



Steve Harrelson

While enlisting into the US Army Reserves, a wrong military job recommendation by the recruiting officer pointed Steve into a career that has defined him for over half of his lifetime. Luckily the suggested military occupation specialty (MOS) of water purification specialist was not available but the MOS of military police was open. The rest is history. Steve has lived an extensive career (31+ years) in law enforcement from his beginning as a Police Officer with the Monticello Police Department to Deputy Sheriff with the Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). He rose up through LCSO holding the ranks of Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Major, and Chief. He was a negotiator with the LCSO Hostage Negotiation Team and was the commander of the team until he was promoted to Chief.

Throughout his career Steve has been an innovator and out of the box thinker creating new programs and projects to benefit the agency and the citizens of Leon County. He was also a champion for the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches leading LCSO to be the top payroll contributing agency of all Florida Sheriff's Offices for over 12 years. He has been recognized for his law enforcement work by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Secret Service, and the Sheriff's Office.

Currently, Steve is the Director for the Consolidated Dispatch Agency which provides 911 and dispatching services for the Leon County Sheriff's Office, Tallahassee Police Department, Leon County EMS, and Tallahassee Fire Department.

Steve was an adjunct instructor for the Florida Public Safety Institute where he taught the next generations of law enforcement officers. Steve received his Associate of Arts degree at the Tallahassee Community College and his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology at Florida State University. He is married to Christina for 28 years and counting. They have two adult sons, Tyler and Corey.

Watch the video presented at the 2020 Heroes in Public Safety Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony of Stephen Everett speaking on behalf of Steve Harrelson [HERE](#).