David L. Perry, M.P.A.

Career Highlights

- Senior research associate for IIR
- Retired after 24 years of campus public safety law enforcement with FSU and UNC
- Experienced subject-matter expert and classroom instructor
- Past president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
- Past president of the Florida Police Chiefs Association
- Past president of the North Florida Chapter of the National Organization for Black Law Enforcement Executives
- Master's degree in public administration from Albany State University
- Certified Instructor

David L. Perry is a senior research associate in the Law Enforcement Safety and Wellness (LESW) group for the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR). LESW is composed of the VALOR Program—a national officer safety project developed at the direction of the U.S. Attorney General—as well as the National Suicide Awareness for Law Enforcement Officers Program and the National Law Enforcement Roadway Safety Program. Mr. Perry has more than 25 years of experience in law enforcement.

Mr. Perry retired in September 2021 from the University of North Carolina (UNC) Police Department in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Prior to retiring, Chief Perry served as assistant vice chancellor for safety and chief of police at UNC for two years. He also served as assistant vice president for campus safety and chief of police with the Florida State University (FSU) Police Department from 2006 to 2019. From 2003 to 2006, Mr. Perry served as the deputy chief of police for Clemson University, and prior to departing, he was the acting chief of police.

Mr. Perry was hired in 1993 as a patrolman with the Albany, Georgia, Police Department. After less than one year on the job, he was promoted to narcotics investigator. During Mr. Perry's service with the Albany-Dougherty Drug Task Force, he worked several federal Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigations with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. At the age of 26, Mr. Perry was selected as chief of police and director of public safety at Albany State University in Albany, Georgia. As chief, he was responsible for staffing, budgeting, training, disciplining, policy development and implementation, equipment procurement, strategic planning and development, and community relations.

Mr. Perry is a graduate of Albany State University, where he earned an undergraduate degree in criminal justice and a master's degree in public administration. Mr. Perry continues to develop and maintain relationships with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, community leaders, and the public to foster trust, understanding, and cooperation.

