



Bristol Rotary Club

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Hi, my name is John Skipper and I am the owner of Smooth Line Limousine and Transportation. I was born and raised in Hartford CT and have been a professional driver my whole life. I met my wife and moved to Bristol in 1991 where She and her 4 siblings grew up and continue to live here today. I am also raising my daughter here who attends Bristol Eastern High School. In 2012, I was 42 and decided to start my own business and never thought it would be as big as it is today. Now don't get me wrong, it's still a small business but I thought it would only be a weekend and sometimes an afternoon thing. Now I support my family with Smooth Line having 5 employees, 7 cars and is my full-time job.

When starting a business, it is important to do research including asking others who have done it successfully. During this time the people who I looked to for advice had told me that I would not be able to own my own transportation company, not because of me but because the process was difficult and restricting. A transportation company is one of the hardest businesses to start, own and be successful in running. Due to the complexity of the system, it would also be challenging to obtain a livery permit to start a business but that did not stop me. Before obtaining the permit, I had to go through a hearing process where most people get denied the permit, but I was given the "ok" to start my business. In addition to starting up my own business I wanted to give back to the community. Along with volunteering at my church, I wanted to join an organization to support the community that is now my home. It was then in 2015 that I became a member of the Bristol Rotary Club.

Thank You,

John Skipper

Bristol and Beyond

www.BristolRotaryClub.org

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