



REGINALD S. FRYE

Reginald S. Frye, President of 3A Industries, Inc. was born in Yakima, Washington and moved to Seattle in 1940. He was introduced to business operations at an early age when his father purchased a gas station at 14th & Yesler in 1942. For the next six years Reginald pumped gas and performed other related chores at that station and later at the second station on 28th & Jackson.

In 1948 Reginald's father, V.O. Frye, began his own chemical manufacturing company with one of his chemical inventions. Reginald worked for his father until 1964 manufacturing the chemical (Shur-Kleen Products), as a salesman, a jobber, a distributor and finally, as an independent dealer. 3A eventually purchased V.O. Frye Manufacturing Company in 1978 and it became 3A Manufacturing.

Mr. Frye and his partner, Hank Arviso started 3A Gas & Electric in 1972 installing and servicing plumbing, heating and hot water tank systems with five employees. The seasonal demand of this type of work necessitated that the company enter into the residential remodeling industry. Subsequent diversification followed as an insulation contractor for commercial and residential properties. During this period, Reginald was naturally drawn into the promoting of Black and other ethnic businesses as one of the authors of national legislation for the inclusion of Lower 48 Black and other ethnic businesses in work on the Aleyeska Alaskan pipeline. In 1975 3A became a manufacturer of crates and discontinuities for the General Electric Company to be used on the Aleyeska pipeline.

Locally Mr. Frye helped to initiate legislation so that the City of Seattle, King County, Metro, Port of Seattle and the State of Washington could implement specific programs which included Blacks, women and other ethnic businesses on public works construction projects. He became president of the Central Contractor Association (CCA) which was the first and most influential organization composed of Black and other ethnic contractors in the Pacific Northwest. He became a member and held executive positions on the advisory boards formed for the implementation of legislation of the special programs.

3A Gas & Electric became 3A Industries Inc. in 1976 to incorporate all of the diversified services being performed by the company which now included general contracting on major construction projects and as a consultant on Minority Business Enterprise. Mr. Frye and his partner have been recognized for their civic, social and business activities both by local and national organizations.

Mr. Frye and Mr. Arviso recently received the Small Business Administration's District and Regional Awards as the Small Business for 1987.