

A portrait of Ric Elias, a middle-aged man with short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a light blue collared shirt. The background is a blurred office or modern building interior with warm lighting and wooden accents.

Ric Elias

CEO & Co-Founder

RED | **VENTURES**

Ric Elias is the co-founder and CEO of Red Ventures, a portfolio of digital companies headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. With over 3,500 employees across 5 continents, RV's digital platform spans across many industries, including home services, financial services, health services, travel, entertainment, and education.

Through its influential brands, strategic partnerships, and powerful technology platform, Red Ventures connects millions of people to premium content, intuitive digital experiences, and consumer advice to help make life's most important decisions.

In 2009, Elias survived Flight 1549, the "Miracle on the Hudson," which led to his viral TED Talk, "3 Things I Learned While My Plane Crashed." Ric's leadership style has earned him noteworthy recognition; in 2011, he was named an Ernst & Young National Entrepreneur of the Year, and in 2016 he was inducted into the Carolinas Entrepreneur Hall of Fame.

In 2019, he launched a podcast, "3 Things with Ric Elias," where he shares conversations and insights with top business leaders, athletes, and remarkable guests. A native of Puerto Rico, Ric attended Boston College and Harvard Business School.

Ric has founded several social impact initiatives including Road to Hire, a 501(c)(3) that connects young adults with on-ramps to professional development and high-earning careers. Programs provided through the Road to Hire platform include career-readiness classes in Charlotte Mecklenburg Title 1 high schools, digital marketing courses at Johnson C. Smith University, on-the-job training and placement with top employers in Charlotte, and scholarships for high-performing undocumented students seeking college degrees.