



Spotlight on: Bailey's Construction Unlimited

Tyrone Bailey was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. As the oldest child of 5 younger siblings, he helped his mother raise the children when times got difficult. He wishes that he could have finished school, but he knew that he needed to bring more money in for the family. At the age of 12, he began working for an older lady in the neighborhood who owned a quad apartment complex. Tyrone was paid for doing janitorial tasks and yard work, later becoming proficient at overall building maintenance as well. "I was a workaholic from an early age," he smiled. At the age of 15, his mother decided to move the family to Los Angeles to get away from the hurricanes and other weather systems common in the South.

Two years later, friends of the family had moved to Portland, Oregon and suggested that the Baileys come up too. Tyrone remembers their arrival. "We came to Portland in 1980 and were witness to the results of the Mount Saint Helens eruption. Portland had a coating of ash, it was pretty surreal. I remember how roomy the neighborhoods felt and was impressed with how many people had fruit trees in their yards," said Bailey. He quickly got a job at the brand new Marriott Hotel on the waterfront and worked there for about 7 years. After getting married, Tyrone and his new bride moved to Los Angeles for a couple years. Tyrone went to school for his CDL and became a commercial truck driver, managing a tow truck for the Wilshire Division police garage.

In 1989, Tyrone transferred his new family back to Portland to settle down for good. He got a job driving a route for Waste Management and his easygoing personality quickly caught on with customers. "I would drive my route and people would look forward to seeing me for their weekly visit, it was incredible. Customers would wait by their trash cans to say hi, babies would wave at me, even dogs would sit and wait," he laughs.

Because his driving shifts ended so early in the day, he began doing side jobs with Workhorse Construction to pass the time and make more money. In 2009, Tyrone left Waste Management and joined Workhorse full time, where he learned more about the construction industry and entrepreneurship.

In 2012, Tyrone opened Bailey's Construction Unlimited, a full service hauling company. Some of his recent clients include NW Natural Gas, Stacy and Witbeck, and City of Portland.

"OAME takes the weight of doubt from your shoulders that all entrepreneurs experience. Their meetings give me the confidence of knowing that possibilities are out there. During the last Contractors meeting, I made notes of who I wanted to network with after the meeting. To my surprise, I barely got out of the chair and I had 3-4 people approaching me for potential business," Bailey stated.

For more about Bailey's Construction Unlimited, call 503-444-7666 or email tbailey@baileysconstructionunlimited.com

