following capacities:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Civil Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architect	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Builder/Developer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Structural Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electrical Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Designer/Planner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geologist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Surveyor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mechanical Engineer
<input type="checkbox"/>	General Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Accountant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemical Engineer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Construction Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supplier/Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Engineer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sub/Specialty Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Owner Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape Architect
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Describe) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	Materials Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I have substantial experience in the following types of construction:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bridge (Concrete)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bridge (Steel)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Earth Retaining Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Electrical Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environmental
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Foundation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscaping
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mechanical	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tunnel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Describe) →	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wooden boardwalk structures; earthwork/grading	<input type="checkbox"/>	

E. Qualification Statement

Candidates shall have substantial experience in or directly related to public agency highway and bridge construction projects with or on behalf of federal, state, or local government agencies, particularly MDOT. Experience shall be a minimum of 10 years in active involvement, supervision, or management of public agency highway and bridge construction contracts preferably with an emphasis in resolution of disputes arising out of said contracts. Lawyers, attorneys, and/or legal counsel are not permitted to be DRB candidates nor are they permitted to serve on a DRB panel in any capacity.

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Provide a 500 word or less statement of your qualifications that explain how you meet the aforementioned criteria:

My career in construction and contract management services encompasses 18 years of experience working in the MDOT central office as well as multiple regions and TSCs. During this time, I provided oversight of MDOT construction staff, consultant project management and local agency contract administration for over 175 MDOT let projects. I bring a track record of success for project level dispute resolution, including resolving plan and specification material, changed conditions, differing site conditions, utility conflicts, liquidated damages and contractor performances (both time and workmanship), resulting in one MDOT ROR/COR hearing during my career. I have attended over 30 professional development courses with the National Highway Institute, MDOT's Specialized Technical Construction Training and Continuing Education Workshop, courses that have supplemented my understanding and utilization of contract administration and materials management. My background consists of a wide array of discipline areas, including extensive freeway corridor project experience in new bridge and road construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and maintenance. I am well versed and knowledgeable in accelerated fast track and innovative contracting techniques, materials management of Aggregate, HMA-Concrete projects, traffic and safety elements and systems operations.

As a former MDOT Statewide Construction Contracts Engineer Manager and Construction Project Engineer, my track record indicates successful project management expertise, encompassing a full understanding and familiarity with the following standards: MDOT's standard construction practices; project construction contract, proposal, and plans; MDOT's Standard Specifications for Construction and all applicable publications referenced within; MDOT's Construction Manual; the Materials Source Guide; the Materials Quality Assurance Procedures Manual; the Density Control Handbook; as well as all other guidelines or procedures required as necessary to complete a project with full key stakeholder buy-in.

Having previously served on multiple committees within MDOT and beyond, I understand that membership with the Dispute Review Board necessitates not only a solid working understanding of MDOT practices and procedures but also the ability to function within a team structure will be of paramount importance, both to the success of the Board as well as the individuals of which it is comprised. My leadership has proven to be an integral component in shaping the Department's standards for project delivery. My services on these committees (including Contractor Prequalification Committee, Region Delivery Engineer Committee, Audit Report for MDOT Road and Bridge Construction Monitoring Program and others) highlights effective practice in conflict resolution and development for contract inconsistency amendments, as well as analysis of best practices to strengthen Department strategic goals and taking actions against contractors based on discrepancies between their procedures and those of MDOT.

F. General Experience Summary

Please provide a brief description of your experience in 25 words or less. If you are approved to be a DRB candidate, this information will be included next to your name on the Dispute Review Board Candidates List posted on MDOT's website.

Description:

Experienced Michigan construction engineer with ability to lead, manage and troubleshoot complex construction challenges on infrastructure projects using critical thinking, leadership and engineering skills.

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G. DRB Experience (include past and current experience if applicable)

Experience	MDOT	Other Public Agencies	Private Construction	Total
# of Jobs as DRB Member	0	0	0	0
# of Jobs as DRB Chair	0	0	0	0

H. Conflict of Interest and Ethics Statement

I will provide a conflict of interest statement and a disclosure statement describing past, present, anticipated, and planned relationships, including indirect relationships through my present employer, to other parties involved in a construction project, including but not limited to, relevant construction engineering and inspection (CEI) firms, contractors, or suppliers to the parties, parties' principals, or parties' counsel. Furthermore, I will disclose any close professional or personal relationships with all key members in the project. This will be completed prior to accepting a nomination to serve on a DRB panel for any construction project.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I agree	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not agree
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I. Compensation

I agree that I will be fully compensated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract and Dispute Review Board Agreement. This will be full compensation for on site time, review time, travel expenses, transportation, lodging, time for travel and incidentals for each day, or portion thereof that I am at an authorized DRB hearing. In addition, I will be paid the appropriate rate specified in the Dispute Review Board Agreement for additional days necessary to conduct a hearing that has been authorized.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I agree	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not agree
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J. Professional References

Provide the following information for at least two references to attest to your professional experience as depicted in this application. In addition, these references should be able to attest to your suitability to perform as a DRB member and provide additional information about you.

Name:	Phone:
Mark Geib	517-322-3333
Brenda O'Brien	517-322-1085
Mike Craine	517-546-4250

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Certification and Acknowledgement

The information in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. Moreover, I acknowledge that submittal of this application is not a guarantee of work as a DRB panel member. I further acknowledge that there is a selection and approval process that must occur in order to be a part of a project specific DRB panel. (Must be checked to submit form).

Signature of Applicant:



Send Completed Form to: R. Jason Clark, P.E.
Construction Contracts Engineer
8885 Ricks Rd
PO Box 30049
Lansing, MI 48909
ClarkJ25@michigan.gov

Chad E. Rajala, PE

Resident Project Manager

Mr. Rajala currently serves as a Resident Project Manager at Alfred Benesch & Company, as well as leading the Construction Services Group within our Michigan Division. Mr. Rajala's construction management experience spans over 175 transportation projects. His expertise spans a diverse range of disciplines, including: construction management and documentation; civil and structural engineering, infrastructure projects, program management, utility coordination, contract negotiations and materials management.

At MDOT, Mr. Rajala has garnered over 18 years of organizational experience working with the central office, regions and TSCs. During his tenure, Mr. Rajala has performed a variety of technical and managerial duties, including, but not limited to, the following highlights:

- Developed and technically reviewed contract documents for competitively-bid, performance-based highway construction contracts
- Provided evaluation of contractor performance, qualifications and bid prices
- Performed expected Contract Manager duties including checking for performance compliance, quality assurance audits, payment determination, penalty assessment and day-to-day oversight of operations

Mr. Rajala is also currently pursuing his Master's Degree in Business Administration from Lawrence Technological University. His credible construction and partnering skills with MDOT leadership, engineering, technical staff and FHWA make him an exceptional addition to any technical staff. His professional industry experience is summarized here:

- 2012-present: Resident Project Manager - Alfred Benesch & Company
- 1999-2010; 2011-2012: Project Engineer/Assistant Resident Engineer - MDOT
- 2010-2011: Central Office Construction Contracts Management Engineer - MDOT
- 1997-1999: University Region Maintenance and Consultant Contracts Engineer - MDOT
- 1995-1997: Staff Engineer - MDOT

Prior to joining Benesch, Mr. Rajala's specific professional highlights included the following responsibilities with the Michigan Department of Transportation:

Central Office Review

Engineer Manager: Mr. Rajala was responsible for team member selection regarding the Central Office Review Panel on behalf of MDOT. As such, he was in charge of schedule/coordination efforts between the COR panel, contractor(s), region offices and TSC/Local Agencies involved in a particular claim which passed through the panel. As Engineer Manager, Mr. Rajala ensured statewide uniformity and consistency within the review process, standard specifications, policies and procedures, making recommendations to the Engineer of Construction and Technology.

Independent Review Panel

Panel Facilitator: Selected by the University MDOT Region Engineer, Mr. Rajala facilitated coordination within an independent review panel to lead claim reviews on a specific project administered by the City of Ann Arbor. Following all activities completed by the panel, Mr. Rajala provided written documentation of the panel's discussion regarding the claim in order to develop a final consensus on the status of the claim presented.

Education

MBA, Lawrence Technological University (currently enrolled)

BS, Civil Engineering, Michigan Technological University (1995)

Years of Experience

18

Registrations and Certifications

Professional Engineer: MI (#49740)

NHI: Claims Evaluation and Resolution

MDOT Computerized Office Technician

American Traffic Safety Services Association: Traffic Control Supervisor

FHWA-NHI-134049: Use of CPM for Estimating, Scheduling, and Timely Completion

University Region - Brighton Transportation Service Center

Senior Construction Engineer: Throughout the three-county operating area of the Brighton TSC, Mr. Rajala performed all project engineering managerial duties. He managed, coordinated, reviewed and approved the work of field technicians, engineers-in-training, consultants and local agencies programs. Most of his recent duties included high impact bridge/road oversight responsibilities on US-23 corridor leading a team of technical staff in construction operations; participate in the development of bridge and road design plans; and mentor and provide technical guidance to TSC engineering and technical staff.

Professional Affiliations
ACEC

Bureau of Highway Delivery - Construction & Technology Division

Construction Contracts Management Engineer: During his time with MDOT's Bureau of Highway Delivery – Construction & Technology Division, Mr. Rajala supervised and provided leadership to the region services staff in construction contracts, FieldManager, wage compliance and construction staking. He was also responsible for ensuring statewide consistency in the managing and maintaining of MDOT transportation construction project documentation and developing and implementing policy and procedure change requirements for contract extras and addition work.

University Region - Brighton Transportation Service Center

Assistant Resident Engineer: Mr. Rajala acted as Project Engineer while administering an annual \$30 million MDOT bridge/road construction program. He was involved in extensive bridge rehabilitation/reconstruction/maintenance work and inspection oversight of over 100 bridges on state and local routes. Mr. Rajala also developed, modified and delivered traffic operation plans and performed oversight of MDOT consultant construction engineering including negotiations of proposals, development and oversight of budgets.