Born and raised in New Jersey, Mr. Wright entered the fire service as a volunteer firefighter in Little Falls New Jersey in 1968. Through 1972, Mr. Wright worked in various capacities as a volunteer firefighter, attaining a New Jersey Fireman’s Association certification and then the American Red Cross First Aid certification. He moved to the Melbourne Florida area with his wife later that year.

Continuing the fire service career, Chief Wright signed on with the Palm Bay Fire Department in Brevard County in 1972, moving in the latter part of 1974 to Cocoa Fire Department where he remained until the fall of 1978. While at Cocoa, Chief Wright received paramedic training and certification from Brevard Community College. Then in the fall of 1978, in order to progress in the field of advanced life support services, Chief Wright moved to the Maitland Fire Department where he served until his retirement in 1999, rising to the rank of Deputy Fire Chief. During those years, Chief Wright became Maitland Fire Department’s first certified Fire Officer, as well as it’s first adjunct fire instructor at the Central Florida Fire Academy. Chief Wright also served as training officer and Fire Marshal for 12 years. During this time he received recognition in the life safety field and acquired various certifications from the National Fire Academy, Standard Building Code Congress and the International Municipal Signal Association.

After retiring in 1999 (first time), Chief Wright did contract work for three other Central Florida fire departments in the life safety field and was awarded the FFMIA’s (Florida Fire Marshals’ and Inspectors Association) coveted “Inspector of the Year Award” in 2000. In June of 2003, Chief Wright returned to Maitland Fire Department where he served as Division Chief of Training and subsequently Assistant Chief of Administration which includes oversight of Life Safety Services. Chief Wright continued to teach the Central Florida Fire Academy’s “In-Service” recertification training program for municipal fire safety inspectors every month, a program he started in 1992. Chief Wright also served as Regional Director for the FFMIA from 2002 through 2008; the same year the association installed him as a ‘Fellow’ for his dedication and professional achievements in the fire service. From 2009 through 2013, Chief Wright also served as the Chairperson for the “Fire Code Interpretation Committee of the Florida State Fire Marshal’s Office.

Since that time, Chief Wright has successfully achieved certification from NFPA as a certified fire protection specialist (CFPS) and served as a technical committee member for residential occupancies for NFPA. In the fall of 2011, Chief Wright was elected to serve as the President of the Board of Directors for the Central Florida Fire Academy (CFFA) in Orlando on the campus of Mid-Florida Tech. Chief Wright retired with honors in May of 2013.