

Fire Chief Patrick J. Russell is the 18th Fire Chief of Anaheim Fire & Rescue, leading the largest municipal fire department in Orange County. With nearly four decades of public service, he oversees a department of 369 personnel and a \$180 million budget supporting fire, rescue, and emergency medical services for more than 360,000 residents and approximately 25 million visitors each year.

Chief Russell began his career with Anaheim Fire & Rescue in 1990 as a firefighter and paramedic and has served in numerous leadership roles, including eight years as Deputy Fire Chief. He brings extensive incident management experience, including 25 years with the Federal Type 1 Incident Management Team, where he currently serves as a Deputy Incident Commander, and 12 years as an Operations Section Chief, leading complex wildland fire operations across federal, state, and local jurisdictions.

Chief Russell also serves as Incident Commander for the Orange County All Hazard Incident Command Team, providing leadership during large-scale emergencies that require coordinated regional response.

Regionally, Chief Russell serves on the FIRESCOPE Leadership Board of Directors, representing fire agencies in Southern California. He is actively involved in multiple wildfire mitigation committees, advancing firefighter safety, mutual aid coordination, and strategies that strengthen community resilience. As a founding member of the California Incident Command Certification System, Chief Russell is a national advocate for professional standards, effective incident command, and comprehensive wildfire preparedness.