FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 17, 2026

Issued By: Office of the Chairman, Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District Board of Commissioners

Contact: Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District Administrative Office | 940 Old Clemson Hwy, Seneca, SC 29672

SENECA, SC — As Chairman of the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District Board of Commissioners, I am issuing this statement to provide our residents with clear, direct facts regarding the management of your fire service, your tax dollars, and the status of local emergency operations.

Your Fire Protection Is Secure and Uninterrupted

First and foremost, I want to reassure every resident that your safety remains our top priority, and your emergency response is fully operational:

- **Official Authority:** As stated by the South Carolina State Fire Fighters Association, effective March 2, 2026, the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District officially assumed full operational command as the sole recognized Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for fire protection in our district, under the leadership of Fire Chief David Scheuerer.
- **911 Response:** When you call 911, the official Fire Tax District responds. Emergency services, dispatch, and fire suppression continue without interruption.
- **Taxpayer Accountability:** Your dedicated fire tax dollars are managed directly by our public Board of Commissioners to fund local firefighters, equipment, and frontline station operations.

Important Clarifications Regarding the 501(c)(3) Volunteer Organization

To ensure complete transparency and eliminate public confusion, our Board must clarify the legal and state status of the former volunteer organization, Corinth-Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department Inc.:

- **State Recognition:** Following our full operational transition on March 2, 2026, state fire officials confirmed that the private 501(c)(3) volunteer corporation is **no longer recognized by the State of South Carolina as an organized fire department** under S.C. State Law Section 23-9-380.
- **No Operational Role:** This non-profit entity does not have operational authority, dispatch standing, or emergency response duties within our district.
- **Efforts Toward Mediation:** In the best interest of our community, our Board has formally requested to enter into mediation with the leadership of the former volunteer organization to arrange an orderly transfer of the fire stations and equipment. To date, the former volunteer organization has not agreed to enter into mediation with us.

- **Resolution of 1% State Funds:** Following directives from the State Supervisory Committee, all 1% state fund expenditures by the former volunteer group were ordered stopped, and remaining funds are being returned to the Oconee County Treasurer for legal redistribution among eligible county fire departments.
- **Social Media:** Residents should be aware that websites, social media accounts, or public notices maintained by the private 501(c)(3) volunteer group represent that independent corporation—they do not represent the official status, operations, or governance of the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District.

Moving Forward Together

Our Board remains fully committed to open communication, fiscal responsibility, and delivering the highest standard of emergency services to Corinth-Shiloh. We are working hand-in-hand with Oconee County Emergency Services and state leadership to safeguard our community every single day.

If you have any questions regarding your fire service or district operations, please feel free to reach out to our administrative office directly.

Sincerely,

Wayne Smith

Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Corinth-Shiloh Fire Tax District