

Fire Chief Jason Dougherty Candidate Bio

Candidate for the Board of Directors, Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

Chief Jason Dougherty currently serves as Fire Chief of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, one of Florida's largest combination fire departments. He began his fire service career in 1999 in Thomasville, Georgia, and later served as Training Chief with Tampa Fire Rescue before joining Hillsborough County Fire Rescue in 2016. During his tenure with HCFR, he served as both Deputy Chief of Operations and Deputy Chief of Administration before being appointed Fire Chief in December 2023.

Chief Dougherty holds a Bachelor's Degree in Health Science Education from University of Florida and a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Waldorf University. He is also a designated Executive Fire Officer and Chief Fire Officer and is a graduate of the Fire Service Executive Development Institute.

Chief Dougherty is passionate about advancing the fire service through leadership development, firefighter health and wellness, and strong statewide collaboration. If elected to the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association Board of Directors, he will work to advocate for policies that support firefighters and their families while helping departments across Florida adapt to the evolving challenges facing the fire service.