



Ken Katsaris

Ken Katsaris began his law enforcement career with the St. Petersburg, Florida PD serving as both an investigator and patrol officer. During his early years in law enforcement, he completed an Associate in Arts Degree in Police Administration. After moving to Tallahassee, Katsaris completed both a Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Criminology at FSU.

In 1966, Katsaris was tapped by Dr. Fred Turner, first President of TCC, to develop, implement and serve as Department Chair of TCC's first Criminal Justice Degree program. To further his education, commensurate with his teaching at TCC and later as an adjunct professor in Criminology and Social Work, Ken completed a five-year course of study towards a Doctorate in Public Administration through Nova University.

Katsaris put his teaching experience with Advanced Criminal Investigation and Advanced Criminalistics at TCC to use as a part-time Tallahassee police officer. Later that experience assisted in his election as Sheriff of Leon County. Katsaris also taught part-time for 30 years at the Florida Highway Patrol Academy, a position that eventually turned into a part-time Trooper position, having been selected by Colonel Bobby Burkett, Director of the FHP.

From the beginning of Katsaris' tenure as Criminal Justice Department Chair and to this day, he has taught most of the basic recruit training programs offered by Lively Technical School, followed by the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy, and the Florida Public Safety Institute.

Katsaris has served as an instructor in most of the major national law enforcement seminars and has trained a total of upwards of 100,000 police officers throughout his career.

As Sheriff of Leon County Ken directed the Theodore Bundy serial murder investigation which called upon all of his experience as a police officer and law enforcement educator, along with a cadre of dedicated Leon County Sheriff's deputies, Tallahassee Police Officers, FSU Campus Officers, FHP Troopers, and Florida Department of Criminal Law Enforcement Crime Lab and Special Agents.

Katsaris is married and has two daughters, two step sons, with a combined sixteen grandchildren.

Watch the video presented at the 2020 Heroes in Public Safety Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony of E. E. Eunice speaking on behalf of Ken Katsaris [HERE](#).