

Biography of Fire Chief Erik Litzenberg, Ret.



Erik Litzenberg recently retired from his position as fire chief for Santa Fe County, New Mexico. Chief Litzenberg served the majority of his career in the City of Santa Fe Fire Department, completing his time in the city as fire chief and city manager before returning to the county where his career began. Through 25 years of service, he has also worked for New Mexico State Forestry and as part of multiple Incident Management Teams, and for many years owned Santa Fe Wildfire, which provided resources for large-scale incident management and response.

Chief Litzenberg holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of New Mexico and a master's degree in security studies from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a doctoral candidate in sports administration. He represents local government as the chair of the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Wildland Fire Policy Committee and as a principal member of the Wildland Fire Leadership Council. Chief Litzenberg has authored multiple articles and textbooks on fire service and organizational leadership, community risk reduction, and the wildland-urban interface. He enjoys training for and participating in triathlons, and lives in Santa Fe with his wife and children.