

2023 CMAA College of Fellows Nomination Form

General Information: Nominee

Name of Nominee John J. Smith, CCM

Job title Senior Consultant

Company/Organization ABC Construction

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City, State, ZIP

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General Information: Nominator

Name of Nominator Jane Doe

Job title Chapter President

Company/Organization CMAA LMN Chapter

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Section 1.0 – Nominee Contributions and Accomplishments

Section 1.01 Describe the nominee’s contributions to the construction management profession

Jay's 37-year career focused on construction management (CM), initially as an owner and subsequently as a service provider. Starting her career in the CM Division of the California Department of Transportation, Jay was one of the first women to run large construction projects as a Resident Engineer. She led teams of inspectors, office engineers, material testers, and administrators. As president of ABC & Associates, a highly respected Construction Management/Program Management firm, Jay grew the company to over 180 highly qualified professionals. Her leadership qualities led ABC&A into the future while expanding the company’s capabilities. Her vision for expansion and passion for CM while fostering a people-oriented family culture led to enormous success for the staff and the clients they served.

Section 1.02 Describe the nominee’s contributions to the construction management industry

Jay’s contribution to the CM industry is demonstrated by her mentorship for small firms. She began mentoring CM firms through the Mentor/Mentee program in the mid-2000s. Acme Associates, who have grown their business successfully over the last 20 years, was her first mentee. She continues this collaboration as a teaming partner. Currently, Jay mentors ABC Partners, a woman-owned CM firm where she assists with strategic planning and business guidance. Jay spearheaded an ACEC committee in 2002 to gain an understanding of the requirements and ramifications of SBI999, which impacted the CM industry related to prevailing wage. The committee remains a standing ACEC committee. She speaks regularly at CMAA and WTS events and took part in the 2022 ENR’s Groundbreaking Women in Construction Conference D&I panel. She sits on the SU Engineering Dean’s Advisory Board. Jay is a Governor on the ASCE National Construction Institute Board of Governors, which provides information on the latest construction methods, technologies, insights, and strategies to meet 21st-century challenges.

Section 1.03 Describe the nominee’s contributions to CMAA

Jay actively engaged with CMAA in the mid-1990s through the XYZ Chapter where she served on committees and then as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and finally as Year/Year President. She served on the ABC Chapter Board starting in 2016 and assisted with strategic planning, served on various committees, and developed a presentation on “Inspection 101”. She speaks at numerous CMAA events on a local and national level. Likewise, she served on the National board from 2015 to 2022 and served as the Chair in Year/Year. She regularly attends CMAA local events in northern and southern California and attends CMAA national conferences. Jay remains an active supporter of CMAA’s Foundation and strongly believes in their mission of advancing and supporting CM workforce development.

Section 1.04 Describe the nominee’s contributions to their own organization

As a senior consultant for Company, Jay provides BD support for CM pursuits, which includes meeting with clients, researching opportunities, and coaching interview teams. Her role in Construction Services West includes special projects where she and a colleague developed a presentation for senior leadership on CMAA’s certifications (CMIT, CACM, and CCM) with the goal of identifying individuals to participate in certification, and she will provide mentorship.

Section 2.0 – Nominee’s Commitment to the Future

Jay’s passion for construction management led her to CMAA, an organization where talented individuals discussed ideas, educated, and shared their passion for the industry. Jay spent her career with a commitment to the future, beginning with her involvement in the CMAA Local Chapter Scholarship Committee in the 1990s. Giving students the opportunity to fulfill their dream of obtaining a CM education is extremely worthwhile and important work for Jay. Her commitment to the future is focused on workforce development and education.

It is imperative for Jay to proactively educate about the CM profession while demonstrating that working as a contractor, service provider, or owner is a rewarding experience. Jay strongly endorses and actively engages in the education of students (elementary through high school) and their parents about the value the CM profession brings to our communities and society. Focusing on industry equity and equality, Jay will continue to speak in underserved communities to inspire youth to join the profession. At the University level, Jay serves on the State University Engineering Dean’s Advisory Board, where she provides input on the importance of the construction engineering and construction management programs. She will continue to participate as a guest lecturer at SU’s CM 101 as she has since 2021.

Jay is a Governor on the ABCD National Construction Institute Board of Governors. In this role, she supported the Young Professional Forum at the 2023 ABCD Construction Summit by co-development of a presentation and participation as a panel member. She will actively participate in the Construction Institute’s annual Student Days conference, where students are exposed to real-world experience in the construction industry through replicated work environment scenarios. Jay uses this platform to provide additional exposure to students in hopes of sparking their passion for the construction industry.

Jay will continue mentoring small and women-owned firms beginning their journey in the CM industry. She will provide guidance and education related to the management of their firms. Her mentoring focus on small CM firms in underserved communities will support the small business community who serve a significant role in our industry and communities. Jay will continue to mentor small firms to inspire entrepreneurs. She will continuously share experiences from her career leading a construction management firm.

Throughout her career, Jay has been energized when working with teams of co-workers and other professionals on solving issues and delivering infrastructure improvements to better the quality of lives of communities. The energy from these efforts will fuel her future passion as she continues to focus on the recruitment and development of future professionals in the construction profession, as well as mentoring the small business employers of those new professionals. She is committed to participating in CMAA chapter events and conferences to network with construction management professionals, participate on panels, glean best practices, and monitor industry trends to reinforce her efforts in the pursuit of the future workforce and lending support to small businesses that will be among the employers of that workforce.