

Ernest Garcia, P.E.

Lake City Operations Engineer, District 2 Construction Office

Education

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering,
University of Florida (1972)

Professional Registrations

Professional Engineer, Florida Registration No. 31798
Professional Engineer, Georgia Registration No. 12144

Summary of Experience

Ernest Garcia has over 39 years of experience in construction including roads, bridges, buildings, high-rise construction, and land development projects. Mr. Garcia's experience also encompasses geotechnical engineering and materials testing as well as municipal and public works construction and administration, drainage design and Environmental Engineering.

EXPERIENCE

Florida Department of Transportation

As a Project Engineer or Project Manager in District VI was in responsible charge of many projects including the following:

- ☒ District VI, Lejeune Road, Dade County, Florida. Milling and resurfacing of over 7 miles of four lane construction.
- ☒ District VI, SR 922 Bascule Bridge over Indian Creek, Dade County, Florida. Complete rehabilitation of structure including mechanical and electrical components.
- ☒ District VI, 36th Street, Dade County, Florida. Milling and resurfacing of over 5 miles of multi-lane construction. Included a bridge widening with pile installation, reinforced earth wall construction, guardrail and barrier wall construction over the main Miami railroad yard.
- ☒ District VI, Port of Miami High Level Segmental Bridge, Dade County, Florida. Project Manager for the construction of a 2500' x 106' x 65' high, precast, concrete, post-tensioned segmental bridge over the Intercoastal Waterway in downtown Miami.

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Work included installation of over 250 30” precast concrete piles, many over 139 ft. long (water piers), 500 18” and 24” concrete piles (land piers), mass concrete monitoring, ½ mile of new concrete roadway pavement, french drain installation, fender system construction, steel sheet pile bulkhead construction, signalization and relocation of ½ mile of railroad.

- ☒ District VI, I-95, Miami, Dade County, Florida. Project Manager for a widening and partial reconstruction of a section of interstate including new concrete pavement, bridge widening, concrete pavement grinding, and concrete pavement section replacement.

As an Area Engineer (Districts 4, 6 and 2) for the State Construction Office performed Quality Assessment Reviews of construction and administrative procedures on numerous projects around the state.

- ☒ Projects reviewed throughout the state included District I, Edison Bridge, District IV, Palm City Bridge, I-75 and Tamiami Trail, District V, Seabreeze Bridge and SR 400, District VI, Dadeland Parking Garage and Miami International Airport Flyover, among others.

As State Specifications Engineer for three years managed all production activities, specification development and the Product Evaluation Office. Coordinated the decentralization of the specification package production function of the office. Coordinated the conversion of the Specification Book into Metric Units. Started the process of converting the Specification Book into Active Voice, for which he performed the final editorial review later as an Area Engineer.

Served on the AASHTO Committee, which rewrote the “Guide Specifications for Highway Construction” into the Active Voice.

As Resident Support Engineer was in responsible charge of In-House projects in the Gainesville Construction area. Managed the work of five Project Engineers. Projects included the following:

- ☒ District II, US 301, Alachua and Bradford County, Florida. Milling and Resurfacing of over 12 miles of roadway including the addition of shoulders, turnlanes, and medians. Work included superpave asphalt, drainage improvements and miscellaneous construction.

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- ☒ District II, SR 26, Alachua County, Florida. Milling and resurfacing of several miles of roadway including the construction of new medians, and signalization improvements in front of the Oaks Mall.
- ☒ District II, SR 20, Alachua County, Florida. Bridge widening including pile driving, new bent construction, and new concrete pavement.

Provided support for the Consultant Project Managers in the area of MOT and contract administration, including making the FHWA participation determinations on all exempt projects.

Served as the Resident Engineer in the Gainesville Construction Office from September, 2001 until November 2004.

Performed as the District Construction Support Engineer from November 2004 until March 2010. As District Construction Support Engineer Mr. Garcia acted as the Assistant District Construction Engineer and managed the District Construction Office Staff including the Plans Review Section, the Environmental Section, Final Estimates, Compliance, and various other Administrative Personnel. Provided District support, guidance and policy decisions to the four Resident Offices. Was responsible for making the decisions on FHWA participation and Time Extensions on all exempt projects for three of the Resident Offices.

Was named one of the Districts first two Operations Engineers in March 2010. While the Lake City Operations Engineer Mr. Garcia was in responsible charge of and managed the operation of the combined Construction Resident and Maintenance Resident Offices for the Lake City area.

Private Sector

As manager and principal engineer of several testing and geotechnical engineering firms, including Ardaman & Assoc. and Pittsburgh Testing Laboratories, provided quality control and inspection services for projects throughout Florida and Georgia. Including the following:

- ☒ Provided quality control of concrete production for twin-32 story towers in downtown West Palm Beach.
- ☒ Provided quality control of construction materials and engineering inspection for high rise multi-structure office complex known as Phillips

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Point. Engineering work included all the construction inspection starting with the foundation system and included all inspection of reinforcing steel placement and substructure and superstructure concrete.

- ☒ Provided geotechnical foundation design for numerous low to mid-rise buildings. Typical foundations included pile foundations, vibra flotation densified soils, auger-cast pile systems as well as soils densified by dynamic compaction. Engineering services included foundation system installation inspection, pile load tests, structural load tests, and final certification of the construction process to the owner.
- ☒ As an Environmental Engineer working in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach County supervised soils investigations, monitor well installation and sampling, and environmental certifications of proposed construction sites. Installed water-monitoring wells in numerous gas stations around the state.
- ☒ While living in West Palm Beach in the mid 1980's served on the city Code Enforcement Board. The Board made decisions and levied fines on city code violations.

Municipal Engineering

As Project Engineer for the City of Macon, Georgia supervised roadway construction including soil-cement base work, asphalt placement, curb and median construction and storm sewer construction.

- ☒ Project Engineer for the Oglethorpe Bridge widening including concrete pile installation and all construction inspection.
- ☒ Project Engineer for the Municipal Bus Station addition, which was a multi-story building, founded on an auger-cast pile system.
- ☒ Project Engineer for paving projects throughout the city in what was, at the time, the largest construction budget in the history of the city.
- ☒ As Chief Drainage Engineer primary function was drainage analysis and storm sewer design. Reviewed submitted drainage plans for approval by the City Engineer. Responsible for storm sewer design from preliminary to final contract. Developed a complete citywide drainage map showing all the primary drainage areas, which is still in use today.

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FDOT, Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) Experience

As Project Engineer/Manager on numerous projects with FDOT was in responsible charge of project MOT requirements including but not limited to; approving requested changes, inspection to determine compliance with project requirements, night inspections and compliance with any other required FDOT Procedures.

☒ Project Engineer/Manager from 8/88 to 12/89.

As State Construction Office Area Engineer performed Quality Assurance Reviews on District Construction Projects to determine compliance with DOT Procedure and specific project requirements, including MOT.

☒ Area Engineer Districts 4 and 6 from 12/89 to 9/92

☒ Area Engineer District 2 from 9/95 to 9/97

As Resident Support Engineer acted as MOT Coordinator responsible for Quality Assessment Reviews for all projects in Residence. Coordinated with the Project Engineers any changes requested by the Contractor or required by changed conditions on the project. Reviewed all changes to FDOT MOT Procedures to determine impact to current construction practices.

☒ Resident Support Engineer from 9/97 to 9/01.

☒ Responsible for all the MOT Training for District Construction personnel in both the Advanced and the Intermediate Course.

☒ Resident Engineer for Gainesville Construction from 9/01 to 11/04.

☒ District Construction Support Engineer from 11/04 to 3/2010.

☒ Lake City Operations Engineer from 3/2010 until the present.

☒ Member of the statewide MOT Committee for the last several years.