

# Eric DeChant

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Operations consultant and legal engineer with a passion for helping organizations solve complex problems. 20 years' experience in leadership, project management, sales and customer relations. Enjoys leveraging a unique skill set to improve legal and business operations. Over 10 years working with product development and innovation consultancies, trained in design thinking and Agile project management. Skilled in:

Strategic Planning & Innovation • IP & Patent Law • Regulatory Compliance  
Data Analysis & Visualization • Process Mapping & Metrics • Project & Change Management  
Negotiation • Sales • Contracts • Cross-Functional Team Building • Ethics

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## EXPERIENCE

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BlueGriffin Consulting (Chicago, IL)

**Owner & Principal Consultant**, 5/2017 - Present

- Applies design thinking and User Experience (UX) analysis to create innovative solutions to business problems.
- Oversees lead consultants serving a wide range of business organizations and nonprofits.
- Performs strategic planning, data analytics and complexity reduction.

Entertainment Cruises (Chicago, IL)

**U.S. Coast Guard Licensed First Mate**, 3/2016 - 9/2019

- Led marine crews of 50 employees serving over 700 passengers on Lake Michigan cruises.
- Built employee training and team-building programs, ensured adherence to corporate and governmental regulations.
- Responsible for crew and passenger safety and medical care, maintenance and oversight of critical systems including propulsion, power generation, fire suppression and climate control.

DeChant Performance (Chicago, IL)

**Business Efficiency Consultant**, 1/2012 - 5/2017

- Founded company specializing in business energy usage and efficiency analysis.
- Provided efficiency reports and presentations, project management and specialty contracting services.
- Coordinated supply chains, energy providers and lending institutions to obtain energy efficiency incentives and discounted-rate loans.
- Facilitated over \$500,000 in energy savings, tax incentives and rebates.

DeChant Contracting & Consulting (Chicago, IL)

**General Contractor**, 12/2001 - 11/2012

- Operated general contracting company specializing in commercial and luxury residential projects, property development and property management.
- Ushered clients through the design/finance/permit/build process including cost projections, financing proposals and Return On Investment (ROI) calculations.
- Oversaw project quality control and logistics for \$8 million loft conversion project in Chicago West Loop.
- Built full-scale prototypes of retail business locations for innovation consulting firms.

Insight Product Development (Chicago, IL)

**Crew Foreman & Prototyping Machinist**, 10/1998 - 12/2001

- Crew leader for \$2.5 million commercial office space remodel and prototyping fabrication shop buildout.
- Planned setup of office space and machine shop, including installation of large-format 3D printers and CNC mills.
- Worked in prototyping shop to build new product prototypes per CAD drawings and specifications including telecommunications gear, medical devices and consumer products.

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## EDUCATION

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**Master of Science in Law**, Intellectual Property & Data Science Focus, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, 5/2020

**Bachelor of Arts**, Business Administration & Project Management, DePaul University, 3/2017

**Liberal Arts & Sciences**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 8/1996 to 5/1998

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## CERTIFICATIONS & TRAININGS

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**Procertas COBOT Expert Qualification**, Microsoft Word & Excel, 1/2020

**Project Management Professional (PMP)**, Project Management Institute, 8/2016

**Agile Project Management**, Project Management Institute, 5/2016

**Merchant Mariner 100 Ton Master Captain**, United States Coast Guard, 4/2016

**Building Envelope and Energy Modeling**, Building Performance Institute, 5/2013

**City of Chicago General Contractor**, 12/2001

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## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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American Society of Legal Engineers (ASLE) (Chicago, IL)

**Founder**, 12/2019 - present

- Founded 501(c)6 nonprofit dedicated to developing educational and ethical standards for legal engineering.
- Lobbies law and engineering schools to create legal technology degree programs.

Rainbow Hospice Good Mourning Program (Chicago, IL)

**Volunteer**, 1/2019 - present

- Provides support for bereaved families by engaging children and mentoring parents.
- Assists program facilitators with event management and participant feedback.

Oriole Park Advisory Council (Chicago, IL)

**Startup Consultant**, 2/2016 - 6/2018

- Advised volunteer board members on startup and administration of Chicago Park District-sanctioned advisory council.
- Advocated for local park initiatives including playground renovations and fundraising events.