

Brenda K. Farlow
Lieutenant, Northlake Fire Protection District
Class of 1995

How has Triton College impacted my life?

I remember taking my first class at Triton College. It was Emergency Medical Technician Basic. College was a culture shock for me. My education was no longer driven by a mandated set of courses, and suddenly I was in control. I began my path to become a firefighter and paramedic at Triton. I came back recently as an instructor, in the exact classroom that I began in. I now teach the very same class that set me on my path. I hope to help the next generation find their wings.

Biography

Brenda Farlow grew up in the western suburbs and has spent most of her adult life in Northlake. She recently became a living organ donor, donating a kidney to her father in 2017. Brenda is married with two children, Pauline and Anthony, and two granddaughters, Aiyla and Hailee.

Brenda earned an Associate in Applied Science Degree from Triton College (1996), bachelor's degree in fire service administration from SIU (2008), master's degree in emergency and disaster management from American Military University (2014) and is currently a Ph.D candidate in public policy administration at Walden University.

Brenda is a career lieutenant and paramedic for the Northlake Fire Protection District which she has worked for since 1995. She has state certifications as a fire officer, fire investigator, fire inspector, hazardous materials technician and has several technical rescue certifications. She is also a nationally registered paramedic and graduate of the Loyola Paramedicine Program. She has served as an executive board member of the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 3863; director, then president of Fire Service Women of Illinois; as the secretary of the student chapter of the International Association of Emergency Managers for American Military University; and is a member of the Northlake Chapter of Kiwanis.

She held a position as a 911 emergency dispatcher for 14 years with Norcomm Public Safety Communications and remains a licensed emergency medical dispatcher and lead instructor with the state of Illinois.