



MICHAEL E. WETZEL AIA, NCARB

Principal Architect

Sketching and drawing from a young age, Mike found his calling through a high school drafting class. Realizing that architecture balanced his creative yet pragmatic mindset, he embarked on a path to achieve his objective. He gained valuable construction experience as Combat Engineer in the United States Army prior to enrolling in the Community College of Southern Nevada's (now CSN) Associates degree program. Working his way through school at a time when the computer aided drafting technology was gaining steam and transforming the profession, he eagerly embraced this technology and began teaching drafting courses at CSN.

Mike joined the JMA team in the late 80's while working his way through the architectural undergraduate program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. It was at JMA where he was first introduced to Steve Richardson. Over the years Mike has had the privilege of working with some very talented architects and designers and has taken the opportunity to learn from each.

In 1997 Mike accepted a position at LGA while completing his master's degree. This was his first exposure to the business side of architecture. Learning the details of firm management including resource allocation, budgeting, and scheduling, he found his second passion in the field. With the knowledge that one can bring creativity to any aspect of the business, Mike was driven to strike out on his own once he obtained a Nevada architectural license in 2003.

Mike established Wetzel Architecture, Ltd, a veteran-owned business, in 2005 with the mission to build a process-driven firm that efficiently and effectively delivered high quality designs. He grew the practice over nearly a decade, always keeping in touch with Steve. Finally, in 2014 the time was right to join forces and Richardson Wetzel Architects was formed.

Today, Mike oversees the management of the firm using internally developed processes that consistently deliver well designed and meticulously documented projects that are on-time and on-budget. Mike is also an avid photographer and can often be found behind the lens capturing the firm's projects.

EDUCATION

- Master of Architecture, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (1999)
- Bachelor of Science in Architecture, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (1993)
- Associates in General Studies, Community College of Southern Nevada (1987)

REGISTRATION

- Registered Architect:
 - Nevada: No. 4844
 - Utah: No. 6344529
 - New York: No. 031852
 - Arizona: No. 50300
 - Georgia: No. RA014008
 - Missouri: No. A-2014030721
- Certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

AFFILIATIONS

- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Third Year Interior Design Studio, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2003-2004)
- Second Year Interior Design Studio, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2001-2002)
- Technical Sketching, Community College of Southern Nevada (1989-1990)