

## Thomas K.R. Stovall | *The Business Amplification Expert* ®

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Thomas K.R. Stovall started his first business out of his college dorm room selling luxury custom car accessories online from coast to coast, while studying electrical engineering at Tennessee State University. Shortly after receiving his degree, Thomas moved to the west coast to apprentice under the CEO of a real estate private equity investment firm based in Los Angeles.

About a year later, armed with new knowledge after learning real estate investing at the monopoly board level, he moved back to Chicago and did an eight-month stint in a corporate sales job, which would be the first and last corporate role he has ever had. In that 8 months, he saved up enough money to purchase his first investment property, and on August 13th, 2006, upon hearing those magical words, "CLEAR TO CLOSE!" he promptly quit his job...THAT DAY. 18 days later, on August 31st, 2006, Thomas closed on his first investment property, and over the next 18 months, turned that \$3000 investment into a 7 figure real estate investment and consulting firm.

In 2010, Thomas transitioned out of real estate, and moved into technology. He is currently the Founder of [CANDID](#), a Chicago-based microfeedback firm. CANDID's OmniGlance™ platform crowd-sources and monitors trending, private microfeedback about various areas of an enterprise, directly from the mouths of its employees, customers, and others connected to the organization, in real-time. Thomas is also a published author expert with chapters in best-sellers to his credit on the topic of business amplification. Using business amplification and design thinking principles, he also facilitates 1 hour "Think Tanks" and "Own Your Narrative" trainings for large enterprises, educational institutions, impact organizations and associations under his "Think Like A Startup" (TLAS) brand.

In addition to being 1 of 7 Entrepreneurs in Residence leading the Google for Entrepreneurs tech diversity initiative in seven cities across the United States, Thomas is also the creator of Chicago-based [ImBlackInTech Membership Network](#), the Midwest's largest membership organization for Black and Latinx Founders of emerging technology start-ups. ImBlackInTech hosts The Founders Series, which is the Midwest's largest quarterly technology panel for Founders of color. TFS panelists are nationally recognized, award winning Black and Latinx Founders, who have raised and generated close to \$200MM in their businesses, and TFS has hosted attendees from all over the United States, and as far as London.

When Thomas is not traveling or spending time with friends and family, he loves reading, and invests his time in mentoring and speaking to kids and young adults about passion, the importance of an intentional mindset, and simple, practical ways to shift their view about what's possible for them in their lives, their families and their communities.