



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

KERMIT WASHINGTON

**FIRE STANDARDS
COORDINATOR**

TCC FLORIDA PUBLIC SAFETY INSTITUTE

In 1978, at age 17, Kermit Washington enlisted into the Marine Corps Reserve with the MOS of Motor Transportation. He trained fellow marines on driving, maintenance on various military grade vehicles, and maintained a constant inventory of assigned supplies during transport. In 1990, Washington and his unit were deployed to Iraq, serving in Desert Storm/Desert Shield. Here at Tallahassee's Marine Corps Reserve, he earned the title of Motor Transportation Chief. He continued to serve our country for 22 years before retiring in 2000 with the honorable rank of Master Sergeant.

In 1987, Washington began employment with the Tallahassee Fire Department. Here, his last promotion was to the Division Chief of Training and EMS. Washington oversaw all training and developed the promotional written and practical exams for the department. He is currently serving as the Commander of the Tallahassee Fire Department Honor Guard. In 2011, he earned his AS degree in Fire Science from Columbia Southern University. After 30 enjoyable years, in 2017, he retired from the Tallahassee Fire Department.

In 1998, Washington and his marine colleagues started a program in Tallahassee for the youth of the community and the surrounding area, entitled Young Marines of the Big Bend. This program aims to help children have productive and positive lives. This program also focuses on leadership, community service, and living a healthy drug-free lifestyle. In 2007, Tallahassee Community College and the Tallahassee Fire Department partnered, starting a fire academy. Washington was hired as one of the academy's first instructors. With consistent hard work and leadership, he soon was promoted to one of the academy Lead instructors. In 2021, he was hired as the academy coordinator. Washington currently lives in Tallahassee with his lovely wife of 15 years, Lauria, and their son, Hamilton

