

Environmental - Remediation - Construction Support

WILEY ROBB & ASSOCIATES, LLC (WBE)



New Certified Firm Enthusiastic About Local Business Development

To be successful in business, it is vital to have leaders who are not afraid to get their hands dirty. Tristen Wiley has spent her career working with complex chemicals and in areas that most people would find dirty and dangerous. "I owned a construction company for 10 years and served in the Tennessee Air National Guard Division of Civil Engineering," said Wiley.

A native of Clarksville, TN, just west of Nashville, Wiley is proud to call St. Louis home. She moved here over 20 years ago to pursue a master's degree in environmental science at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Her education and training in runway repairs, petroleum storage, emergency response, plumbing, electrical, and concrete work has taken Wiley to Spain and other countries around the world.

In April 2019, Wiley and her business partner Jacqueline Robb, combined their environmental, construction, and engineering skills and started Wiley Robb & Associates, LLC – an environmental consulting firm. "We offer environmental site assessments; underground storage tank management services; soil and groundwater sampling and testing; mold, radon, and asbestos inspections; and construction support services," she said.

Wiley and her team of four have already unearthed rare items during a soil analysis project on old residential properties in downtown St. Louis. "We found some interesting medicine bottles from apothecaries that date back to the 1820s. We believe they were from general stores or doctors' offices and thrown out back along Franklin and Jefferson Streets...and here we are 200 years later digging them up," she said.

Wiley is enthusiastic about growing her company. She has her sights set on the NGA development, the Cortex community and St. Louis Lambert International Airport. "Airport contract work would definitely grow our business because the airport continually needs improvements and a diversification of trades necessary to maintain the facility."

Wiley put in the hard work and gained the certifications needed to participate on airport contracts. "The process for certification was simple and fluid. We followed the instructions to a T. We provided every document on time and we were able to get our certification in just under four months."

The Airport works with contractors like Wiley to maintain its massive operation. The Business Diversity Development department certifies firms for the City of St. Louis's local Minority and Women Business Enterprise program, as well as the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise programs.

"It's important to gain those certifications to help prime contractors meet their participation goals as well as set an example in St. Louis that women of color can have these opportunities. We intend to be successful and to help other entrepreneurs meet their goals," said Wiley.

"Have the power to empower," is Wiley's motto. She offers this advice for anyone wanting to follow her example to become a business owner. "Know your motivation, know your passion, and know what drives you to get up and do this every day. Make a business plan on how you want to start and grow your business and track those goals. Take advantage of the free resources and don't be afraid to ask for help."

Wiley's company is headquartered in Webster Groves. Being the owner of an environmental firm, Wiley is an avid outdoor enthusiast and sports fan. She follows the Chiefs, the Battle Hawks, the Cardinals and the Blues with her wife and two boys – one in high school and one in middle school – but remains a true fan of the Titans and the Predators in her home state of Tennessee.