

Michael L. Austin works at his 20-year-old business, Downtown Tax Service.

Home-grown Austin marks 20 years in tax biz

BY CHARLOTTE JONES SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Michael L. Austin, a businessman and community worker born and raised in Winston-Salem, prepares to celebrate 20 years as the owner of Downtown Tax Service in January 2016.

His message to all is that your life is directly influenced by your attitude, beliefs, decisions and work ethic. You have the power to make good things happen. At the end of the day, there should be "no excuses."

After working for other employers, in 1996 he followed his dream of being a

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business owner and opened up Save Tax at 237 W. 5th St., which he later changed to Downtown Tax Service. After 17 years at that location, he moved to his current location at 500 W. 4th St., Suite 101.

Austin has supported the downtown community and surrounding area for 20 years. He provides free consultations and is an expert in business and personal tax preparation and tax code. He diligently researches tax problems to find solutions for clients. He and his staff have combined over 40 years of tax experience. To celebrate this 20-year milestone, he said he is offering all customers a discount for tax preparation services and

referred to Downtown Tax Service.

The service Austin provides to the community does not limit itself to the end of tax season. Austin honors his mission to invest in the community through charitable contributions to support youth and other nonprofit organizations. While the business name and location has changed, it remains an organization with strong ethics and community ties.

Austin graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with a B.S. in Engineering/Mathematics in 1992. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity







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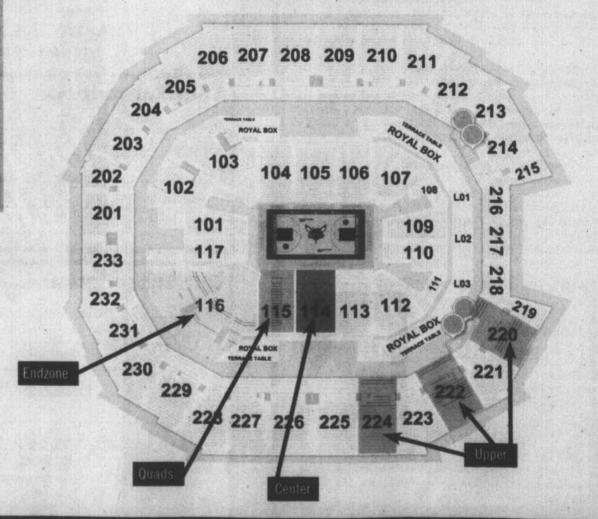
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