3 Questions to Ask BEFORE You Hire A CASp

If you are thinking of hiring a CASp to perform a site survey, prepare a report, or consult on an ADA issue, chances are you want to maximize your protection from ADA lawsuits. Hiring a CASp is the best (well really only) way to protect your business. However, just like not all insurance agents are going to get you the right protection, not all CASp's are going to perform the same. We want to make sure you are prepared to hire a CASp that will give you the best report and solutions for your project. So we have identified 3 questions you must ask any potential CASp. Not all CASp reports are created equal so use these resources to find the right CASp for your needs.

1) What does the CASp do to prep for a site survey?

When LRS...Architecture staff attended a CASp seminar about report writing, we were rather surprised to find out that many other CASps do little to no prep work before arriving on a site. This step is critical to determine the scope of work, understand the site, and prepare the materials so that no areas are missed on the report. You want to find out if before a CASp performs a survey they review plans to identify the accessible features that are present and needing to be surveyed. You also want to make sure the CASp is looking

into permit history to determine what code and standards are applicable to your site and building.

2) What is the CASp's process during a site survey?

This is an important question because not all CASp's have a routine when on site and not all CASp's have created standard recording documents. When you interview a CASp you want to find out what they will be doing on site and how they will keep track of the information they find. Make sure they have a game plan that will keep things orderly on site. This step combined with good prep work can make the difference between having a complete report or not. Since not all sites have the same features or layout, the process on site is critical to make sure all areas are inspected.

3) How do they create their standard reports?

Each CASp report will look different from the next because the CASp program has not given many requirements to the document. The easiest way to get information about their report is to ask for

	How many total parking spaces are there	Used in Calculations Below	102
11B-208.2	Auto Calculation: Spaces Required	5	
11B-208.2.4	Auto Calculation: Van Spaces Required	1	
11B-208.2	How many total accessible spaces are there?	Non-Compliant, Insufficient Parking Spaces	2
11B-208.2.4	How many van accessible are there?	Compliant	2
	Architectural Barrier:	Number of parking spaces	
	Recommended Barrier Removal:	Provide additional parking spaces.	

a sample and see how easily you can read through it. However, finding out how they compile the report is important as well. Having a standard process ensures completeness and accuracy. You also want to make sure they are combing through the data from their site survey diligently.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT LRS…ARCHITECTURE AT 916-995-4798.