



MEET THE BOARD

M. NORRIS PARK, CPPT | DIRECTOR



It's a privilege to share my life experiences as a Public Pension Trustee and recipient. Early on in my life I realized my desire to serve in roles of public service. I volunteered for three years as a Firefighter before making a lifelong career of the profession. The reward for serving the public in an emergency situation or event, was a feeling of pride and honor to help someone.

My career as a Professional Firefighter spanned over thirty five years, with the same department. I lived in a small city and worked in the neighboring city. Both communities had similar lifestyles and offered a great family environment. They both had a public pension plan. I first served as a Trustee beginning in the early 1990's, on the plan board where I lived in Cocoa. The Chairman of that Board approached me and asked me to serve as a citizen in the community. I agreed and was appointed by the City then, and still serve on that board to this day.

As I received more education through the FPPTA, I was asked by my fellow Firefighters, to serve on our pension board. I was appointed by my fellow Firefighters and served two terms on the City of Rockledge pension board, at the same time being on the Cocoa board. After serving on both boards, I can say that there are a lot similarities but, each plan has its different characteristics. One example was that one plan had a COLA, the other didn't. Throughout both plans benefits differentiated but both had one common goal, to provide a retiree with a safe and dependable income after their public service career. The reward for being a public servant.

I have had the privilege to learn and grow in my knowledge of pension plan management and value throughout these many years from education programs to living on a pension plan income. The education was provided by the FPPTA organization and the many individual members who have shared their knowledge and experience with different plans. This is the network that our organizational founders believed in and wanted to establish for all public sector pension plans.

The risk of life at different times in my career is well worth the peace and security that I have received in my senior years. A sincere thanks is owed to the Public plans Owners and Pension Board members that offer this financial support and management. I would ask you as a Trustee, to share your knowledge and advice to younger plan members, so that they can protect these benefits and their recipients for their future generations.

My time as a Director on the Board of FPPTA, has been an absolute highlight of my pension Trustee career and will continue for a few more years, are you ready to take my place when I retire from the organization? I surely hope so!