

Chief of Police Appointed as 40th Chief of the Tulsa Police Department by Mayor G.T. Bynum on February 1, 2020

Tulsa Police Officer Joined Tulsa Police Department in 1997



Wendell Franklin was appointed February 1, 2020, becoming the 40th Chief of Police for the Tulsa Police Department. The city of Tulsa is 201 square miles with a population of more than 400,000. The Tulsa Police Department has more than 1,000 members protecting its city. It is the second largest municipal law enforcement agency in Oklahoma. Chief Franklin administers a budget in excess of \$133 million.

Chief Franklin has served in law enforcement for 26 years. He began his law enforcement career with the Tulsa Police Department in 1997, working in patrol and later as a narcotics investigator as he rose through the ranks. He promoted to Captain in 2012 and Major in 2015. As a Major he commanded two of the department's three patrol divisions and later oversaw policy development, special projects, technology platforms, and media relations as commander of the Headquarters Division.

Chief Franklin approaches public safety with innovative techniques and collaborative policing. He holds a bachelor's degree from Langston University. He is a graduate of PERF's Senior Management Institute for Police, an alumnus of both the FBI National Academy, and the FBI National Executive Institute.

Chief Franklin is actively involved with numerous professional organizations such as the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police, Major Cities Chiefs Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and National Public Safety Partnership. Locally, he serves on the boards of the Tulsa Historical Society, Boy Scouts of America, and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Society. His past board service includes Habitat for Humanity, Crosstown Learning Center, and other nonprofit organizations.