

Tennessee Department of Transportation



The Civil Rights Division celebrates Women's History Month by spotlighting some amazing women in our department .



Employee Spotlight: Carla Adams

TDOT Technician Supervisor
Region 3, Materials and Tests, Nashville

She enjoys traveling, spending time with family, watching softball games, and outdoor activities.

Diversity quote: "Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did, but she was able to do it backwards and wearing high heels."

-Ginger Rogers



Joined TDOT Family June 1985

What does Women's History Month mean to you and why?

It's a time to reflect on and appreciate the women that came before me in the workplace. It designates a time for us all to give recognition, not only to key leaders and influential figures, but all women and the small victories won in everyday life. This month provided us with an opportunity to reflect on their struggles, recognize their accomplishments, and raise the bar to where we can go in the future.

What had the biggest influence on your career?

One of the biggest influences on my career would have to be my mother. She showed me that it was okay to push boundaries and society norms allowing me to become the first and only female early in my career. However, I would like to recognize many of the strong TDOT leaders that provided influence throughout the years who recognized my potential, gave me the chance, believed in me, and treated me with respect.

Explain how you see EPIC (Empowering People and Influencing the Culture) creating your own success as well as the impact of your work contributing to TDOT's success.

I'm hopeful that EPIC will be able to fully deliver on its principles. I have tried to be a positive mentor for all my employees and build a successful program. I am excited to see EPIC provide new opportunities and pathways for me to become a stronger female leader by strategically aligning my knowledge and experience with new positions and providing new opportunities to grow and expand my abilities both contributing to a stronger more successful department.

How do you suggest we create a workforce that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion?

As of now I think TDOT does a great job of recognizing and providing avenues for women and other minorities. I hope we continue in the future to see each individual as just that, an individual, providing them the opportunity to reach their full potential regardless of any classification.

