

# VOLITION TRUCKING, LLC (MBE)



**Daniel Coleman, owner of Volition Trucking, LLC, says it takes grit and grace not only to drive heavy trucks of gravel and sand for construction jobs but also to run your own business.**

Volition Trucking Co., LLC, operates tri-axle and quad-axle dump trucks with payloads reaching 28 to 35 tons. Mr. Coleman digs basements and sewers, excavates sidewalks and parking lots, performs site preparation and demolition. Coleman believes he was born for heavy labor and to operate heavy trucks. As he recalls, he was around this type of work since he was a kid. "I played with Tonka trucks and imagined myself driving a big truck one day."

Coleman's childhood dream turned into a reality. He formed Volition Trucking Company in 1999. His company is listed in the City of St. Louis's M/WBE Directory as a site preparation contractor for specialized freight and trucking and he is licensed as an operating engineer for heavy equipment. As his company name reflects, he had the will and desire to start his own trucking company and make his own decisions. He averages three to four employees on his staff depending on the workload.

Volition Trucking Company's growth coincides with 21st-century development projects throughout the St. Louis region. As Coleman states, "In the past 20 years, I have worked on every apartment construction project in the city of St. Louis." Coleman proudly notes his more prominent projects include the NGA West construction project, the Major League Soccer Stadium Project, and Preservation Square Apartments a Housing Development project on 15th Street and Cass Avenue.

Not only is Coleman known for his quality work but also for his showmanship and personality. As he describes, "You can't help but notice me when you come to the job site. I am the only one wearing a cowboy hard hat and cowboy boots, and everyone calls me Coleman."

Coleman's strong work ethic has allowed him to be successful in the construction industry for nearly 35 years. "My work speaks for itself. No one can outwork me. My parents worked extremely hard, and they instilled the same in me," he added.

In 2016, Colman received the Contractor of the Year Award from MOKAN, the St. Louis-based Construction Contractors Association. He shares his success story with students in the MOKAN pre-apprenticeship program, an intense 10-week educational course to ensure preparedness for entry into the St. Louis construction workforce. As he describes, "I talk to the students about what it takes to be a positive, qualified person in the industry and what's expected of them. And when I see young men and women on the job, I try to give them positive energy so they can be an asset to a company instead of a liability."

In helping to prepare the next generation of construction workers, Coleman offers advice to anyone interested in starting their own business. "You must have the will and make sure your finances are in order. You must be disciplined and understand it's not a nine to five job. Humble yourself when you're around co-workers and try to surround yourself with positive people," he explains. These are all principals Coleman says he has learned over the years while operating his business.