City of Eugene Police Chiefs

1863 – C.H. Fox (marshal)
1864–1894 – Not known
1894 – Robert E. Eastland
1897 – Joseph S. Stiles
1906 – E.A. Farrington
1911 – J.O. Bristol
1913 – C.B. Christenson
1923 – Will G. Judkins
1927 – James F. Strait
1930 – P.W. Hall
1932 – Carl F. Bergman
1945 – L.L. Pittenger
1947 – Harold Skipworth (acting chief)
1947 – Keith L. Jones
1950 – Ted D. Brown (acting chief)
1951 – Ted D. Brown
1954 – Vern L. Hill
1959 – William G. Crase (acting chief)
1959 – Harold A. Ellsworth
1969 – William L. Smith (acting chief)
1970 – Dale E. Allen
1976 – Patrick R. Larion (acting chief)
1977 – Pierce R. Brooks
1980 – Patrick R. Larion (acting chief)
1980 – John Rutledge (acting chief)
1980 – James Packard
1985 – Everett Hall

*Note: The police and fire departments merged in 1985 to form the Department of Public Safety, and the fire chief was named the director. The departments separated again in 1997.

1990 –1991 Dave Whitlow (Exec. Director)
1992 – Leonard G. Cooke (hired to head EPD)
1998 – James R. Hill (acting chief)
1999 – James R. Hill
2002 – Thad Buchanan (interim chief)
2004 to 2008 – Robert M. Lehner
2008 to 2009 - Pete Kerns (interim chief)
2009 to Present - Pete Kerns

More:

See the following pages for a pictorial history of Eugene police chiefs.
Eugene was incorporated on October 17, 1862, and the City hired C.H. Fox as its first marshal in 1863. This suggests Marshal Fox was the first law enforcement professional in Eugene.

No photo available.

There is a gap in the historical record; it is unknown who served after C.H. Fox until Robert E. Eastland became the police chief in 1894.

No photo available.
William L. Smith
*Acting Chief 1969*

Patrick R. Larion
*Acting Chief 1976*

Pierce R. Brooks
*1977*

Patrick R. Larion
*Acting Chief 1980*

John Rutledge
*Acting Chief 1980*

James Packard
*1980*

Everett Hall
*Director, 1985*

Dave Whitlow
*Acting 1990, Director 1991*
Leonard G. Cooke 1992

James R. Hill Acting 1998, Chief 1999

Thad Buchanan Interim Chief 2002

Robert M. Lehner 2004-2008

Pete Kerns Interim Chief 2008– 2009 Chief 2009 to Present