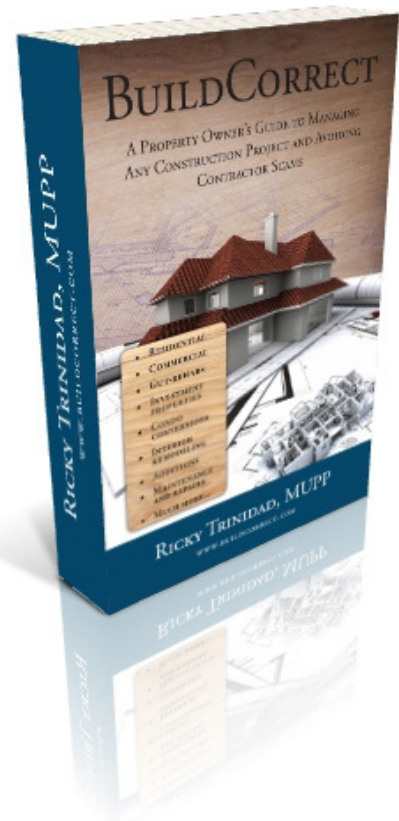


## About the Author

The author, Ricky Trinidad, received a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is a practicing real estate developer and general contractor for over twelve years. He has developed and constructed subdivision communities, numerous single-family home and commercial developments, as well as a multitude of gut rehab and remodeling projects throughout his career. His vast experience in working directly with large and small contracting companies and laborers, as well as his educational experience and work with governmental entities are true assets to BuildCorrect. As an owner and manager of multiunit complexes and as a homeowner himself, the author desires to share his experience and knowledge with other property owners to help protect and empower them so that they can maximize the benefits of their construction projects. In his own words:



*"The need for this book is tremendous! I've seen property owners get scammed over and over again by contractors who stretch the project out as long as they can and squeeze every penny possible out of the owners' pockets. Contractors call this "juicing" or "milking the project" (see our "Scam List" in chapter 7). I've seen property owners overpay for materials and labor with no defense and no real way of knowing how much they should spend. Many owners sense that they're being taken advantage of, but don't know where to turn or what to do because every solution seems to be more expensive and more tedious than the problem itself. When I see friends and family members that are caught in situations like these, I try to give my time to help, but my personal time and ability to become involved in every situation I encounter is limited. With this book and our free online resources, I hope to help reverse the contractor scam trend on a macro level. I aim to assist numerous property owners regardless of their location. This book is a true and comprehensive guide that provides real resources and tools that property owners can incorporate into their specific construction projects. I'm happy to share my expertise and the tools I personally use in every project I undertake."*