



KAREN BODIFORD

Leon County Sheriff's Office

Karen Bodiford moved to Tallahassee in 1972 from the Midwest. She is a graduate of Leon High School, Tallahassee State College, and Florida State University, Class of 1978. In 1980, she began her law enforcement career with the Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) as a Deputy Sheriff. Over the years, Karen made history as the first female to be promoted to Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain at LCSO. She worked in various divisions, including Patrol, Crime Prevention, Criminal Investigations, Training, FTO, and Internal Affairs.

Karen retired from LCSO in 2006, but her passion for law enforcement continued. From 2005 to 2008, she served as an adjunct professor in Criminal Justice at Tallahassee State College. In 2009, she returned to LCSO as the Director of Records Management, a position she held until her second retirement in 2021.

Currently, Karen volunteers with the TMH Animal Therapy Program alongside her dog, Molly, and remains an active member of LCSO's 413 Peer Support Team. She also serves as a member of the LCSO Reserve. With 45 years of service as a sworn Deputy Sheriff, Karen continues to give back to her community.