WHEN DO I NEED TO GET AN ENGINEER OR AN ARCHITECT?

The law requires a Kansas licensed architect or engineer to design projects and systems meeting specific criteria in the State of Kansas.

The services of a Kansas licensed architect are required when:
- Designing new buildings (Excluding single family dwellings & farm buildings)
- Designing changes to existing buildings which affect structural components
- Designing changes to existing buildings which affect the fire resistive qualities of the structure

A Kansas licensed professional engineer is required when:
- Design or modification of fire detection
- Design or modification of automatic sprinkler system
- Design or modification of automatic smoke detectors system
- Design or modification of flammable gas detection systems
- Design or modification of liquefied petroleum gas systems

The involvement of an architect or engineer in the design stage reduces the chance that a safety related code violation will be identified during construction and also reduces the delay and expense of correcting any safety problems before an occupancy permit can be granted.

Before hiring a Kansas licensed architect or engineer be sure you do some research and ask some important questions such as:

1.) Are they familiar with K.A.R 22-1-7 regarding code footprint submittals?
2.) Are they designing to the editions adopted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal?
3.) What are their timelines for acceptance?
4.) Who do they hire to do the construction work?
5.) What is their construction warranty?