

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc.

Larry E. Speaks & Associates, Inc. in Montgomery is not a big company, but its smaller size gives this civil engineering firm a big advantage, according to its president Steven Speaks. “Our clients deal directly with me and our vice president, Greg Gillian, instead of being handed off to someone else,” Speaks says. “We work with each of our clients one-on-one, and that lets us provide a higher level of service.”

This exceptional service has earned the company a solid reputation and allowed it to increase in scope every year since it was originally founded by Steven’s father Larry E. Speaks. “He opened his business in 1976 and operated out of a one-room office with the help of my mother,” Speaks says. Success resulted in growth, which led the company to move to successively larger offices through the years before settling on Herron Street on the edge of downtown. “I joined the firm in 1987, and we built our current office building in 2005,” he says.

Today, the company has 18 full-time employees and most have been with the firm for decades. “I’ve been here since 1986, and we’ve got a few people who’ve been here longer than me,” Gillian says. The firm treats its employees well, resulting in low employee turnover. This enhances the quality of the company’s overall work and service.

Larry E. Speaks & Associates focuses on designing roadways (from residential streets to highways), storm drainage and sanitary sewer systems and water supply systems. The firm’s



ABOVE: Steven E. Speaks, PE/PLS, President, Greg M. Gillian, PE/PLS, Vice President, owners of Larry E. Speaks and Associates, Inc.

BELOW: Court Square Roundabout Dexter Avenue and Commerce Street Downtown Montgomery, Alabama, State Capital in background. Roundabout was improved in 2006 to return the square back to similar conditions found in the 1800’s Project Engineer: Steven E. Speaks



experience and expertise in these areas has led to quite a bit of municipal work.

The company also provides environmental services in partnership with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) and US Army Corp. of Engineers, including permitting for surface mining operations, construction storm water permits and wetland delineation/permits. Land surveying services like boundary surveys, construction surveys and topographical surveys round out the company’s offerings.

This diverse yet complimentary array of services has served the company well in the recent economic downturn, as has its dedication to using the most up-to-date, sophisticated equipment available on all of its jobs. “We stay abreast of all the advancements in our field and stay active in professional associations,” Gillian says. “That contributes to the success we’ve enjoyed.”

While the company is licensed to work all over the state, most of its projects are in Central Alabama, with some of its most recent ones located in the Lake Martin area and done for a long-standing client. “We’ve been working with Russell Lands for over 20 years and have been the engineers on several of their significant developments including residential areas, marinas and the latest commercial development called Russell Crossroads,” Speaks says. “We’re proud to have worked with them for so long.”

Along with many others, this lasting partnership speaks volumes and proves Larry E. Speaks & Associates’ commitment to building strong relationships on a foundation of good work.