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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Town of Pendleton Announces Appointment of Temporary Police Chief

Pendleton, SC — December 2, 2025 — The Town of Pendleton is pleased to announce that David Poulson has been appointed to serve as Temporary Police Chief during the deployment of current Police Chief Robbie Crosby.

Chief Crosby, who has served the Town with dedication and distinction, has been called to active duty. The Town expresses its full support and deep gratitude for his service to our nation and looks forward to his safe return.

During this period, Mr. Poulson will assume leadership of the Pendleton Police Department, bringing with him more than three decades of law enforcement, leadership, and municipal government experience.

Mr. Poulson currently serves as the Town's Planning Director and Zoning Administrator, a role in which he directs departmental operations, manages a multimillion-dollar portfolio of planning initiatives, and leads long-term strategic community development efforts. He has simultaneously served as a part-time Police Detective for the Town since 2020, assisting with investigations, case development, and courtroom testimony.

Prior to joining Pendleton, Mr. Poulson served as Chief of Police for the Town of Salem from 2011 to 2018, where he oversaw departmental operations, implemented community-oriented policing strategies, managed agency budgets, and promoted collaborative and professional law enforcement practices. His extensive background also includes service as City Administrator for the City of Pickens, Assistant Town Administrator for the Town of Salem, Deputy Sheriff and Training Director in Isle of Wight County, and more than a decade as a Police Officer and Detective for the City of Portsmouth, Virginia.

Mr. Poulson's educational background includes a Master of Public Administration from Clemson University, a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Southern Wesleyan University, and an Associate of Science degree from Tidewater Community College. He also holds a Professional Manager Certification from the College of Charleston's Local Government Leadership Institute.

His professional training is extensive, including participation in the FBI Executive Leadership Institute, FBI Executive Command Institute, Southern Police Institute leadership programs, and numerous state and federal law enforcement seminars. He is a certified South Carolina Police Officer, and his service has been recognized through awards, including the South Carolina Senator's Certificate of Commendation for Service and Leadership and the Portsmouth Police Department's Certificate of Honorable Service.

“David’s depth of experience, steady leadership, and long-standing commitment to public service make him exceptionally qualified to guide our Police Department during this interim period,” said Steve Miller, Town Administrator. “We are grateful for his willingness to serve and confident in his ability to ensure continuity, professionalism, and community trust.”

The Town of Pendleton extends its appreciation to Chief Crosby for his service and wishes him well during his deployment. The Town also thanks Mr. Poulson for stepping forward to provide experienced leadership to the department.

For more information, please contact:

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