



**ARGYLE**  
**PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS**  
ASSOCIATION LOCAL 5190  
EST. 2016

**SAM JOHNSON** – PRESIDENT  
**BJ MCSEE** – VICE PRESIDENT  
**CHAD MCINIS** – VICE PRESIDENT  
**MAX MCDONALD** – VICE PRESIDENT  
**JOSHUA MILLS** – SECRETARY/TREASURER

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**PUBLIC SAFETY 911 RESPONSE FOR ESD #1 REMAINS IN JEOPARDY IN WAKE  
OF THEFT AND EMBEZZLEMENT**

**Former Argyle Fire Chief Hohenberger Pleads Guilty Today In Federal Indictment**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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May 24, 2023

Argyle, TX – Disgraced former Fire Chief Mac Hohenberger pleaded guilty this morning to federal charges of theft and embezzlement. The court has scheduled final sentencing for a later date.

“This has been a difficult and dark chapter for Argyle and its professional firefighters,” states Sam Johnson, President of the Argyle Professional Firefighters Association. “While we are very thankful to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States criminal justice system, the damage from Hohenberger’s theft has left our department and public safety in jeopardy.”

According to reports from the newly appointed Denton County Emergency Services District No. 1 Board of Commissioners, the district may run out of funds to respond to all 911 calls in less than 90-120 days.

In the time since the November 2022 arrest and indictment, Denton County Commissioners have appointed new members to the Denton County Emergency Services District No. 1 Board of Commissioners. In addition, the non-profit corporation that the ESD formerly contracted with – Argyle Volunteer Fire District - in which former Chief Hohenberger used to defraud, has now been absorbed in full by Denton County ESD No.1 with all firefighters, fire equipment, and fire operations under the strict new control of the ESD.

“This change in full governance has been a welcome step forward for firefighters and the public we serve. But we now must ensure that our city and citizens are safe. Public safety must remain our top priority to fully recover from the deficit we’ve been dealt.”

President Johnson continued, “We, the ESD and the firefighters, have reached out to the Denton County Commissioners and the County Judge to work together to come up with a viable plan to recover from this unprecedented financial disaster. While the theft and deficit rest solely on the shoulders of former Chief Hohenberger, the responsibility to provide adequate and appropriate response to all emergency calls for help is shared by both the ESD Board and our County. We call on local, county, and state officials to come together and establish a fund and plan to help our community recover now, before it’s too late.”

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