

Chief John Camper was named Chief of Police in February, 2010. Prior to that he had served as a member of the Lakewood, Colorado, Police Department for over 28 years, beginning in 1981. In addition to many years of patrol work, he served as Public Information Officer, Crime Prevention Agent, Crimes against Children Detective, SWAT Team Hostage Negotiator, Theft Investigations Sergeant, Internal Affairs Sergeant, and several assignments as a Police Commander. Appointed to Division Chief in 2004, Camper led the Support Services Division and later the Patrol Division.

Chief Camper graduated from Grand Junction Central High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University, and his Master's degree in Business Administration in Aviation from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He is also a graduate of the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police, at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Chief Camper was involved in many projects over the years, but particularly enjoyed his work on Pursuit Policy, Verified Alarm Response, and the formation of a charitable foundation designed to assist police employees in need.

Chief Camper serves on a number of committees and boards. He is a past Vice-Chair of the Colorado Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Board, and serves on the Executive Board of Directors for Hilltop Community Resources, as well as the Executive Board of the Grand Junction Air Show. Chief Camper is Chair of the Grand Junction Regional Communication Center and 911 Boards, serves on the Mesa County Forfeiture Board, the City of Grand Junction Employee Assistance Foundation, and is the Southwest Regional Chair of the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. He is a member of the Police Executive Research Forum and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.