

Bruce Smith

Mr. Bruce Smith is a former defensive end for Virginia Tech, the Buffalo Bills and the Washington Redskins. He was born in Norfolk, Virginia and attended Virginia Tech where he played on the football team. After a very successful collegiate football career, he was the first pick in the 1985 NFL Draft and joined the Buffalo Bills. Mr. Smith broke many defensive records, won many awards, was elected to the Pro Bowl for 11 years straight and helped his team compete in four consecutive Super Bowls. He left the Buffalo Bills in 1999 and joined the Washington Redskins. Mr. Smith played for the Redskins until 2004, when he retired as the only person ever to make 200 sacks in their career. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2009. Mr. Smith has since worked to develop a number of hotels, including one near Virginia Tech and one at the Pro Football Hall of Fame Village.

In, 2004, Pro Football Hall of Famer Bruce Smith founded Bruce Smith Enterprise (BSE), a commercial real estate firm that specializes in the development of premier mixed-use projects. Headquartered in Virginia Beach, VA, the eponymous company has developed notable properties throughout the Mid-Atlantic region that feature the cohesive and seamless integration of residential, Class A office, guest, and retail space.

Since retiring from professional football in 2004 after a prolific 19 year career, the NFL's All-Time Sack Leader has endeavored to bring the same level of unparalleled excellence, diligence, and leadership that he honed as a veteran on the field to the management of Bruce Smith Enterprise. After triumphantly exceeding the odds of the average three year NFL career with such distinction, Smith's living knowledge of resilience and longevity correlates directly to the firm. The successful development of timeless mixed-use properties that will survive and withstand the trends of the marketplace is BSE's primary mission. As a fond native of Norfolk, VA, and current resident of Virginia Beach, VA, Smith is also firmly committed to creating jobs and generating revenue in his greater hometown community. Garnering industry and developing stellar assets within Hampton Roads to help strengthen and invigorate the local economy is another of the company's core missions. With continued growth and expansion in the MidAtlantic and other metropolitan regions across the United States, BSE seeks to facilitate an intracontinental dialogue that will attract businesses and further establish Hampton Roads as a major tourist destination.

BSE has flourished since its inception, partnering with Armada Hoffler in the development of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, The Swedish Embassy, and Harbourside Office Building in Washington, D.C., and Blocks 7 and 10 in The Town Center of Virginia Beach, VA. Smith is especially proud of the Hilton Garden Inn and Smith's Landing apartment complex that the firm built in Blacksburg, VA to service the needs of students, alumni, and their families at his Virginia Tech alma mater. BSE is currently engaged in the construction of a Hyatt House hotel at the oceanfront in Virginia Beach, V A which will offer the luxury of scenic ocean views from every room.

As the public face of BSE, Smith strives to align the firm's dedication to ethical business practice with his various philanthropic endeavors. Smith has served on numerous charitable boards, including those of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and Operation Smile. In 1999, Smith traveled to Africa with his family as an Ambassador for Operation Smile on the World Journey

of Hope - a surgical mission that transformed the lives and faces of children born with facial deformities. In 2009, Smith journeyed to Bagdad with the USO for the Christmas and New Year Holiday to honor the American troops who protect our country abroad with such courage and valor. Understanding that knowledge is key to progress and power, Smith has also established collegiate scholarships for students at his Booker T Washington High School alma mater and at Queen Street Baptist Church where he is a faithful congregant.