

John is the CEO and Cofounder of Watch Duty, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, responsible for real-time wildfire alerts and intelligence across the U.S. Utilized by millions of residents and first-responders alike, Watch Duty was named one of TIME's 100 Most Innovative Companies, Fast Company's #1 non-profit, and Apple's Social Impact Design Award in 2025.

Previously, John spent many years in Silicon Valley focusing on underserved markets that had been overlooked by technologists. In 2012 he cofounded Zenput as CTO, focused on retail food services operations which was acquired in 2022. After living in San Francisco for 16 years, he moved off-the-grid to Sonoma County in 2020 where he was faced with the terrifying reality of life in the wildlands without the information needed to make informed decisions. Having developed software for over 30 years beginning at age 8, John found himself facing a life or death problem he had to solve not only for himself, but for his community.

Today Watch Duty has a team of 50 staff and 300 volunteers who are active and retired firefighters, dispatchers, first responders, and reporters. They currently serve all 50 states and are poised to expand into floods and other disasters.