



Render Copeland

Class of 1980

Render Copeland, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, enrolled at Tuskegee University in 1975 as a “Preferred Walk-on” in football. Coach Haywood Scissum awarded Copeland a “Scholarship” in the fall of 1976. As a defensive back, he lettered and started for three years 1977-1979.

As a Sociology major, Copeland was highly competitive in the classroom, maintaining a high G.P.A. every semester, while remaining very active as a student athlete. Copeland participated in several research projects conducted by the Sociology Department under the leadership of Dr. Avery Webber. He organized groups of students to participate in the United Negro College Fund and the March of Dimes as student fundraisers. As a student librarian, Copeland worked summers in the Auburn University and Georgia Tech Libraries.

Copeland carved out a path of excellence that transitioned into his professional career spanning over a thirty-six year period. Commencing his career in retail management, he progressively advanced to sales representative, followed by sales manager, and on to general sales manager, while gathering numerous awards and recognitions over the years. Additionally, he trained highly successful sales teams. Copeland also trained numerous sales representatives to be successful and reach unbelievable heights in their careers.

Copeland is affiliated with and actively involved with many labor, spiritual, and social organizations. Noted among them are 1199 Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Florida, Organize for America, and Move On.Org. A member of City Life Church for years, Copeland served on the Usher Board and chaired the Hospital and Hospitality Ministries.

Copeland is a strong supporter of Skegee Golden Tigers, Inc. (SGT). Together with SGT and its committed supporters, they have provided scholarships to student athletes attending Tuskegee University over the past five years.

Copeland currently resides in St. Petersburg, Florida with his lovely wife Clara.