



Dave Folsom

Sheriff Folsom worked for 32 years as a law enforcement officer. He began his career with the Valdosta State University Police Department from 1981-1984. He was commissioned an officer in the USAF in 1984 and attained the rank of Captain. During his tenure, he was assigned positions as Security Police Section Commander and Operations Officer within the Strategic Air Command and Alaskan Air Command, where he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and USAF Commendation Medal. Additionally, he served the Gulf War in 1991. Undersheriff Folsom earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Valdosta State University and a Master of Science in Political Science from Florida State University.

In 1988, David Folsom joined the Tallahassee Police Department. He worked as a patrol officer, field training officer, traffic homicide investigator, and internal affairs investigator, where he was progressively promoted through the ranks to Captain.

Subsequently, he served as commander of the Patrol Division, Special Operations Division, and Administrative Services Division. While working as legislative liaison for Chief Walter McNeil, he authored many bills in law enforcement and the Medal of Heroism for first responders which became law.

After serving as the Deputy Inspector General for the Florida Department of Corrections, Sheriff McNeil appointed David Chief of Staff and Undersheriff of the Leon County Sheriff's Office. Chief Folsom was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Delta, Pi Gamma Mu, and Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Societies. He is a graduate of Leadership Tallahassee, FDLE Police Executive Seminar, and the new Florida Sheriff's Seminar, and the FBI National Academy, Class 240, in 2010. He was the fifth person inducted into the Florida Police Chiefs Association as a Life member in 2005. He is a member of the Air Force Association, Florida Sheriff's Association, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Watch the video presented at the 2020 Heroes in Public Safety Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony of John Daily speaking on behalf of David Folsom [HERE](#).