

Bio – Tom Pendley

Tom Pendley served as Deputy Chief of Operations, Training and Special Operations, for the Peoria Arizona Fire Department before retiring in 2016, after 26 years of Service. He taught technical rescue for the Phoenix Fire Department for 15 years and was a technical rescue instructor trainer for the Arizona State Fire Marshal's Office for 10 years. Tom served 14 years as a volunteer with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue Team including 5 years as team commander. Tom has authored dozens of articles on rescue technique and training for Fire Rescue Magazine and other publications. Tom has conducted a number of informal backyard tests on rescue systems over the years. He holds a helicopter private pilot rating and is an avid mountaineer, river runner, and powered paraglider pilot. Tom now works full time at the helm of Desert Rescue Research, which specializes in developing high quality technical rescue training resources. He currently lives with his family in Port Townsend, Washington.