## MISSOURI HELICOPTER SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

In 2015 Missouri Task Force One (a state and FEMA US&R team) and the Missouri Army National Guard, under the authority of the Missouri Department of Public Safety, created a partnership that became the Missouri Helicopter Search and Rescue Team (MO-HSART). This team brings together Guard UH 60 Blackhawks /UH 72 Lakotas and some of the state's best civilian Technical Rescue specialists to provide hoist rescue capabilities across the state. This team can provide aerial search and rescue in wide area, water, and urban environments. This break out session will discuss the aircraft capabilities, specialty rescue equipment, member selection, training and the challenges to create and then sustain a team like this.

## **CHUCK LEAKE**



Assistant Chief Chuck Leake has been in the fire service since 1979 and a paramedic since 1984. He has been a member of Boone County Fire Protection District since 1990. He proudly served as a US Naval Reserve corpsman with CBTZ22 Fleet Hospital and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 4<sup>th</sup> Division of the US Marine Corps for 8 years including deployment to Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. In 1995, he along with a dedicated group of others began building an Urban Search and Rescue team as a state asset and then in 1996 this team received it federal designation as the 26<sup>th</sup> FEMA US&R Task Force. Chief Leake is currently a Task Force

Leader for Missouri Task Force 1 (MO-TF1) and has deployed, most notably, to New York on 9/11, Joplin, Hurricane Sandy and in 2018 he led a team that responded to Hurricane Michael in Panama City and Mexico Beach, Florida.

As part of his assignment as the liaison between MO-TF1 and the Missouri National Guard, he is the Manager of the Missouri Helicopter Search and Rescue Team (MO-HSART) which is a partnership between the Missouri Army National Guard (MOARNG) and MO-TF1 under the Missouri Department of Public Safety. MO-HSART is a perfect match of civilian HSART Technicians from MO-TF1 and the MOARNG UH 72 Lakota & UH 60 Blackhawk helicopter crews, providing an exciting new rescue capability to the state of Missouri. Chief Leake has also been an instructor Fire and EMS topics since 1985. He has instructed numerous classes to Fire, Law and EMS agencies across the state. He has instructed in Urban Search and Rescue topics for FEMA and Spec Rescue. For the World Bank and Project Hope he instructed on EMS and communication topics in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia in 1995 and 1997.