

FACES OF THE FRONT

Stephen Michael Jones of Chicken Tortilla

Stephen Michael Jones, owner of Chicken Tortilla at 1100 8th Street SE, brings 25 years of restaurant experience to the Capitol Riverfront. Chicken Tortilla has been part of the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood for six years, but Stephen took over at the beginning of 2011. Along with his business partners Italo Rodriguez and Eddie Migues, he has reinvigorated the availability of simple, authentic Peruvian food in our neighborhood. Stephen, formally a White House staffer under the Clinton administration, he said that he "once served the people, and now serves the people great food."



Chicken Tortilla's signature Pollo a la Brasa is marinated in a fifteen point marinade for no less than 48 hours, and cooked rotisserie style over pressed charcoal. This fast-casual restaurant strives to offer the best food for neighborhood employees that need to swing by for lunch. They offer the largest burritos in the area which are "loaded to the beans," said Stephen, as well as quesadillas and taco salads. Chicken Tortilla also added delivery and catering for anyone interested in bringing something new back to the office.

Stephen's favorite aspects of the community are the numerous new start-up businesses and the community development that's taken place during the past five years. Stephen added, "the Capitol Riverfront is uniquely inviting, as is the rapid development of Barracks Row. It's a renaissance, life has been revived to a place that was once written off and we are glad to be a part of it. A lot of people that never gave up are now reaping the rewards."

Stephen loves the beautification and visibility that the BID brings to the neighborhood, and said it speaks volumes to our efforts invest back into the neighborhood. Stephen also added that, "a community is only as good as its people and its businesses. Chicken Tortilla is an active partner in the Capitol Riverfront, and welcomes visits or suggestions from everyone. Our chicken speaks for itself and our philosophy is simple: make it simple!"