

## Peter J. Nelson



I am proud to have been Fire Chief for the City of Independence, Ohio for 17 years initially to elevate a good fire department into becoming a professional fire department and then continuing that into a reputation as a progressive and proactive organization regionally.

- Lifeline and Home Safety Evaluation Programs were highlighted in FEMA's publication, *Compendium of Exemplary Programs*
- Generated over \$500,000 in grants for Fire Department Programs
- Quadcity CERT was selected twice to host the Cleveland Council on World Affairs, *Symposium on Disaster Preparedness*
- Ohio Incident Management Team representative as co-Deputy Incident Manager and Liaison in St. Bernard, Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

### Retirement

- Quadcity Community Emergency Response Team Executive Director and Board Member – currently active
- St. Martin of Tours Parish Council Board Member as vice Director – currently active
- City of Independence Civil Service Commissioner – currently active
- City of Independence City Council (2012-2014)

### Employment

City of Independence, Independence, Ohio  
**Fire Chief**

(December 1993-May 2011)

- Cuyahoga County Emergency Medical Advisory Board - Chairperson
- Cuyahoga County Emergency Services Advisory Board - Chairperson
- Cuyahoga County Fire Chief's Association - Vice-Chairperson and founding member
- Cuyahoga Valley Fire Chief's Association – Chairperson and founding member
- Southwest Cuyahoga County Emergency Response Team - Vice Chairperson
- Cuyahoga County Critical Incident Stress Management - Board member
- Marymount Hospital Advisory Board
- Cuyahoga Valley Career Center Advisory Board
- Was appointed, City Disaster Manager, and created the first City Disaster Plan
- Successfully acquired a regional grant for the purchase and implementation of a regional Fire Safety Trailer
- Initiated many Community Programs such as *Lifeline, Home Safety Evaluation, Quadcity CERT, Infant Car Seat Installation, CPR/AED Classes, Free Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Program*, and many more.
- Managed a balanced budget through two economic recessions.
- Worked with concerned residents and state legislatures to make necessary changes regarding firework displays in Ohio.

Ramsey and Associates, Akron, Ohio  
**Assessor-consultant**

(January 2005-present)

- Evaluate Supervisory level candidates for the position of fire officers utilizing oral assessment dimensions
- Assist in establishing scenario type questions and grading results to determine a ranking list for administrators to select qualified candidates for the levels of Lieutenant, Captain, and Chief level positions in the Fire Service

**City of Garfield Hts.**, Garfield Hts., Ohio  
**Fire Lieutenant/Paramedic**

(September 1978-December 1993)

- Routine functions included:
  - Shift Training Officer, Paramedic Coordinator, and Scene Commander at emergency responses
  - Evaluation of shift members
  - Inventory and record-keeping of equipment, materials, certifications, and responses of all department personnel.
- Special functions performed:
  - Assisted in creating the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System for the Southeast Region
  - Assisted in setting up a unified communication system for the Southeast Region
  - Establishing an Infectious Control Policy for the Garfield Hts. fire personnel
  - Assisted in creating a Department job description policy for all fire personnel

**Cuyahoga Valley Joint Vocational School**, Brecksville, Ohio (June 1982-June 1998)  
**Instructor**

- Firefighting Level II Course
- Emergency Medical technician
- Defensive Driving Course
- Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation

Routine functions included:

Train adults in Basic Emergency Medicine, part time firefighting, defensive driving techniques, and basic and advanced CPR for state certification. Re-certify local Firefighters to maintain state certification levels.

**United States Armed Forces**  
**Specialist 4**

(December 1970 – December 1976)

- Platoon Leader
- Vehicle mechanic
- Honorably discharged from the United states Army Reserve

**P. Nelson Trucking Co., Inc.** Cleveland, Ohio  
**Vice-President**

(January 1965 – June 1984)

Oversee all daily operations to include maintenance and operation of heavy equipment

- Maintain payroll records and balance sheets for all employees
- Trained all new employees and annual evaluations of all employees
- Documentation of all OSHA mandated requirements

**Education**

Chanel High School, Bedford, Ohio (graduated 1969)

Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio (1969-1971)

Cuyahoga Community College, State of Ohio Certification Programs

- Firefighter Level II, Paramedic, Fire Inspector, Hazardous Materials Awareness
- State Certified Instructor

Texas A&M University (1998)

- Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Terrorism Preparedness

Akron University, Akron, Ohio (2004)

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Incident Management Courses