



**CONFIRE**

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** February 24, 2026

**FROM:** Nathan Cooke, Interim Executive Director

**BY:** Damian Parson, Admin/Finance Director  
Brigit Bennington, Human Resources Manager

**TO:** CONFIRE Board of Directors

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**SUBJECT:** Establishment of the CONFIRE Nonprofit Foundation

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### Recommendation

Authorize the establishment of a 501(c)(3) foundation, to serve as a nonprofit arm of CONFIRE.

### Background Information

As CONFIRE's mission and influence continues to expand in our region, there is a definitive need to establish a pathway that will bolster our public-private partnerships and ability to do so in a fiscally responsible manner.

The 501(c)(3) will be called the CONFIRE Foundation, whose overarching public benefit is to 911 Emergency Communications services, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Ambulance Transport services, consistent with CONFIRE's mission to provide "911 Emergency Dispatch and ambulance transport services," to our member agencies and our community members we serve.

This benefit includes lessening the burdens of government—a recognized charitable purpose—by providing opportunities to privately fund equipment, technology, training, and programs that increase emergency readiness and reduce avoidable demand on public services.

The CONFIRE Foundation will provide a pathway to better support and provide assistance to our community members, allied stakeholder groups, and to our contract and member agencies as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

See Attachment (A) for draft information on the scope and guiding principles of the CONFIRE Foundation.

### **Fiscal Impact**

It is estimated that the fees for applying for a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status and other associated startup-costs will not exceed \$1,000.

The fees and associated costs will be paid from Fund 5008 (Operations).