



**Michael Benza, P.E.**

**Current Employer/Title:** Michael Benza & Associates, Inc. - Principal

**Profession:** Civil Engineer

<b>Work History:</b>	Principal	Michael Benza & Associates, Inc.	1972 – Present
	Project Engineer	Wheeler & Melena, Inc.	1969 – 1972
	Project/Design Engr.	A.E. Stilson & Associates	1967 - 1969
	Design Engineer	Rackoff Associates	1967
	Design Engineer	W.V. Halishak & Associates	1963 – 1967

**Experience:** Over 38 years in environmental and general civil engineering. Responsible for design of several major wastewater and water treatment plants, sanitary and storm water collection systems, and water distribution and storage systems. Reviewed all designs prepared for environmental projects. An example is the New Middletown wastewater treatment plant and collection system. This plant has a capacity of 0.55 million gallons per day. Utilizing new technology for disinfections and treatment. The firm is responsible for the design of several major roadway improvements, including the improvement of Mayfield Road in Cleveland Heights, Lake Road in Bay Village, and East 55<sup>th</sup> Street in Cleveland, Ohio. Prepared the design of several culverts and bridge replacements for Ohio Department of Transportation. Involved in the preparation of reports concerning water and sewer user charge systems, rate analysis, and rate setting. Projects range in value from less than \$100,000 to \$8,000,000.

**Alternative Dispute Resolution Experience:**

Panelist and sole arbitrator since 1981. Arbitrated disputes between communities concerning user charges, communities and construction contractors, construction contractors concerning contract disputes, and homeowners and construction contractors.

Served as sole arbitrator concerning dispute between two municipalities regarding user charges and fees for future sanitary sewer improvements.

Served as arbitrator in breach of contract dispute including equipment damage between contractor and municipality.

Served as panelist and arbitrator concerning numerous other construction disputes including contract terms and conditions, change order, delays, and building discrepancies. Disputes have involved communities, contractors, and homeowners.

**DISPUTE - SEWER USER CHARGE**

Served as chairman of 3 member panel to arbitrate between two municipalities relative to sewer user charge system. Recommended new contract terms and formula for determining the user charge system for future years.

**DISPUTE - CONSTRUCTION DISPUTE**

Served as chairman of panel to arbitrate construction between two municipalities relative to construction of a force main in one of the communities. Force main was to pass through one community but not provide service. Dispute revolved around plan approval, construction problems, clean up, resident satisfaction, claims for delay caused by reviewing community.

**DISPUTE - CONSTRUCTION DISPUTE**

Served as a member of a panel to arbitrate between owner of building and contractor. Dispute revolved around quality of exterior coating applied to building.

**DISPUTE - CONSTRUCTION DISPUTE**

Served as mediator for dispute between prime and sub contractor for steel erection. Prime Contractor claimed damages due to slow process, poor workmanship. Sub contractor claimed prime contractor slowed their process and did not provide proper working conditions.

**DISPUTE - CONSTRUCTION DISPUTE**

Served as sole arbitrator for dispute between prime contractor and sub contractor regarding finish grading of site. The prime contended that the sub did not adequately leave the site in a manner that was expected for his finish grading and that he incurred additional cost. Sub contractor contended that he met the terms of the contract and standard practice for rough grading.

**Alternative Dispute  
Resolution Training:**

AAA Fast Track Training, Cleveland, July 1996  
AAA Fast Track Orientation, Cleveland, March 1996  
AAA Basic Mediator Training, Cleveland, December 1991  
AAA Construction Advance Arbitrator Training, Cleveland, March 1994  
AAA Construction Advance Arbitrator Training, Orlando, April 2001  
ODOT Dispute Resolution, June 2006  
ODOT Dispute Resolution Chairman, June 2006

**Professional Licenses:** Professional Engineer: Ohio – 1967  
Professional Engineer: Pennsylvania – 1980  
Professional Engineer, State of Arizona – 2008

**Professional Associations:** American Society of Civil Engineers  
\*Cleveland Chapter President  
\*Environmental Committee & Management Committee  
\*Chair  
Water Environment Federation  
\*Northeast Section, Chair  
American Public Works Association  
American Water Works Association  
Municipal Engineers Association, Northeast Ohio  
\*President  
\*Chair of Several Committees

**Memberships:** American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Water Works Association  
Water Environment Federation  
American Public Works Association  
American Arbitration Association

**Education:** Ohio State University (BS, Civil Engineering - 1963)

**Citizenship:** United States of America

**Location:** 6860 West Snowville Road, Suite 100  
Brecksville, OH 44141