



CHARLES (Russ) RUSSELL

Russ began working in the construction industry after leaving the Navy in 1969. His construction career began by working on residential and commercial projects as a mason apprentice, quickly working his way up the ranks doing concrete block building, poured in place structures, and span-crete parking structures. After a few years, Russ became a licensed general contractor and began his own business with projects that varied from residential additions to commercial work. Russ's reputation grew and soon he was hired as a project manager for a developer in La Canada, CA. During his time at this company, Russ managed projects that included custom homes, tract houses, movie theaters, small shopping centers, and other commercial projects.

After working for the developer for 10 years, Russ was hired as a building inspector/plan checker for a City in Southern California. Within three years he was promoted to Building Official. As a Building Official his duties included the enforcement and interpretation of the adopted codes for his jurisdiction and assisting the City Attorney in creating city ordinances that pertained to the building regulations. Additionally, as Building Official he was responsible for overseeing code violations and enforcement. After 10-years as, Russ was able to retire as Building Official and re-entered the private sector.

In October of 2008, Russ was named Vice President of the VCA Code Group, an Orange, California based consulting and engineering firm, which provides building code evaluation and plan checking services for municipal and county building departments across California. As Vice President, Russ is responsible for the operations and management of the firm as well as for the strategic management and growth of the VCA Code Group. In this capacity, he manages sales, marketing, training, branding and community outreach.

Russ' current position with VCA allows him to share his enthusiasm for the building codes through various training opportunities. Presently, Russ is a member of the International Code Council (ICC), Los Angeles Chapter and serves on the Green Building Code Committee and the Fire Life Safety Committee. He is also responsible for the development of the Chapter's training program, which provides continued education for its members. Russ also serves on the ICC Orange Empire Chapter as the Education Committee Chairman and provides monthly training for the members of the Chapter. In this role, he is also responsible for coordinating a three day training event for both the Los Angeles and Orange Empire Chapters.

Due to his professional experience, Russ is able to interact with Building Officials, clients and associates, which allows him to keep abreast of trends in the construction and city governments. He is a certified Building Official, Plan Examiner, and Building Inspector and recently obtained Bachelors Degree in Business Management.

About VCA Code Group

For more than 30 years, The VCA Code Group has provided code administration services to city and county building municipal jurisdictions and fire departments. VCA's service includes plan review, inspection and temporary staffing and assistance with computerized permit processing, VCA offers a full range of building code-related services including assistance with plan checking, permit processing and inspection for thousands of projects to assorted occupancies and construction, from single family residences to high-rise offices, assembly and amusement structures, and heavy industrial buildings.