

**Stuart “Cliff” Freeman  
Shift Responder  
Fire Services**

Cliff began his Fire Service career in 1988 as a volunteer with the Franklinton Fire Department. While there, he served in various roles including Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Chief over a 20-year career. He was hired fulltime as a Firefighter/EMT-I with Vance County in 1990.

Cliff began working with Wake County in July 1993 as a Deputy Fire Marshal performing Fire Code Inspections and assisting with Fire Investigations. He continued to develop his skills and knowledge as he earned a Fire Science Degree from Durham Tech in 1998 and completed his Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice in 2005.

With a passion for response and Fire Investigations, Cliff was promoted to WC1, Wake County’s 24-hour shift response position, in January 2004. During his 15-year tenure, Cliff responded to over 2,200 calls for service that included fire investigations and other emergency related events. Cliff also served as the department’s safety coordinator where he developed respiratory and physical fitness policies to ensure that department personnel were safe to operate in the environmental conditions that responders are exposed to. Cliff’s passion for investigations led him to seek knowledge and technology that made Wake County a leader in fire scene examinations. He shared his knowledge with others through teaching numerous parts of the Wake County Fire Investigation class through Wake Technical College.

In retirement, Cliff plans to enjoy time on the family farm in Franklinton and spending time with his wife and son.

Please join me in congratulating Cliff on his retirement.