

# See what makes **Region 2** employees great!

Kim Bush. This co-worker goes above and beyond for our office. She helps every team mate with any problem and if she doesn't know the answer, give her 24 hours to find it. She is the glue to our office and is the reason we run smoothly. She knows everyone's preferences and uplifts our teams with laughter as well as support. She is truly the jack of all trades. There is not anything that she isn't familiar with and if she isn't she will learn it and fast! She takes her time to make sure her documentation is above par and has the initiative ability to communicate with every level of individual from State to Regional to District to In House to the public. When she comes in the room, armed with her note pad, you know that whatever issues have occurred are going to get fixed. She is reliable and trustworthy. She leads our office to the direction of serving the public at our best. Our team is grateful for her and I know the whole State Team should be too.

Mike Melasecca is a GREAT supervisor, HELP Truck operator. He is just an all around great man. Very honest, fair, hard working man!

Shenwar Hussein is top notch. You can be rest assured between office and project management all of his duties are completed correctly and on time. He is compassionate and treats everyone as family. That is why the dynamic of our team is so great. He is approachable to new ideas and will communicate them to the next level. He represents us, OUR TEAM, every time for every meeting. He is happy to provide positive criticism to each team member as well as receive it. He is constantly improving himself to be the best leader for our team. He is smart as a whip when it comes to project plans and specs for construction projects. He is our problem solver, our leader, and he inspires us every day to serve the public the best we can!

Dennis Amacher. We call Dennis, Lyle. Lyle is amazing on the job sites. He makes sure to provide his ASAs with constant feedback and always has his paperwork in order. He is very versatile with his knowledge and can adapt to different construction projects with ease. He always brings his good nature and friendly vibe to our office. The best thing about Lyle is his reliability and multi-tasking skills. If he says he gonna get it done, it will be done. We are lucky to have him. He goes above and beyond for our team!

Wade Goss is a great guy to work for and is always ready to help anyone. I have worked under him for almost 6 years and all 6 years have been fantastic.

Joseph Burchfield is the hardest working designer there is. Stays late everyday to ensure that his designs are perfect all while answering everyone else's questions and helping them with their problems. He is a model TDOT employee.

"Frank Creasman Frank is the unofficial ""captain of our ship."" He seems to know details on just about every single project we have going, and he stays on top of all of them, all the time! He is a walking encyclopedia when it comes to appraisal work and again, his meticulous attention to detail and his ability to juggle many assignments at once, sets him apart from his peers. He works very hard, is always professional, and deserves to be acknowledged for the superior work he does. He is a tremendous producer and TDOT is really lucky to have him onboard. I can't think of anyone else that deserves to be recognized more than Frank Creasman."

Robert Rodgers is the greatest boss ever! Robert makes work fun and understand his people far better than anyone in our Region.

Seth Bradley is the best of the best when you need someone to get a project out. He will literally work day and night to get what you need to get the job done. He is an impressive supervisor and the best of the best.

Curtis Duncan is awesome! Curt makes life and work super fun. He will back you up and support your on any endeavor.

Lando Santos is on target. He stays on E-plans like a bird dog stays on a bird. He is the bomb! Super Duper Cat lover!!

Karen Trowell knows the ends and outs of the department like no other. She stays on target and should be praised for all her work!!! Whooop!!! Whooooop!!!

Jason Cathy is loyal to our team. He is the first person of our team to always bring to light any concerns and to investigate the best approach to achieve our goals. When he comes to the office, he always has a solution or a helping hand. Our team is complete with Jason as he is hardworking, a problem solver, and has a vast array of knowledge to share.

Thad Blackwell is our unit's expert on Density/Coring for the office. His long service has provided him with the knowledge and expertise to be a true asset to our team. He always comes to the office with a big smile and a "Hey, how are you?" He shares and provides assistance to anywhere needed for our teams as well as others. He has traveled to other offices to even lend a helping hand. He is a true representative of the state and goes to assist wherever needed even if it inconveniences him.

Nathan Chapman takes care of our team by providing support. He takes on many roles and is very versatile with his skills. He can be on a highway construction project and then turn around to administrative duties with ease. He encourages possibilities, instead of saying "that will never work." Nate truly understands the problems and what's valuable, and gives our team options. He is a leader.

Rachael Bergmann is always volunteering to help others, taking on more than her job duties call for. She shares her knowledge freely and is always willing to offer guidance and constructive feedback when asked; she is a great resource to her peers as well as supervisors and managers alike. Rachael's work ethic is outstanding, she doesn't compromise because it would be easier, she does the job to her fullest ability because it is the right thing to do.

Jeremy Clark makes us laugh and always has a friendly word to say to you. He is diligent with his work and has the best communication skills. He doesn't mind getting his hands dirty and he is dedicated to making sure his construction projects stay to specs. He works with the ASAs and always is happy to lend a helping hand or to learn new skills to support our team. Jeremy is one of a kind and we appreciate him.

James Evans is quiet in nature, but strong in work ethic. He knows his duties and is very reliable. He is the employee you can call anytime and know that he will help you. He is trustworthy and see the good in every situation. He is very supportive of our team and one of the back bones to make our team run so efficiently. He is dedicated to serving and providing safe travel to the Tennessee residents.



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Blake Miller is always eager to learn to help benefit our team. He walks in the office with a smile on his face and a what can I do for you attitude. He is our optimist that can bring light and turn every misstep into a learning curve. Blake is always looking to improve his personal development. He eagerly attends training classes and shows a desire to improve job skills. These qualities are what makes Blake a great employee for our team.

Chris Rogers or as we call him Tossie is our expert asphalt man for highway construction. He has a long tenure of service for the State of Tennessee. He has watched changes and developed himself along the way to be the best he can be. We even refer to him as our connoisseur of asphalt. He is a vital asset to our team with his knowledge that he has gained over the years. On top of his expertise, Tossie is always ready to share a good story to bring laughter and lighten the load when our team feels the weight during the busy season.

Derek Yates. This employee continuously goes above and beyond the call of duty. He is excellent at customer service and educates the public on our bridge inspection program. He stops to help people in need whether it be changing a tire or putting out a fire. Our office is grateful to have such a wonderful employee.

Colby Gafford was hired in the garage as a mechanic trainee. He hit the ground running from day 1. He is not afraid to work on anything. Colby learns quickly and retains what he has learned. He may have Trainee as a title but he shows day in and day out that he has what it takes to succeed in the garage.

Neal Smith constantly acknowledges the needs and concerns of others. He brings a positivity to our working environment. His long term of service and dedication to TDOT has inspired loyal and commitment to our team. Neal has endless knowledge and experience in the many different roles on our team. He is always one phone call away to help on any project. Neal's specialty for our construction projects is anything with bridge work. He is great with reviewing plans and looking at an empty project site to envision the outcome in his mind. His talents let our office shine and he is constantly sharing his experiences with the team to make us the best we can be for Tennessee.

Gwendolyn Whittaker provides so much help to our functional teams. She has a unique way of teaching/ mentoring those around her while also encouraging development. Gwen is key employee to the success of our region.

Houston Tanner is a go getter. He is eager to learn and to use his education to better our team. He is consistently taking on new roles and perfecting his skills in the field. He works harmoniously with all the team members and brings his good nature into the office each day. He is a hard and dedicated worker that comes in each day with this attitude. He has been a great additional to our team.

Elizabeth Roadinger has taken on a ton of the work load that she didn't have to do and she is very good at her job.

Joshua Smith is relatively new to our office and with his eagerness to learn; he is fast becoming an asset. He is enthusiastic about attending his training and diligent with executing the information in the field. He always has a kind word and a grin on his face. His positivity and dedication to excel makes him a great employee for our team.

Derek Sissom is relatively new to our office and with his eagerness to learn; he is fast becoming an asset. He is keen about attending his training and meticulous with executing the information in the field. His boisterous nature brings life and fun to our team. His diligence to be excellent makes him a great employee.

David Strong David is one of our District Operations Specialist. At the end of February our supervisor retired. TDOT has yet to fill that position. David has gone above and beyond the call of duty in these past several months. He has taken on a great amount of those supervisory duties. I observed Dave working hard up until our supervisor departure to learn whatever he could so he could fill the gaps. Filling the gaps is exactly what he has done. I am thankful that we have Dave in the office he not only stepped up to carry out those duties but does it with pride and diligence.

Barbara Bynum is one of the hardest working, most dedicated, caring individuals there are. Barbara goes above and beyond anyone in helping you with Project questions, Final Records, closing out jobs, etc., she will bend over backwards to help everyone, not just a few, but ALL. Barbara has suffered many heartbreaks in her personal life and yet she continues to work as strong as ever and does not let these tragedies slow her down or detour her. There was a time in my early years of being at TDOT that I was struggling with the correct way to do Projects and Final Record processing. I made one phone call to Barbara and asked her for help, without hesitation she immediately said yes Ma'am I'll be happy to help you. Barbara worked with me for an entire week. I learned more from her than I had in months, we successfully closed out and FINALED an entire Project completely before I left to go home. To this day I am proud to say that I am very successful in my position and hold an excellent record history in Projects and Close-Out to which is all due to Barbara Bynum teaching me, helping me, guiding me and always being there anytime I call her. Barbara is not in her position for any accolades or trophies but, if there was ever anyone that deserves them, it certainly is her. Barbara Bynum is more than a teammate, she is also a leader, a trusted friend and all-around AMAZING WOMAN.

Region 2 HR Team - Jennifer Greathouse, Lindsey Clouchete, Laurie Janssen-Silvia Region 2's HR TEAM is THE BEST; the growth we have seen in the past few years are a true testimony to this TEAM in so many ways. The modernization and improvements made to our On-Boarding process has been one of the top improvements to our HR process, the advancements made to this have been so streamlined they are almost effortless. Our HR Team is ALWAYS there to answer any questions that any of us may have; their responsive time is very prompt and professional. Our Region 2 HR Team is award winning all around.

Lydia Ervin is our Procurement officer here in District 27, She goes above and beyond to get us any safety Items or supplies that we ask for in a minutes notice. She is awesome at her job and always just a phone call away for any emergency needs that our crew's made need.

Kala Adcock is a quick learner. She often ask questions trying to get a better understanding what our field staff does. Over past few months she has picked up additional work and completed everything correctly. She is very organized and reliable. She currently is our office's only ASA and always has everything completed when its due regardless of having extra work. She is a great team player and an asset to our office! Thank you Kala for all that you do!

Courtney Walden is an ASA in the Livingston Construction Office she goes above and beyond to ensure everything runs smooth and done correctly, also she is training in the new ASA's in the Cookeville office taking on estimates and finalizing jobs at both offices.

Robert Rodgers is a wonderful manager. He genuinely cares about his coworkers and he is very helpful. Thank you, Robert!

Mary Anne Gillespie is always willing to help others. She is excellent at documentation and teaching new employees what needs to be done. She is a valuable asset to our office! Thank you Mary Anne for all that you do!



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Chris (Kit) Moffitt does an excellent job and has been able to train other staff to excel. He is very detailed in his work to ensure it's done correctly. He is an excellent Tech Supervisor. Kit, thank you for everything you do!

Randy Walls is the first person to cover any project and assist our team. He is extremely reliable and our go to man for information referencing past projects. At the office, he is often called the "Memory Bank." He is dependable and humble with the knowledge that he has acquired over the 30 years of working for TDOT. Randy is the employee who will be the first one on the job and the last one to leave. He is happy to help out any of the other offices when the need arises. He truly cares about doing the best he can and is a big asset to our team.

Kristopher Wilkerson has been with TDOT about a year and has learned and comprehended so much over the year. He understands where to look for the information he is needing. He is very quick at submitting the work requested by his supervisor. Thank you for your hard work!

Robert Harvell demonstrates excellent leadership skills. He is always willing to help others regardless how much he already has going on. He takes the time to explain things to people so they understand it. He is a great supervisor and District Engineer.

Nicholas Rozek is always willing to step up and go the extra mile. He has done a great job his first year here as a Help Operator.

Sandra Bonner always has a big smile and tries her best to make sure everyone has a great day.

Jason Tays is always willing to help Region 2 employees, whether he's answering a policy question, walking someone through a technical how-to, explaining procedures and best practices, or teaching new software/systems. He does all this with patience and humor and always follows up to make sure you fully understand the issue at hand.

Leslie Wood is one of the most generous employees at TDOT, always willing to share her time, attention, and expertise with anyone who needs help with onboarding, insurance, retirement, invoice issues, or anything office-related (especially Edison!). She never makes you feel like an imposition, no matter how silly the question or how many times you've had to ask it.

Mrs. Naomi Alicea has worked hard in her role as a Right-of-Way Agent since she began as a trainee 3 years ago. From the start of her time with TDOT in 2015 it was clear she was an asset to the organization. Her ability to negotiate and hit all her goals as an agent was, and still is exemplary. She has not only been a great agent but this month of May she will complete and receive her Masters in Public Administration from the University of Chattanooga. She is setting a great example for young women in the public sector and is worthy of recognition for her efforts. Thank you, Naomi Alicea! We appreciate you!

Rachel Brantley is incredibly smart and extremely efficient at her job as a TMC technician. She has an infectious laughter that permeates the room and is very helpful to the operators out on the road in the Help trucks.



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