



*Pictured, left to right: Ernest Smith, Melton Ott, Kim Davis, Tony Bartlett, April Greene, Edward Inge - general manager and Jacob Duncan.*

# Phoenix Helps People Rise from the Ashes of Tragedy

When tragedy strikes – and life as you know it vanishes in an instant – it helps to have someone on your side who’s been there before.

Flooding. Tornadoes. Fire. Hurricanes.

Phoenix Restoration Services Inc. has seen it all in its six years of operation, and each employee adds to the company’s expertise.

“We don’t do kitchen and bathroom remodels. We are only called after something’s gone terribly wrong, and the biggest part of what we do is to put people back together after a tough loss,” said **Edward Inge**, the firm’s general manager.

Founded as a one-man shop in 2009, Phoenix provides 24-hour disaster solutions services to commercial and residential property owners in Mobile and Baldwin counties exclusively.

Today, the firm employs

eight, and operates as a licensed general contractor and homebuilder. Specifically, the company provides emergency cleanup and reconstruction services, including fire and water damage recovery, debris removal, environmental remediation and commercial restoration. Phoenix Restoration Services is the Chamber’s Small Business of the Month.

Above all, Inge said the firm’s business model stresses a team approach because “it takes a village to put things back together.”

“When we get involved in these projects, they can be complex,” he said. “There are a lot of different tasks that have to be handled, and if any one of those gets skipped or glossed over, the entire recovery process is jeopardized. Everybody here has their individual role, and

each role is equally important.”

In addition to Inge, the company also employs an office manager, an estimator, a superintendent and four construction technicians. As a result, when tragedy strikes, the team bolts into action seamlessly.

Consider, for instance, the Christmas tornadoes that ripped through Midtown in 2012.

“As far as I’m concerned, Midtown is our neighborhood, and we could literally walk over to the damage after it hit,” he said. “We responded to Mobile Infirmary the night it happened, and then it was five to six months of nonstop work, but it was so rewarding to be involved in helping put the neighborhood back together.”

Inge said he anticipates the company will continue to add

one new employee per year until the payroll hits about 12. Financially, the firm has experienced “substantial year-over-year growth every year since we started,” he said.

“I had to be crazy to start a construction company in 2009, but I think starting during the financial crisis – when the world seemed to be coming to an end – was one of the best things that could have happened to us because it taught us if we can survive then, we can survive anytime,” Inge said.

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