



Oakland Raiders Transcript

Safety Lamarcus Joyner Conference Call

Q: What were your thoughts entering free agency?

Joyner: "My initial thoughts were to get back to the East Coast, get back closer to home after being on the West Coast for three years. In my mind, I thought nothing was going to change that until I heard [Head] Coach [Jon] Gruden called and I kind of did a whole 180. After getting to talk to him and some of the guys in the building, I was very excited about the way they were going to use me and how people were happy to have me here. That was the biggest decision making point for me."

Q: What about the way they said they were going to use you excited you? Did they specify what your role is going to be?

Joyner: "Just that guy that's going to be maneuvered around in the secondary – safety, nickel. Just different things. I like the schematics that are here. I just like the passion that they have for me being in the building. It shows that they really want me here. That's what made me want to join this organization."

Q: How do you think your experience with the Rams over the last couple of years can help this locker room in Oakland?

Joyner: "I love embracing that challenge. Sorry to go back so far, but even in college, when you look at the Oakland Raiders they were at one point a prominent and prestigious organization and they won a lot of games. Florida State did as well, but when I entered both organizations, they weren't doing too well. Even my years with the Rams, we started off slow, but they got the right guys in. I feel like I'm one of the first stepping stones, one of those first milestones for Coach Gruden to bring the right guys in and change this place around."

Q: Does it encourage you to see the moves the Raiders have made with Antonio Brown and Trent Brown?

Joyner: "Absolutely. I even like the addition of Tyrell Williams. That brought the biggest smile to my face when I heard that he was a part of Raider Nation now, too."

Q: You played a lot of nickel in your first few years, what's your comfort level there?

Joyner: "I love the nickel back position. It's a natural, instinctual position for me. I get to do a lot of things. I'm great at tackling. I'm great at beating guys to the point. I'm great at covering. There's a lot the nickel has tied up into its identity as a role that fits me, so I'm very excited."

Q: Were you interested in that move to free safety where you've been playing? What do you find interesting about that spot?

Joyner: "It's just something that I've been doing since literally high school, college. Going from nickel to safety, nickel to safety, it's what keeps me going. It keeps the season new and refreshing for me to one season be at nickel and the next be at free safety. It motivates me to just enjoy the game much more. Just being able to have that versatility and be able to show one thing one year and another the next year."

Q: Do you look at this secondary as needing some veteran leadership back there and is that a role that you enjoy?

Joyner: "I enjoy that role, but I look at it as young guys bring leadership to the table just as much as veterans, because you never stop learning. So, when you got a group of different guys with different years of experience you all get to learn from each other. I've been in locker rooms where I was the older guy and I did a pretty good job with motivating and leading, and I've been in a locker room where the leaders, guys with more experience than me, didn't do a great job with that. I think with my personality and the way I embrace youth and the way I just embrace people and my team it's going to be a great, great cohesiveness between all of us, the young and the old."



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Q: How much did the appeal of playing in Las Vegas play in your decision to sign with the Raiders?

Joyner: "I think both did. I think, like I say, there is a lot of history here, so I definitely wanted to come and be a part of the history and I also wanted to be a part of new beginnings. Hopefully we do a lot of great things this year and make Nevada even more excited to have us."

Q: Does your experience with the Rams transitioning from Saint Louis to Los Angeles help with some of the difficulties regarding the Raiders relocation?

Joyner: "Yes, I'm definitely aware of what comes with that but I'm excited because we actually have it planned out here versus my previous year with Los Angeles. At that time the St. Louis Rams were just all up in the air with speculation and it just happened. That was kind of a little more of a different experience than now with everything being planned out and I know what to expect."

Q: Do you have any impressions of Karl Joseph's game?

Joyner: "I love his game. I'm a big advocate of old school, smashmouth football and I think that's what he is about. You got a guy that will strike you, he'll hit you and he knows how to play the ball. I think he is very humble and hungry. I think in all terms, he is a dog."

Q: When it came to negotiate your contract was the no state income taxes in Nevada at all a factor in your decision?

Joyner: "I think, as far as that, I think the reason for me wanting to come here was to advance to Nevada with Coach Gruden. I have come into contact with him throughout my career and he has always expressed to me how highly he thought of me as a player. When it comes to the state income taxes and stuff that's the kind of conversations you have with your wife and your kids, but that didn't have anything to play into me wanting to join this great organization."