## **Testimonial: Henry Gutierrez**

"My name is Henry Gutierrez, and the ABC Apprenticeship program gave me the foundation for everything I've accomplished in my career.

Back in 1998, I was just 18 years old with no direction and no experience in construction. A neighbor who was an electrician handed me a pencil with ABC's name on it and told me to call. I didn't know what to expect, but I made that call—and it changed my life. Within weeks I was enrolled in the electrical apprenticeship program, learning in the classroom while working handson in the field.

College wasn't an option for me at the time, but ABC gave me a path. The program taught me a trade, built my confidence, and gave me a skill set that I've carried throughout my entire career. I graduated in 2002, and today I serve as Senior Vice President at AJ Kirkland Associates, as well as a proud committee member helping shape the program for the next generation.

Without that first call to ABC, I don't know where I would be today. Apprenticeship didn't just give me a career—it gave me a future for myself and my family."

— Henry Gutierrez, Senior Vice President, AJ Kirkland Associates & ABC Graduate