



**Town of Sandisfield
Select Board
(413) 258-4711 Ext. 3
Sandisfieldma.gov**

August 4, 2025

Sandisfield Fire Department, Inc.
PO Box 22
Sandisfield, MA 01238

Re: Notification of Disassociation and Cease & Desist

Dear Sirs:

For years, the Town of Sandisfield's Fire Department has enjoyed a collaborative relationship with the Sandisfield Fire Department, Inc. ("the Corporation") whereby the Corporation has provided assistance to the Town to provide emergency fire and medical services and disaster relief to residents of the Town of Sandisfield and neighboring communities.

In recent months, however, it has become increasingly apparent that the Corporation's mission has changed from one of assisting the Town in providing fire and medical services to Sandisfield, to that of conspiring to undermine the Fire Department; most recently exhibited by the objectionable comments offered by the Corporation's President, Mr. Ralph Morrison, where Mr. Morrison encouraged a member of the Department and an employee of the Town to withhold emergency fire and medical services and where Mr. Morrison and the member conspired to coordinate Mr. Morrison's unauthorized access to software used by the Department. Mr. Morrison's conduct follows the Town's hiring of the new Fire Chief, Mr. Michael Grillo, who now serves in the position that Mr. Morrison resigned from after his misconduct came to light.

Given the pattern of conduct of members of the Corporation, especially those of Mr. Morrison, all of which runs counter to the mission of public safety to the residents of the Town, the Town is sending this letter to advise that, effective immediately, other than the leased use of the fire stations, the relationship between the Town and the Corporation is hereby terminated.

Upon information and belief, the Corporation, through individual officers and members, has undertaken an organized effort to compel employees to withhold emergency response services, which undermines public trust and endangers lives; has intentionally misled residents about the operational status of the Fire Department; has attempted to access emergency response software maintained by the Town without authorization or approval; has attempted to coerce personnel to resign their position with the Town and/or otherwise frustrate the operations of the Fire Department; and to prevent the Department from using office space in the fire station.

Given this formal termination, the Town is withdrawing its recognition of the Corporation as the affiliated charitable organization of the Department, effective immediately. The Corporation is hereby directed to cease and desist from:

1. Holding itself out as a charitable organization affiliated with the Sandisfield Fire Department and the Town of Sandisfield generally;
2. Soliciting donations under the guise that such donations will be used for Sandisfield Fire Department operations;
3. Using the Town's Seal or the Fire Department's Seal, Patch, and/or Badge(s), or any Department name, image, or likeness on any communication coming from the Corporation, its officers or members, to represent itself as being affiliated with the Town or Department in any way, including further use or accessing of the Department's page on Facebook or any other social media outlets.

Be advised that should the Corporation or its individual officers or members continue to attempt to interfere with the operations of the Fire Department, the Town reserves its rights to initiate any and all claims and legal actions available to it to protect the operations of the Department and to avoid the inherent threat to public safety such interference poses. Claims advanced would be both against the Corporation and its individual directors, officers, shareholders, members, and anyone else affiliated with the Corporation, both in their official and individual capacities, and the Town will not hesitate to refer this matter to the appropriate law enforcement agencies for purposes of exploring criminal prosecution.

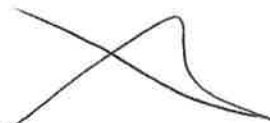
Notwithstanding anything in this letter to the contrary, the Town fully intends to continue to lease the two fire stations from the Corporation located at 79 South Main Street and 207 Sandisfield Road. As we are sure you will agree, the public safety and protection of the Town is of paramount importance and the Town's use of the two fire stations must be continued.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

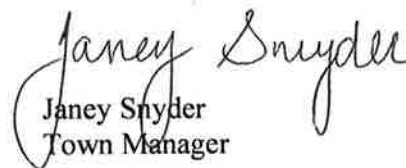
Sincerely,



Steve Seddon
Select Board, Chair



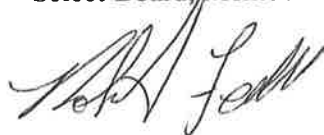
Michael Grillo
Fire Chief



Janey Snyder
Town Manager



John Field
Select Board, Member



Robert Fedell
Select Board, Member