Master Hercle Brown started his martial arts training in 1971 under the direction of Sensei John Shaffer at the YMCA in Aurora, IL. After many many years of study, he became serious about competing in major events and sanctioned martial arts tournaments, such as those sponsored by the American Karate Association and the Professional Karate Association Midwest Circuits. He successfully built a name for himself all while training other teams in his dojo to compete.

Master Brown has attained rank in kickboxing, self defense, kata, and hand to hand combat. He is a member of the Midwest Black Belt Hall of Fame, and has achieved a host of other prestigious awards. He founded Browns Dragonfire Academy of Martial Arts in 1992, instructing over 3,000 students over the years. To date, he continues to actively teach at his own school, and promote martial arts throughout the midwest and neighboring states. He has always promoted the very important ideas of respect, hard work, discipline, and honesty, which is fundamental for any martial arts school.