

Wake County Fire Chiefs Past and Present
 Compiled by Mike Legeros
 Last updated August 2022
 Incomplete information with yellow background

Department	First		Last	Part	Start	Stop	Total
Apex	J	L	Castleberry		1927	1929	
Apex	Ray		Scott		1956		
Apex	V	W	Tunstall		1957		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1958		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1960		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1961		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1956		
Apex	V	W	Tunstall		1957		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1958		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1961		
Apex	V	W	Tunstall		1964		
Apex	James		Mason		1967		
Apex	Ray		Scott		1970		
Apex	Gerald		Howard		1973		
Apex	Gene		Harris		1976		
Apex	Gene		Harris		1979		
Apex	Gerald		Howard		1982		
Apex	Tom		Maynard		1985		
Apex	Tom		Maynard		1988		
Apex	Bill		Stevenson		1991		
Apex	Bill		Stevenson		1993		
Apex	Bill		Stevenson		1997		
Apex	Bill		Stevenson		2000		
Apex	Ray		Echevarria		2001	2002	1
Apex	Mark		Haraway		2002	2014	12
Apex	Keith		McGee		2014	2022	8.5
Apex							
Apex Rural	Carter		Schuab		1964		
Bay Leaf	George		Lobinger		1961	1962	1
Bay Leaf	George "Buck"		Tilly		1963	1964	1
Bay Leaf	Ed		Grice		1964	1966	2
Bay Leaf	George	D	Norwood		1967	1971	4
Bay Leaf	R	L	Harris		1972	1973	1
Bay Leaf	Ray		Ledford		1974	1979	5
Bay Leaf	Hal		Atkinson Jr		1980	1992	12
Bay Leaf	Bill		Gatewood		1993	1997	4
Bay Leaf	George		Mills		1998	1999	1
Bay Leaf	Ron		Roof		2000	2010	10
Bay Leaf	Tim		Pope		2011	2017	6.5

Cary	W	W	Waddell		1923	TBD	
Cary	W	L	Jones		1927	TBD	
Cary	M	R	Conner		1936	TBD	
Cary	Linville	E	Midgett		1950	TBD	
Cary	James	L	Murdock		1952	1955?	
Cary	Julian	C	Griffis		1955	1956	
Cary	W.	Robert	Elder		1956	1956	
Cary	Robert	B	Heater		1956	1957	
Cary	Willis	E	Henderson		1957	1958	
Cary	J	Paul	Matthews		1958	1959	
Cary	Julian	C	Griffis		1960	1960	
Cary	James	L	Murdock		1960	TBD	
Cary	Willis	E	Henderson		TBD	1963	
Cary	Calvin		Beck		1963	1964	2
Cary	Don		Tripp		1963	1966	1.75
Cary	John		Ward		1966	1967	0.25
Cary	R	Lee	Matthews		1967	1967	0.33
Cary	Clarence	F	Ayscue		1967	1968	1
Cary	John	L	Dew		1968	1969	0.5
Cary	Billy		Henderson		1969	1971	2
Cary	Terry	L	Edmundson		1971	1975	4.5
Cary	Ned		Perry		1975	1993	18
Cary	Wayne		House		1993	2002	9
Cary	Allan		Cain		2002	2018	16
Cary	Michael	W	Cooper		2018	present	
Cary Rural	See Yrac						
Durham Highway	Thomas		Kelly		1964	1972	8
Durham Highway	Bob		Morgan		1972	1976	4

Durham Highway	Floyd		Bailey		1976	1978	2
Durham Highway	Mike		Boyce		1978	1979	1
Durham Highway	Jimmy		Thompson	a1	1979	1983	4
Durham Highway	Eddie		Morton		1983	1984	1
Durham Highway	Jimmy		Thompson	a2	1984	1985	1
Durham Highway	Nick		Slobodzian	b1	1985	1986	1
Durham Highway	Vernon		Jones		1986	1993	7
Durham Highway	Nick		Slobodzian	b2	1993	1995	2
Durham Highway	Robert		Andrews		1995	2001	6
Durham Highway	Philip		Griffin		2001	2002	1
Durham Highway	Mike		Cooper		2002	2009	7
Durham Highway	Nick		Slobodzian	b3	2009	2010	1
Durham Highway	Jim		Feely		2010		
Durham Highway	David	B	McNulty			present	
Eastern Wake	George		Gupton		2003	2012	9
Eastern Wake	M	J	Johnson		2012	2013	1
Eastern Wake	David	L	Cates		2013	2019	6
Eastern Wake	Tim		Guffey		2019	2020	2
Fairgrounds	Biff	J	Abbott		1961		
Fairgrounds	Bobby		Barden		1977		
Fairgrounds	Donald	O	Will				
Fairgrounds	Mark		Barden				
Fairgrounds	Len		White				
Fairgrounds	Jim		Haven				
Fairgrounds	Harrison		Jones				
Fairgrounds	John	P	Hiovich				
Fairgrounds	Donald	O	Will				
Fairgrounds	Wilbert "Tramp"		Dunn				
Fairgrounds	Percy	V	Evans		1987	1997	10
Fairgrounds	J	Darrin	Holt		1997	1998	1
Fairview	Gene	W	Ogburn		1963	1966	3
Fairview	Marvin	A	Powell		1966	1967	1
Fairview	Gerald	R	Atkins Sr	b1	1967	1974	7
Fairview	Kenneth	C	West		1974	1976	2
Fairview	Joseph	R	Franks	a1	1976	1979	3
Fairview	Craven	A	Langston		1979	1980	1
Fairview	Joseph	R	Franks	a2	1980	1984	4
Fairview	Gerald	R	Atkins Sr	b2	1984	1985	1
Fairview	Joseph	R	Franks	a3	1985	1992	7
Fairview	Mickey	J	Buffaloe		1992	1997	5
Fairview	Donald	E	Pierce		1997	2002	5
Fairview	Paul	F	Dunwell		2002	2006	4
Fairview	Edward	P	Brinson		2006	2012	6

Fairview	David		Price		2012	2016	4
Fairview	Barry		Spain		2016	present	
Falls	Sam		Perry		1970		
Falls	Johnny		Ray				
Falls	Chris		Wilson		1997	2012	15
Fuquay-Varina	W	Lee	Rowland		1925	1963	38
Fuquay-Varina	Clifton		Keith		1963	1972	9
Fuquay-Varina	Wayne		Wortham		1972	1973	1
Fuquay-Varina	James		Mauldin		1973	1974	1
Fuquay-Varina	Douglas		Knott		1975	1976	2
Fuquay-Varina	Edward		Schmelzer	a1	1977	1978	2
Fuquay-Varina	Johnny		Jones	b1	1979	1980	2
Fuquay-Varina	Charles		Sauls	c1	1981	1981	1
Fuquay-Varina	Edward		Schmelzer	a2	1982	1983	2
Fuquay-Varina	T	C	O'Connell		1984	1984	1
Fuquay-Varina	James		Mauldin		1985	1985	1
Fuquay-Varina	Charles		Sauls	c2	1985	1985	1
Fuquay-Varina	David		Markle	d1	1986	1987	2
Fuquay-Varina	Johnny		Jones	b2	1988	1989	1
Fuquay-Varina	David		Markle	d2	1989	1990	2
Fuquay-Varina	David		Markle	d3	1991	1992	1
Fuquay-Varina	Buddy		Walters		1991	1992	1
Fuquay-Varina	Johnny		Jones	b3	1992	1995	3
Fuquay-Varina	Mark		Randall		1995	1998	3
Fuquay-Varina	Ken		Farmer		1998	1999	1
Fuquay-Varina	Mark		Melvin		1999	2001	2
Fuquay-Varina	Anthony		Mauldin		2002	Present	10
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Edsel		Fuquay		1953	1956	3
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Thomas		Bridges		1953	1959	6
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Errol		Coley		1960	1964	4
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Durwood		Stephenson		1965	1965	1
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Edward		Schmelzer	a3	1966	1970	4
Fuquay-Varina Rural	Charles		Sauls	c3	1971	1971	
Garner	J	Noel	Bryan	a1	1952	1958	6
Garner	Jack		Johnson		1958	1960	2
Garner	John	Whiley	Jones		1960	1963	3
Garner	Bud	R	Poole	b1	1963	1967	4
Garner	J	Noel	Bryan	a2	1967	1968	1
Garner	Bud	R	Poole	b2	1968	1970	2
Garner	Richard		Gulley		1970	1971	1
Garner	Bud	R	Poole	b3	1971	1982	11
Garner	Phil		Mitchell		1982	2010	28
Garner	Matt		Poole		2010	present	

Holly Springs	Cecil		Parker		1992	2012	20
Holly Springs	LeRoy		Smith		2012	present	0
Holly Springs Rural	Jimmy		Holland		1		
Holly Springs Rural	Ray		Thaxton		2		
Holly Springs Rural	George		Huegrich		3		
Hopkins	Charles	B	Mitchell Jr	a1	1977	1978	1
Hopkins	Charles	L	Hocutt		1978	1983	5
Hopkins	Graham	N	Bunn Jr		1984	1984	1
Hopkins	Charles	B	Mitchell Jr	a2	1985	1985	1
Hopkins	Ned	T	Mitchell		1986	1986	1
Hopkins	Bruce		Brown		1987	1992	5
Hopkins	Frank		Woods		1992	2016	24
Hopkins	Chris		Ward		2021	present	
Knightdale VFD	Randolph		Griffith		1954	1955	1
Knightdale VFD	Charles		Smith		1956	1956	1
Knightdale VFD	Bernice		Wall	a1	1957	1958	1
Knightdale VFD	John	B	Parrish		1958	1959	1
Knightdale VFD	E	O	Robison		1959	1961	2
Knightdale VFD	Bernice		Wall	a2	1961	1975	14
Knightdale VFD	H	V	Pair		1975	1976	1
Knightdale VFD	Bernice		Wall	a3	1976	1978	2
Knightdale VFD	George		Gupton		1978	2003	25
Knightdale	Tim		Guffey		2002	2019	17
Knightdale	Loren		Cone		2019	Present	
Morrisville	Donald		Knott		1955	1957	2
Morrisville	Hubert		Ferrell		1958	1959	2
Morrisville	Carl		Light		1960	1961	2
Morrisville	Cecil		Sears	a1	1962	1963	2
Morrisville	Benny		Ridout	b1	1964	1965	2
Morrisville	Cecil		Sears	a2	1966	1969	4
Morrisville	Benny		Ridout	b2	1970	1970	1
Morrisville	Raymond		Broadwell		1971	1971	1
Morrisville	John		York		1972	1973	2
Morrisville	Tom		Pruitt		1974	1974	1
Morrisville	Buster		Sears		1975	1975	1
Morrisville	Tony		Chiotakis	c1	1975	1977	3
Morrisville	Gerald		Howard		1977	1977	1
Morrisville	Ken		Bucher		1978	1978	1
Morrisville	Judson		Edeburn		1979	1980	1
Morrisville	Tony		Chiotakis	c2	1981	1985	4
Morrisville	Ken		Bucher		1986	1986	1
Morrisville	Tony		Chiotakis	c3	1987	2003	14

Morrisville	Mike		Chambers		2003	2005	2
Morrisville	Todd		Wright		2005	Present	
New Hope	Harold	V	Glover		1956	1960	4
New Hope	B	Guthrie	Montague		1960	1961	1
New Hope	G	E	Rosenberger		1961	1965	4
New Hope	J	W	Martin		1965	1971	6
New Hope	Walter		King		1971	1973	2
New Hope	Russell		Capps		1973	1976	3
New Hope	Milton		Roundtree		1976	1978	2
New Hope	Norris		Wollett		1978	1979	1
New Hope	Horace		Thomas		1979	1982	3
New Hope	Phil		Smith	a1	1982	1984	2
New Hope	Fred		Barton		1984	1986	2
New Hope	Phil		Smith	a2	1986	1987	1
New Hope	Jeff		Mullen		1987	1991	4
New Hope	Robert		Pearce		1991	2006	15
New Hope	Jimmy		McCauley		2006	2011	5
New Hope	Fred		Stough		2011	2013	2
New Hope	Jimmy		McCauley		2013	2018	5
New Hope	Kenan	Lee "Lee"	Price		2018	present	
Northern Wake	Tim		Pope		2017	2022	5
Northern Wake	Scottie		Harris		2022	present	
Raleigh	Joseph	D	Backalan		1870	1871	1
Raleigh	John	C	Gorman		1871	1872	1
Raleigh	Henry	T	Clawson		1873	1875	2
Raleigh	Joseph	H	Green		1875	1881	6
Raleigh	William	J	Weir		1881	1882	1
Raleigh	Thomas	W	Blake		1882	1888	6
Raleigh	Edward	B	Engelhard	a1	1888	1892	4
Raleigh	Charles	E	Johnson		1892	1893	1
Raleigh	Edward	B	Engelhard	a2	1893	1894	1
Raleigh	Louis	A	Mahler		1894	1901	7
Raleigh	Lonnie	H	Lumsden	b1	1901	1903	2
Raleigh	Walter		Woollcott	c1	1903	1905	2
Raleigh	John	W	Mangum	d1	1905	1907	2
Raleigh	Frank	B	Simpson		1907	1908	1
Raleigh	John	W	Mangum	d2	1908	1909	1
Raleigh	Lonnie	H	Lumsden	b2	1909	1911	2
Raleigh	Walter		Woollcott	c2	1911	1912	1
Raleigh	Sherwood	B	Brockwell		1912	1914	2
Raleigh	Charles	D	Farmer		1914	1919	5
Raleigh	Hubert	H	Horton		1919	1923	4
Raleigh	Lewis	F	Hicks		1923	1926	3
Raleigh	W	Ernest	Holland		1926	1939	13
Raleigh	Ellis	D	King		1939	1941	2
Raleigh	W	Ralph	Butts		1941	1947	6
Raleigh	Alvin	B	Lloyd		1947	1955	8

Raleigh	John	B	Keeter		1955	1973	18
Raleigh	Clarence	R	Puryear		1973	1974	1
Raleigh	Rufus	E	Keith		1974	1982	8
Raleigh	Thomas	T	Kuster		1983	1986	3
Raleigh	Sherman	A	Pickard		1986	1995	9
Raleigh	Jonny	B	Sandy		1995	1999	4
Raleigh	Earl	F	Fowler		1999	2005	6
Raleigh	John	T	McGrath		2006	2019	13.75
Raleigh	Bradley		Harvey		2019	2020	2
Raleigh	Herbert		Griffin		2020	Present	
RDU	Terry		Edmundson		1977	1985	8
RDU	Jimmy		Thompson		1986	2012	28
RDU	Charles		Timberlake		2012	2018	6
RDU	Russell		Stanley		2018	present	
Rolesville	H	E	Perry	a1	1958	1963	5
Rolesville	Wade		Young		1964	1966	2
Rolesville	H	E	Perry	a2	1967	1970	3
Rolesville	Roy	Ed	Jones Jr.		1970	1992	22
Rolesville	Rodney		Privette		1992	2022	30
Six Forks	William	T	Howell	a1	1956	1957	1
Six Forks	Allen		Thompson		1957	1958	1
Six Forks	David	H	Pattishall		1958	1959	1
Six Forks	Raymond	C	Jones	b1	1959	1960	1
Six Forks	William	T	Howell	a2	1960	1961	1
Six Forks	Peter	J	Harris		1961	1963	2
Six Forks	Norman	C	Champion		1963	1964	1
Six Forks	Raymond	C	Jones	b2	1964	1965	1
Six Forks	David		Barham		1965	1971	6
Six Forks	Hunter		Averette		1971	1973	2
Six Forks	Joe		Terry		1973	1975	2
Six Forks	Lewis	E	Bartholomew		1975	1978	3
Six Forks	Phillip	C	Woodlief		1978	1986	8
Six Forks	Alfred	E	Lynn		1986	1991	5
Six Forks	Don		Adams		1991	1998	7
Six Forks	Rodney		Warner		1998	2002	4
Stony Hill	J	C	Ray		1958	1960	2
Stony Hill	Owen		Ray		1960	1965	5
Stony Hill	J	P	Bailey		1965	1969	4
Stony Hill	Stonewall		Harrison		1969	1971	2
Stony Hill	Buck		Bailey		1971	1974	3
Stony Hill	Robert	Lee	Ray		1974	1975	1
Stony Hill	Bill		Bailey		1975	1980	5
Stony Hill	Novlen		Perry		1980	1985	5

Stony Hill	Jimmy		Perrott		1985	1987	2
Stony Hill	William		Williams		1987	1987	0
Stony Hill	Norman		Dillard		1987	1996	9
Stony Hill	Aubrey "A.C."	C	Rich Jr		1996	2017	21
Swift Creek	Joe		Womble		1960	1961	1
Swift Creek	Stanford	N	Mizelle		1961	1965	4
Swift Creek	L	D	Warner		1965	1987	22
Swift Creek	Harold		Estes		1987	1990	3
Swift Creek	Robert		Estes		1990	1993	3
Swift Creek	Edward	P	Brinson		1993	2003	10
Swift Creek	Scott		McCollum		2003	2008	5
Swift Creek	L	Bryant	Woodall		2008	2016	8
Swift Creek	Mike		Gerke		2016	present	
Wake Forest	Thomas		Arrington Sr.		1921	1933	12
Wake Forest	John		Taylor		1933	1941	8
Wake Forest	Frank		Keith		1941	1958	17
Wake Forest	Albert		Perry		1958	1978	20
Wake Forest	Bruce		Keith	a1	1978	1978	0
Wake Forest	Jerry		Carter		1978	1979	1
Wake Forest	Bruce		Keith	a2	1979	1980	1
Wake Forest	Donnie		Height		1980	1987	7
Wake Forest	Jimmy		Keith		1987	2004	17
Wake Forest	David		Williams		2004	2006	2
Wake Forest	Jerry		Swift		2006	2008	2
Wake Forest	Alfred	E	Lynn		2008	2011	3
Wake Forest	Ron		Early		2011	present	
Wake Forest #2	Edward		Alston		1953		
Wake Forest Rural	Willis	H	Winston		1956		
Wendell	J	Malcomb	Todd		1940		
Wendell	Dover		Hinton		1946	1959	13
Wendell	Clifton		Couick		1960		
Wendell	Burke		Smith		1974		
Wendell	Norman		Dean		1976		
Wendell	Billy		Raper		1979		
Wendell	Herb		Ramsey		1982		
Wendell	Herb		Ramsey		1983		
Wendell	Herb		Ramsey		1984		
Wendell	Herb		Ramsey		1987		
Wendell	Tom		Vaughn		1988	2013	25
Wendell	Brian		Staples		2013	present	

Western Boulevard	J	A	Holleman		1957	1961	4
Western Wake	J	Darrin	Holt		1998	2002	4
Western Wake	Rob		Gibbs		2002	2002	0
Western Wake	David	Scottie	Harris		2002	2005	3
Western Wake	Jim		Bona		2005	2008	3
Western Wake	David		Cates		2008	2013	4
Western Wake	Garland		Johnston		2013	2020	7
Western Wake	David		Sasser		2020	2022	
Yrac	Jackie	P	Hunter	a1	1961		
Yrac	Ronnie		Stevens		1966		
Yrac	Jackie	P	Hunter	a2	1971		
Yrac	David		Weaver		1975	1976	1
Yrac	Dennis		White		1977		
Yrac	Mickey		Denning		1979	1981	5
Yrac	Walter		Bowles		1981	1983	4
Yrac	Wayne		Kennedy		1983		
Yrac	Sam		Matthews		1986		
Yrac	Craig		Zglinski				
Yrac	Phil		Richards				
Yrac	Danny		Rogers		1996	1998	2
Zebulon	C	E	Parker		1		
Zebulon	A	S	Hinton		2		
Zebulon	W	W	Liles		3		
Zebulon	A	S	Hinton		4		
Zebulon	Willie	B	Hopkins	a1	1946	1975	29
Zebulon	L	Wilson	Stallings		1975	1980	5
Zebulon	Sidney	C	Perry		1980	2013	33
Zebulon	Christopher	C	Perry		2013	present	
Zebulon Rural	Willie	B	Hopkins	a2	1953	1954	1
Zebulon Rural	Billy	Wayne	Perry		1954	1986	32
Zebulon Rural	Dickey		Bryant		1986	1987	1
Zebulon Rural	Wilson		Eddins		1987	1989	2
Zebulon Rural	Charles		Merritt		1989	1992	3
Zebulon Rural	Charles		Pulley		1993	1996	3
Zebulon Rural	David		Hawkins		1997	1999	2
Zebulon Rural	L	Wayne	Dupree		2000	2000	1

First Fire Chief
Appointed 5/1/23
Appointed 7/21/27
Named as part of new fire company, 2/18/36
Ended 5/31/57
Appointed 6/1/57
Ended 9/15/60
Appointed 9/15/60
Ended by 8/1/63
First paid Fire Chief. Appointed by 8/1/63 Resigned 12/31/64
Appointed 8/1/63 Resigned 12/31/64
Appointed 10/15/66 Resigned 1/17/67
Retired Raleigh Asst. Chief. Hired 1/21/67 Resigned 5/1/67
Appointed 5/1/67 Resigned 7/15/68.
Hired 7/30/68 Ended 2/6/69
Hired 2/7/69 Ended 1/3/71
Hired 1/4/71 Resigned 8/7/75 Alt. date 7/28/85
Hired 10/6/75 Retired 9/1/93
Appointed 9/1/93 Retired 12/__/02
Started 1/1/03 as interim Started 4/10/03 as permanent Stopped 10/__/18 [?], now PS Director
Appointed 10/__/18 [?]
First fire chief

Total 5 years as DHFD chief
Total 4 years as DHFD chief
First fire chief. Plus 25 years at KFD.
Stop 7/1/20, with KFD merger
First fire chief. Chief in Jan 64, Nov 64, Mar 69, Feb 70
Chief in Apr 78, Jun 78. Asst. Chief in Aug 80
Chief in Feb 76
Chief in Mar 84
First paid chief
Last fire chief. FFD merges with YFD to form WWFD.
First fire chief
Total 8 years as FFD chief
Total 14 years as FFD chief
First paid chief

First fire chief
Last fire chief. FFD merges with WFFD.
First fire chief
First fire chief of merged town and rural depts
Total 7 years as FV fire chief
Total 6 years as FV fire chief
Total 3 years as FV fire chief
Total 5 years as FV fire chief
Day Time
Night Time
First fire chief. Total 7 years GFD chief
Total 17 years GFD chief
First full-time chief in 1988 (?)

First fire chief
Started June 4, 2012
First fire chief, started 1972
Second fire chief
Third fire chief
First fire chief. Total 2 years as HFD chief
Stop July? 2016
Interim chief start Aug 2021, full time Dec 2021
First fire chief
Total 17 years as KFD chief

Died in office.
Last fire chief. KFD renamed EWFD. Plus 9 years at EWFD.
Stop 7/31/19
Total 6 years as MFD chief.
Total 3 years as MFD chief.
Total 21 years as MFD chief.
Full-time position beginning in 1995

First fire chief
Total 3 years as NHD chief
Start 7/1/2017
Captain
Chief Engineer
Chief Marshal
Chief Engineer
Chief Engineer
Chief Engineer
Chief Engineer
Total 5 years as RFD chief
Total 4 years as RFD chief
Total 3 years as RFD chief
Total 3 years as RFD chief
First full time
Died in office
Died in office

Start spring 1957. Only fire chief.
Disbanded Feb 1961, members
create Fairgrounds FD.

First fire chief

First fire chief

Last fire chief. YFD merges with
FFD to form WWFD.

First

Second

Third

Fourth

Hired as first full time chief,
1992. Retired 2/28/13

Son of Sidney. Appointed 3/1/13.

First fire chief