

# Alan B. Itzkowitz\*, FCSI

*"For your commitment and contributions to the mission of the Institute; for development of guide specifications, and guidance in proper coordination of drawings with specifications for better communication; for significant efforts to educate the northern Illinois construction community to produce quality contract documents; and for long-standing dedication to improvement, implementation, and promotion of the Institute's certification programs, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 8th day of September 2016."*  
Austin, Texas



ALAN B. ITZKOWITZ was born in 1950 in Chicago, Illinois. He obtained a Bachelor of Architecture in Structures from the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) in 1973, and a Master of Business Administration from DePaul University in 1979.

Alan's passion for specification writing was sparked while working for a structural engineering firm. Throughout his career he was involved in the specification process, writing project specifications and training architects and engineers to write specifications, eventually becoming an in-house specification writer. He served as a FEMA disaster technical support specialist in the recovery efforts after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He also served as a member of the City of Chicago's Public Building Commission (PBC) Technical Committee, assisting the PBC in the development and maintenance of master specifications and design guidelines for city-owned facilities.

After attending his first CSI meeting in 1987, Alan quickly became involved in both the Chicago and Northern Illinois chapters, serving on both boards of directors. Alan constantly promoted membership in CSI and participation in local chapters, along with CSI's certificate and certification programs, helping more architects, engineers, and product representatives become involved in CSI activities and

programs. He taught CDT study classes from 1993 to 2013, reaching over 500 exam candidates. Alan was a three-year member of the Certification Maintenance Group, and a member of the Certification Strategic Group.

Alan was an independent specifications consultant. His work included a variety of projects, such as educational, offices, mixed-use, transportation, military, public works, police and fire stations, industrial, and historic renovation. His expertise included coordination of the project manual with the drawings. He also worked with building product manufacturers to improve guide specifications for a wide range of products. Alan made several presentations to product representatives to assist them in understanding what specification writers do and how they do it, and the information they need to properly write and interpret specifications.

Alan and his wife lived in Buffalo Grove, Illinois. They loved theater and music, especially the middle school bands conducted by their son, as well as traveling internationally to visit their daughter in each of the exotic locations where she lived. Alan's hobbies included building things around the house, travel photography, and motorcycle riding.

Itzkowitz passed away on 30 September 2021 in Buffalo Grove, Illinois.

## **CSI Membership**

Chicago Chapter, 1987

Northern Illinois Chapter, 1990

## **Institute Offices, Committees**

Certification Maintenance Group, FY 2014-2016

## **Chapter Offices**

### **Chicago Chapter**

Director, FY 1991-1992, FY 2014-2016

## **Northern Illinois Chapter**

Director, FY 1992-1995

President, FY 1999

Secretary, FY 1996-1997, FY 2001

Treasurer, FY 2012-2016

## **Awards**

### **Institute**

Honorable Mention, specifications competition, 1995, 1996

President's Plaque, 2015

### **Northern Illinois Chapter**

Dick Dashner Memorial Award for Service, 2001

### **Chicago Chapter**

Chicago Chapter Fellow, 2021