



## **Fire Chief Bio**

**Ron Karlen** was sworn in as the Fire Chief for the Marysville Fire Department on July 01, 2018 and has 30 years of fire service experience. He leads a department with 10 full time staff and 12 Volunteers who provide service to over 14,000 residents in Marysville, D-10 and Hallwood. The Department responds to approximately 3,400 calls for service each year out of one station.

Chief Karlen is a Certified Chief Officer and Instructor through the California State Fire Marshal's Office. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Professional Vocational Studies from California State University Long Beach and an Associate's Degree in Fire Technology from Solano Community College in Suisun CA. Chief Karlen has extensive experience in all aspects of the fire service including Incident and Emergency Management, Fire Investigation, Fire Prevention, Training, Operations and Technical Rescue.

Chief Karlen began his fire service career in 1984 as a fire cadet with the Winters Fire Department and became full time in 1988. He then served the Dixon Fire Department for 21 years through the ranks up to Fire Division Chief. Chief Karlen served as a Deputy Fire Chief with the Vacaville Fire Department and with CAL FIRE prior to coming to Marysville.

Chief Karlen holds many certifications and is a participating member of CAL FIRE Incident Management Team 4. This opportunity has afforded him several deployments across California on large scale incidents including the Oroville Dam spillway failure, Thomas Fire in Santa Barbara/Ventura County and other significant events. He plans to put these skills to use here in Marysville with continuing to focus on emergency planning for disaster situations such as experienced with flooding throughout the area in past years.

Chief Karlen is excited to be here working with a great team and is looking forward to developing a fire department strategic plan for the future. The Department has many challenges and he will utilize his creativity and collaboration to improve services and capabilities for the community.