




DT | 99

LARRY OGUNJOBI

BORN: June 3, 1994 | **HT:** 6-3 | **WT:** 305 | **9th year**

COLLEGE: Charlotte

ACQUIRED: Free Agent (2025)

 **Mr_Ogunjobi**

 **olumide**

FIRST-AND-10

LARRY OGUNJOBI signed a one year contract with the Bills on March 13, 2025. Ogunjobi, who originally entered the NFL in 2017 as a third round pick of the Browns, spent the last three seasons with the Steelers. In addition to the Browns (2017-20) and Steelers (2022-24), the nine year NFL veteran has also played for the Bengals (2021).

SHOUTOUTS

- Has started all five playoff games he has appeared in and has started 15+ games in six of his eight NFL seasons.
- In 2024, was named the Steelers nominee for the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award.
- Set a career-high with seven sacks in 2021 with the Bengals. Also recorded career bests in QB hits (16) and TFLs (12) during the 2021 season.
- Had two multi-sack games during the 2021 season, recording 1.5 sacks at Bal. (10/24) and at Den. (12/19).
- Set a career-high with nine tackles vs. Cin. (12/8/19).
- Recorded a career-high with two sacks of Drew Brees at NO (9/16/18).
- Made NFL debut in 2017 vs. Pitt. (9/10) and made his first start later that season vs. GB (12/10). Notched his first career sack in 2017 as well at Chi. (12/24), taking down Mitchell Trubisky for a seven-yard loss.
- Spent five seasons (2012-16) at the University of North Carolina Charlotte and became the first player ever drafted from Charlotte's football program. Finished his college career with 217 tackles, including 49 for loss, and 13.0 sacks.

THE STAMPEDE

Most unique job: Is a licensed Realtor

Favorite vacation spot: Japan

Favorite restaurant: ZZs in Miami, Florida

Favorite athlete growing up: Kobe Bryant

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

XBOX TO THE NFL

Ogunjobi joined his Steelers teammate Cam Heyward on his podcast, Not Just Football. The two talked about a plethora of different things including Ogunjobi's unique journey to the NFL. It's probably a story many have not heard before. He had no interest in playing football until his mother took away what any young kid loves to do: play video games. He told Heyward the awesome story. "The only reason I started playing football is because my mom took away my Xbox. That is the only reason I got into football. I was about 350 pounds, obese. I was playing Call of Duty, Gears of War, Madden... it's funny I was playing with the Steelers on the little franchise thing."

The defensive lineman's parents were not pleased with the direction in which his life was going, so they decided to step in and do something about it. They wanted him to get healthier. "I was just gaining a lot of weight. My mom and my dad came to me one day and were like, 'You know, you're killing yourself' and they took away my Xbox."

After getting off his Xbox and losing a substantial amount of weight, Ogunjobi went through his first season playing football and there were highs and lows, but the big thing that changed his outlook on the game was at the end of the season. He won something that led to him being hungry for more. "I go through that [junior varsity] season. Obviously, ups and downs my first time playing, but I think the huge point for me was the awards banquet. At the awards banquet, I thought my best friend at the time, Trey Grimes, was gonna get the award for most improved JV player and they gave it to me. That was the first time in my life I felt like I earned something."

(Steeler Nation, July 16, 2023)

PERSONAL

Last name is pronounced O-gunn-JO-bee. Attended Ragsdale High School in Jamestown, North Carolina. His parents, Larry and Mercy Ogunjobi, immigrated to the United States from Nigeria. Was a double-major at Charlotte in computer science & biology. Created the First of Many Foundation, which was inspired by his experience as a first-generation Nigerian American.