

# JOHN D. WESTMORELAND, MPA

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Senior public safety executive with 20+ years of progressive leadership experience within the Orange County Fire Rescue Department. Proven expertise in large-scale operational management, capital project oversight, labor relations, emergency incident command, and multimillion-dollar budget and project administration. Trusted advisor to executive leadership, overseeing 1,680+ personnel and complex countywide emergency services operations.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Acting Deputy Chief of Administration** – Orange County Fire Rescue *June 2025 – Present*

- Directs administrative operations for Communications, Planning and Technical Services, Logistics, Emergency Management, the Fire Marshal's Office, Safety and Wellness, and Internal Affairs
- Advises the Fire Chief in delivering department-wide leadership to a workforce of over 1,680 members
- Ensures compliance with County policies, labor contracts, regulatory standards, and departmental SOPs
- Provides executive-level incident support and scene management for large-scale emergencies and disaster response
- Serves as key executive liaison in labor-management relations
- Oversees development and administration of the department's annual operating and capital budgets

### **Division Chief of Logistics** – Orange County Fire Rescue *April 2021 – June 2025*

- Directed administrative operations for Fire Facilities, Fire Supply, and Fire Fleet Maintenance
- Developed and advised on departmental policies, rules, and operational regulations
- Provided executive oversight for construction of a \$52 million Fire Training Center and multiple fire stations
- Directed financial planning for 45 fire stations, critical sites, capital projects, 400+ rolling stock units, and over 5,000 capital assets

### **Acting Division Chief** – Orange County Fire Rescue *November 2019 – April 2021*

- Led full-spectrum logistical operations for the department
- Implemented KPI-driven performance management across Fleet, Facilities, EMS Logistics, Equipment, and Supply divisions
- Directed development and administration of nine operational budgets

### **Assistant Chief** – Orange County Fire Rescue *June 2016 – November 2019*

- Coordinated daily emergency and non-emergency activities for all OCFRD's operational resources through direct supervision of 7 on-duty Battalion Chiefs overseeing 380 combat-rated firefighters
- Conducted internal investigations, pre-determination hearings, and grievance processes in accordance with collective bargaining agreements
- Supported strategic business planning, accreditation, and ISO compliance initiatives
- Exercised hiring and disciplinary authority in alignment with County policy and labor agreements

### **Battalion Chief** – Orange County Fire Rescue *March 2014 – June 2016*

- Oversaw Fleet Maintenance, SCBA Maintenance, Fire Equipment Supply, and Capital Inventory

- Prepared, administered, and managed annual budgets exceeding \$14 million
- Served as Incident Commander on structure fires, hazardous materials incidents, and complex medical responses

**Interim Battalion Chief – Orange County Fire Rescue**

*December 2013 – March 2014*

**Lieutenant – Orange County Fire Rescue**

*2010 – 2013*

- Led personnel, responded to emergency alarms, and managed administrative duties as a Company Officer
- Served as OCFRD’s Public Information Officer

**Engineer – Orange County Fire Rescue**

*2007 – 2010*

- Drove and operated firefighting apparatus, pumps, nozzles, and hydraulic equipment
- Selected the appropriate route to emergency incidents and safely operated apparatus
- Served as an Acting Lieutenant

**Firefighter**

*2004 – 2007*

- Performed fire suppression and emergency rescue activities
- Engaged in public relations initiatives aimed at enhancing the department’s public image

**EDUCATION**

**Master of Public Administration**

*2014*

*University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*

**Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security**

*2012*

*University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*

**Bachelor of Science in Business Administration & Management Information Systems**

*2002*

*University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL*

**CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Firefighter Minimum Standards, Florida Bureau of Fire Standards
- Emergency Medical Technician, Florida Department of Health
- Fire Officer I
- Peer Fitness Trainer | ACE
- FEMA – ICS 100
- FEMA – IS 200, 242.a, & 700
- PADI – Open Water Diver
- Subject Matter Expert | 2010 Engineer Promotional process
- National Fire Academy | Emergency Response to Terrorism
- Fire & Hazard Response Training
- Command Skill Development | Rockhill & Halton
- CPR, American Heart Association
- Florida Fire Chief’s Association
- Central Florida Fire Chief’s Association
- American Society for Public Administration

**AWARDS AND COMMITTEE ASSOCIATIONS**

- Member of OCFRD’s Safety Committee (2014)
- Member of Orange County Government’s Vehicle Requirement Utilization Committee (2014)
- Recipient of the Fire Chief’s Award (2007)
- Distinguished Service Award (2004)
- Unit Citation | 2006, 2012
- Outstanding Service Letter | 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2012