



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**

Beth Shimogawa, Corporate Communications  
808-387-4928 | [beth.Shimogawa@coffman.com](mailto:beth.Shimogawa@coffman.com)

**Donald F. Dickerson Associates, Inc. (DFDA) Is Now  
Coffman Engineers**

Legacy Los Angeles MEP engineering firm expands Coffman's capabilities

LOS ANGELES, California, April 22, 2024 -- Coffman Engineers, Inc. (Coffman) announced today the finalization of an asset purchase agreement with Donald F. Dickerson Associates, Inc. (DFDA). Representatives from both firms signed the deal on April 19th. This strategic partnership brings together the experience of both firms, with Coffman welcoming three DFDA owners and 18 staff members.

Established in 1961, DFDA's legacy of projects shapes the LA skyline. DFDA's decision to join Coffman focuses on providing continuity of services for clients and long-term career opportunities for their employees.

"DFDA has always been a family firm. I know my father, Donald Dickerson, would have been excited for us to become part of the Coffman team and continue that legacy," said April Trafton, DFDA President. "This new chapter allows us to continue serving clients how we have, and we will have access to additional resources and services at Coffman."

DFDA and Coffman share similar project experience across many markets, and DFDA adds significant experience in high rise, multi family, and mixed use projects. Leadership and staff from both firms have existing relationships and working partnerships, which provide a foundation for a smooth transition of projects, clients, and employees.

"DFDA has a long and respected history in LA and throughout California. It is an honor to join with their engineers and designers and gain the experience they bring. Both of our firms share a commitment to high quality services and a friendly work culture, and we've already proven that this will be an amazing team," said Jonathan Wirthlin, PE, Vice President and Managing Principal of Los Angeles for Coffman.

As Coffman, DFDA will continue to support clients and honor project commitments with the same staff and quality. Within a few months of closing, DFDA will move to Coffman's new office in the West San Fernando Valley. Together, DFDA and Coffman provide clients with increased MEP capacity in addition to Coffman's existing capabilities in civil, structural, and fire protection engineering.

See the deal fact sheet and Coffman's website for more information

<https://www.coffman.com/news/dfda-joins-coffman-engineers/>



### **About Coffman Engineers**

Coffman Engineers is a multidiscipline engineering consulting firm that offers clients local, personalized services by integrating many disciplines including civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, and other specialties. Coffman has 780+ employees in 21 offices across the U.S. committed to the team effort it takes to build a better world. Visit [coffman.com](http://coffman.com) or connect with us on social media.

### **About Donald F. Dickerson and Associates (DFDA)**

DFDA was established in January 1961 when Donald F. Dickerson joined three engineering professionals and began offering services to the Los Angeles community. This woman owned business provides professional mechanical, electrical, plumbing, life safety, and fire protection services for the construction industry to architects, developers, contractors, and building owners. DFDA has designed buildings throughout the United States and overseas.

###

For more information about this topic, please call Beth Shimogawa at 808.387.4928 or email [beth.shimogawa@coffman.com](mailto:beth.shimogawa@coffman.com).

# FACT SHEET: DONALD F. DICKERSON ASSOCIATES, INC. (DFDA) WILL JOIN COFFMAN ENGINEERS

Los Angeles MEP engineering firm expands Coffman's capabilities

Together, Coffman Engineers and DFDA offer stronger mechanical and electrical engineering capabilities for clients throughout Los Angeles, greater California, and long-term careers for employees.

## Highlights

- ▶ Los Angeles-based MEP engineering consulting firm [Donald F. Dickerson Associates, Inc.](#) (DFDA) executed a Letter of Intent (LOI) on November 7, 2023, to join [Coffman Engineers, Inc.](#) (Coffman).
- ▶ The focus of this transition provides continuity in services for DFDA clients and long-term career opportunities for DFDA employees.
- ▶ Both firms have strong relationships with local developers and architects and collaborate with many partners to deliver multidiscipline engineering.
- ▶ DFDA immediately increases Coffman's mechanical and electrical engineering resources and capabilities in Los Angeles and companywide.
- ▶ Both firms share project experience across many markets and DFDA brings significant depth in high-rise, multi-family, and mixed use projects.
- ▶ DFDA will finalize an asset purchase agreement with Coffman targeting an April 19, 2024 closing date.

## After Closing

- ▶ DFDA ownership **April Trafton, Phillip Trafton, CPD, and Andranik (Andy) Khechoumian, PE**, will join Coffman as Principal Advisors.
- ▶ Eighteen DFDA staff members will become Coffman employees and join the Encino office.
- ▶ DFDA (as Coffman) will support clients and all current and future projects with the same staff and attentive service.
- ▶ DFDA clients will have access to increased MEP capacity and other offerings including structural and civil engineering, code consulting, and commissioning.

## Milestone Dates

### November 7, 2023

Letter of Intent (LOI) Signed

### April 2, 2024

LOI Announcement

### April 19, 2024

Deal Closes

### April 22, 2024

DFDA first day as Coffman

### April 22, 2024

Closing Announcement

## Coffman Engineers + DFDA

# 65

Los Angeles Staff

# 780+

Staff Companywide



### COMBINING STRONG FIRMS

Shared commitment to high-quality services and a caring, friendly work culture.



### STRONG WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Longstanding relationships and working experience together.



### LOCAL STAFF, NATIONAL REACH

Commitment to local engineers and projects, improving our community, and providing regional and national client support.

# DFDA, INC. WILL JOIN COFFMAN ENGINEERS

---

## About Coffman Engineers, Inc.

Coffman Engineers integrates many engineering disciplines and specialty services to offer clients the local, personalized service of a small firm backed by the capabilities typically found with large engineering consultants. Coffman began as a seven-person structural firm in 1979 and has grown in geographic presence, markets, and engineering services. Today, Coffman is proud to be an ENR Top500 engineering firm while remaining true to founding values and focusing on the success of clients and employees.

Coffman's Los Angeles presence includes two offices in Encino and Downtown Los Angeles offering civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, and fire protection engineering for projects throughout California, the Southwest, and beyond.

- ▶ Los Angeles Staff: 40
- ▶ California Staff (Bay Area, Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego): 193
- ▶ Years in Business: 45

## About DFDA, Inc.

Donald F. Dickerson Associates, Inc (DFDA) was established in January 1961 when Donald F. Dickerson joined three other engineering professionals and began offering services to the architectural community in Los Angeles.

This woman owned business provides professional mechanical, electrical, plumbing, life safety, and fire protection services for the construction industry through their many architectural, developer & contractor clients, and building owner clients. DFDA has designed buildings throughout the United States and overseas.

DFDA's staff includes experienced individuals who have worked together for many years. Their team is highly respected in the industry for providing quality professional services. DFDA's staff is fully knowledgeable with state and local codes with a number of them sitting on code writing or advisory boards.

DFDA is Certified with the County of Los Angeles as a Women Business Enterprise (WBE) and is Certified as a Small Business with the State of California.

- ▶ Staff: 24
- ▶ Years in Business: 63



### Coffman Engineers - Encino

16133 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1010  
Encino, CA 91436

### Coffman Engineers - DTLA

626 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1010  
Los Angeles, CA 90017



[www.coffman.com](http://www.coffman.com)