

**Sharron Riley**  
**North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police**  
**DART – Director**

Experience in a profession doesn't happen over night. You can't buy it, nor is it something you're born with. That's what makes law enforcement officers like Sergeant Sharron Riley highly valuable. Throughout her career, she has been on both sides of the fence - working on the front lines and behind the scenes making sure both sides are running effectively and efficiently.



Sharron Riley has over 30 years of law enforcement experience and retired from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) in 2006 as a sergeant. She holds a B.S. degree in Psychology from Western Carolina University, and a MS degree in Adult Education from Appalachian State University.

Riley began her career in 1977 as a Patrol Officer for the CMPD. From there, she would serve in other capacities with the CMPD working as an officer with the Crime Prevention and School Resources units. For two years, Riley also spent time as an in-service training coordinator. In this role, she was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Training Academy.

In 1988, Riley was promoted to sergeant, and transferred to the Staff Inspections Unit. In this role, Riley managed a lot of behind-the-scenes projects including the construction of new police headquarters, implementation of the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS), and the implementation of the photo line-up system.

In 1997, Riley was transferred to the Non-Emergency Police Services Unit (NEPS) where she handled supervisory responsibilities. Her department was responsible for taking non-emergency police reports over the telephone and assisting and responding to citizens who called the police department's non-emergency number.

Prior to her retirement in 2002, Riley was assigned to the Court Liaison office. In this position, she held supervisory responsibilities in addition to serving as a liaison between the CMPD, the District Attorney's Office, and the court system.

Riley has been recognized with several awards throughout her career. In 1990, she was named Officer of the Year from the NC Law Enforcement Women's Association. She was also given the CMPD Employee of the Year Award on two occasions - in 1995 and 2005.

Riley joined the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) in 1977 as an affiliate of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Lodge #9. She has served in various roles since joining the FOP including Lodge Trustee, a member of the National FOP Diversity Committee, and assisting with the annual Lodge #9 BBQ Fundraiser.

Riley currently serves as the Director of the Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) - a program benefit offered through the NC FOP Foundation that organizes FOP volunteers throughout North Carolina to help assist officers and their families in times of a disaster or emergency.

Since many law enforcement officers have to work long grueling hours during and after a disaster strikes, Riley felt there was a need to help those officers and their families that are directly affected. DART volunteers help assist with home stabilization and other immediate needs to officers' families.

Riley proposed the program to the NC FOP Foundation in 2005. They approved the program that very same year. In addition, the NC State Lodge and many of the state's local lodges made financial donations to help get the program off and running. Through Riley's leadership, DART was ready for business the following year, just in time for the first day of hurricane season.

In her role as Director, Riley's main responsibilities include overseeing the state's four sub regions, recruiting and training DART volunteers, and identifying potential funding sources.

Sharron currently lives in Stanly County. In her free time, she enjoys camping, traveling, and spending time in her garden.