

Kevin Williams of the 1st 143rd, became frustrated with his employer, “After signing up for college classes, they continued to change my work schedule, which conflicted with my classes.” Although they promised to work with Kevin, repeatedly the company created an environment of confusion. Williams stated, “They wanted you to think you had no options. It was either their way or no way.” Finally, Kevin had enough and decided to take control of his work life.

Prior to this last job, Kevin had a job that he truly loved. For thirteen years, Kevin worked for a company that he, “Ate, slept, and bleed for!” Williams was confident, after numerous promotions, he would retire from this company. Then, he was “left without a seat,” due to structural changes. “The loss of that job,” Williams shared, “left me completely devastated and I couldn’t work for five months.”

Ultimately, Williams came to the conclusion he had to find employment. He accepted a job in the trucking industry. Remarks like, “You’re going to die here if we keep you that long!” made Kevin realize that he needed to find something that would increase his confidence and allow him control of his work life.

Several years ago, William’s best friend started his own business and is still quite successful. Naturally, that’s where Kevin went for counsel. William’s shared, “I’ve always wanted to own my own business. People I have admired are those who are in business for themselves.” Kevin sought out a business with a low cost start up and one that “doesn’t require a degree.” The power wash business fit the criteria Kevin was looking for in self-employment. “If I hustle, there’s work everywhere and I don’t mind getting dirty,” stated Williams. He also shared, “Sometimes, I get to use my paratroop training by rappelling down sides of buildings on the big jobs.” After formulating a plan for going into business for himself, Kevin sought out JCEP to assist in this endeavor.



Through JCEP Kevin revised his resume, participated in a mock interview, and was counseled by Efen Villanueva, the Business Advisor and a previous small business owner. Williams commented, “You guys are providing a service and if you don’t use it your shooting yourself in the foot!” He went on to say, “The mock interview helped identify areas I needed to work on. It helps you polish business skills.”

When asked, “What do you want others to know about JCEP?” Williams emphatically stated, “JCEP continues to help me. They’ve got your back and help you with the things you don’t know. Efen is like a safety net. If you get to a place you need help, he’s there to help you.”