



## Thomas Darden

Thomas was drafted in the first round of the 1972 NFL draft by the Cleveland Browns and was an immediate starter. As a free safety most of his career, his role was to call the plays for the defense in an era when there were no microphones in helmets. He played from 1972 to 1981 and led the NFL in interceptions with 10 in 1978. His 46 career interceptions for the team are still a franchise record 40 years later. Thomas was named to the Pro Bowl (1978) and was an All Pro twice (1978 & 1979).

On the business side of the NFL, he acted as the representative from the Browns to the NFLPA from 1973-1979 and actively assisted in contract negotiations between players and NFL management's council from 1974-1976. This was great experience for his post-playing career.

Following his football career, Darden builds on his education from University of Michigan to first become a successful sports agent. Here, he managed the careers of professional athletes while also recruiting athletes. Annually, Thomas gave seminars at top universities on money management and alternative career planning.

Darden subsequently took his knowledge to a financial securities company where he developed a network of Division I football programs to recruit athletes for contract negotiations, financial and tax planning, and alternative career planning.

Currently, Thomas is the Principal of The Darden Group, Inc. a financial services company.

Contact us today to book Thomas to speak at your event on what it takes to make it to the pinnacle of a career, money management, recruiting or any inspirational message.

