

Gregory H. Grayson

Brief Career Overview - 2017



Contact Information:

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North Carolina Fire/Rescue Innovative Solutions, LLC

- Founder of management consulting business dedicated to strengthening fire and rescue service delivery systems through continuous improvement.
- Independent specialty contractor to national fire and emergency services consultant firms.
- Provides technical expertise, education, problem resolution, advice and guidance for county and municipal managers and elected officials as well as professional local government based organizations.
- Provides customized solutions to improve effectiveness and efficiencies for Fire Chiefs and County Fire Services Directors by proactively recognizing and promoting innovations, resources, benchmarks, industry standards, research, best practices and research as well as peer analysis.
- Specialty areas of strategic planning for county governments, service delivery enhancement for municipal governments and human resource/career development for fire and rescue personnel.
- Collaborating Partner Agencies include FACETS Consulting, LLP, Developmental Associates, LLC and Code 3 Insurance Services, Inc.

Appointment - North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal - Assistant Director (2015-2017)

- Led the North Carolina Local Government Technical Services Program for NCOSFM.
- Served as a public management consultant to county and municipal managers throughout North Carolina.
- Conducted full-scale, comprehensive peer review assessments for county and municipal governments.
- Led and managed complex, inclusive statewide fire and rescue service initiatives, studies and projects.
- Collaboratively partnered with key statewide local government and professional organizations.

Thirty-three years continuous North Carolina local government fire and rescue service experience and leadership

- City of Greensboro Fire Chief – 6+ years (595 firefighters, \$47M annual budget), retired July 1, 2015
- City of Asheville Fire Chief - 9 years (240 firefighters, \$18M annual budget)
- City of Burlington Fire Chief - 2.5 years (100 firefighters, \$6M annual budget)
- Wake County Fire Marshal - Fire/Rescue Director - 8 years (32 staff)
- Service to the Town of Cary Fire Department, NCSU, and Cleveland County as a Firefighter - 7.5 years

Education:

- Master of Public Administration - Western Carolina University (2006)
- Bachelor in Education - North Carolina State University (1988)
- Associate of Science in Fire Protection - Durham Technical Community College (2000)
- Multiple National Fire Academy and Emergency Management Institute Resident Programs
- University of North Carolina -School of Government Programs (Municipal Administration and Public Executive Leadership Academy - PELA) as well as University of Virginia Senior Executive Institute (SEI)

Primary Professional Credentials:

- Chief Fire Officer (CFO) Designation – one of first persons to earn CFO credential in North Carolina
- First person to earn the North Carolina Advanced Firefighter Certificate
- Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) Certification and SHRM-SCP Certification
- MIFireE credentialed professional designation from the Institution of Fire Engineers
- Multiple NC Fire and Rescue Commission/OEMS State Certifications (Firefighter, Instructor, EMT)
- NC Standard Level III Fire Inspector – NC Code Officials Qualification Board – one of very first in NC

Select Career Accomplishment Highlights:

- Served in leadership and command roles in scores of major disaster and large scale emergency responses
- Led significant career development advancement initiatives in three major NC municipal fire departments
- Implemented 10 new response companies & opened 6 new fire stations (2 in Asheville, 4 in Greensboro)
- Led the Asheville Fire Department to initially become an accredited fire department by CPSE
- Led Wake County's initial transition to a unified county fire tax service delivery system
- Served on the core team that developed and initially implemented NC's first statewide fire code

Professional Recognitions:

- Recipient of the State of North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine (2015)
- Selected as the Grand Marshal of the City of Burlington Christmas Parade (2015)
- Governor's appointee to the North Carolina State Emergency Response Commission – SERC (2014-2017)
- Honored for service by Asheville City Council through an official unanimous city proclamation (2009)
- Received Regional "Executive Manager of the Year" award for city/county/state/federal levels (2008)
- Received Distinguished Service Award for leadership during Hurricanes Frances and Ivan (2004)
- Honored for service by Wake County Board of Commissioners through a unanimous proclamation (1996)
- Received "Firefighter of the Year" award from peer firefighters (1983)

Personal:

- Married for 28 years to Kris Grayson, a 32 year sworn police officer, now serving the City of Burlington
- One 16-year-old son, Marshall, who is a 10th grade student at Burlington Christian Academy
- Serves as Senior Deacon and other leadership roles with First Baptist Church of Burlington
- Serves as a Volunteer Firefighter and Public Information Officer for the Town of Elon, NC Fire Department

