



**Chris "Elroy" Stricklin**  
**President of Dunn University**  
**Birmingham, Alabama**

Retired Air Force Colonel Chris "Elroy" Stricklin is a business executive and three-time bestselling leadership author, a highly sought after motivational keynote speaker and a Combat-Proven Senior Military leader retiring after 23 years which culminated with CEO-Level leadership of a 7,000-person strong, \$7 billion worldwide organization. Chris currently serves as the founding president of Dunn University, a privately held organization with responsibility to recruit, train, develop and retain the best workforce possible in the Southeast United States. In this role, he partnered with the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) to pioneer revolutionary methods of training Alabamians in new careers with livable wages and career progression pathways. This not only allows Alabamians a plethora of new opportunities, but it also grows the trained workforce pool to enable expansion of Alabama industries and companies. As of April 2024, over 16,000 students have enrolled and over 5,000 credentials have been earned through these offerings at the ACCS Innovation Center. As a result of his workforce efforts, Chris has been appointed by Alabama Governor Kay Ivey (R-AL) to both the Alabama Workforce Council and the Alabama State Workforce Board.