



# Fire Chiefs Report



February 2026



## 43 Days & Counting

We're only 43 days into 2026, and it already feels like we're eight months deep. Between our Awards Banquet, Captain Quinn's retirement, and back-to-back weekends of winter weather, I'm at the point of pulling my hair out—if I had any to pull!

Add to that a trip to NYC to stand alongside one of our own as he endured the heartbreaking loss of his twin sister. During that same stretch, our crews responded to two working structure fires in our district, as well as two additional working fires where we provided Automatic Aid—all within the same operational period.

A huge thank you to our career and part-time staff, along with several dedicated volunteers, who stepped up without hesitation. Throughout the Storm Mode days, we maintained an average staffing level of 18–22 personnel, ensuring our community continued to receive the highest level of service.

If there is one word that captures it all, it is **tired**.

The SCSPD Association Legislative Breakfast was held on January 22, 2026, in Columbia and was the best-attended event in the history of the program. Commissioner Bagwell and I attended and had the opportunity to speak with several members of our legislative body. Our most important topic of discussion was the consolidation study and the procedures affecting Special Purpose Districts, particularly those established prior to home rule.

Attached you will find the House and Senate filled bills; the highlighted ones are of importance to the Fire Service.

### Important Dates Coming Up:

February 16, 2026, Department Multi-Company Training @7pm (Meal @6pm)

February 17, 2026, Committee of the Whole @ 5pm

February 17, 2026, Greenville County Council @ 6pm (Council Chambers) *(We will post all Scheduled Committee Meetings and Agendas for the week on Mondays)*

February 19, 2026. First Responder Breakfast (Canebrake FD)

February 24, 2026, at 08:15 SPD Coffee Club Meeting (Eggs Up Grill)

Fire Chiefs  
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# Belmont Fire & Sanitation District

701 Fork Shoals Road, Greenville, SC 29605-5831

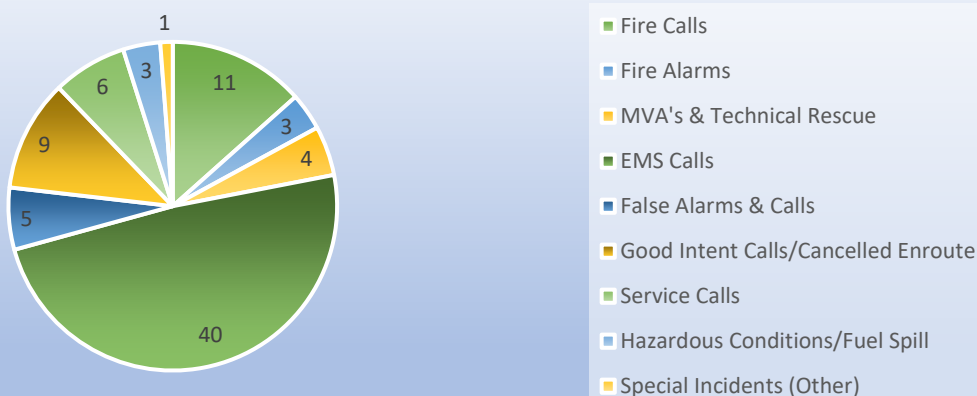


## Incident Type Count for Date Range

Start Date: 1/1/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026

Fire Calls	11
Fire Alarms	3
MVA's & Technical Rescue	4
EMS Calls	40
False Alarms & Calls	5
Good Intent Calls/Cancelled Enroute	9
Service Calls	6
Hazardous Conditions/Fuel Spill	3
Special Incidents (Other)	1

Belmont Fire Department Incident Data



<b>Total Number of Incidents</b>	<b>82</b>
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### Significant Incidents:

- Storm Mode for 1/23/2026-1/26/2026 (Ice & Sleet)
- 117 Wild Dogwood Way (Structure Fire)
- Storm Mode for 1/30/2026-2/2/2026, 2026 (Snow)



## February 6, 2026

The weekend snowstorm didn't stop members of the General Assembly from returning to Columbia for week four of the legislative session, with members of both bodies spending significant time in committees and on their respective floors debating legislation. Members of the House Ways and Means Committee continued their work in budget subcommittee hearings and will finish agency presentations and provisos next week before the full Committee debates the budget the week of February 17<sup>th</sup>. Both House and Senate subcommittees continued their work on Department of Transportation modernization legislation, with both bodies planning to continue work on their respective versions of the legislation next week.



The House spent almost ten hours on the floor on Wednesday, first giving second reading to legislation which reclassifies mail-order abortion drugs to a Schedule 4 designation and provides penalties for providers and distributors of mail aborting-inducing medications. After giving the bill second reading, the House moved on to their consideration of legislation which would regulate hemp beverages, ultimately sending the bill back to the House Judiciary Committee with the bill not having enough votes for passage in its current form. A bill which would ban hemp-related products remains on the House calendar, and the Senate plans to hold a second hearing on their version of regulation legislation next week.

After almost three weeks of debate, the Senate gave second reading to legislation which would strengthen the state's DUI statutes by a vote of 45-0, sending the most significant DUI reform legislation that the Senate has passed in decades to the House for their consideration. The legislation seeks to close loopholes in the current statute related to video recordings of arrests; mandates that prosecutors handle court proceedings for all DUI cases; and requires those who decline voluntary testing to install an ignition interlock device on their vehicle if granted a temporary license. Senate Majority Leader Shane Massey (R-Edgefield) praised the passage of the legislation, stating "we're really coming down harder on repeat offenders... and making it more uncomfortable even for the first offense." Now that the Senate's work on DUI reform has concluded, members plan to take up Senate Education Committee Chairman Greg Hembree's (R-Horry) "Charter School Accountability Act" when they return next week.

### Committee Movement

A Senate Education subcommittee became contentious at times on Wednesday, with members of the subcommittee questioning the state Department of Education's interpretation of legislation which authorizes the Education Scholarship Trust Fund program in the state. Around 1,000 students in the state are participating in the ESTF program as "unbundlers," purchasing a variety of educational services from approved vendors.

### Senate Education Committee

The debate on pharmacy benefit manager reform began in the Senate on Thursday, with members of a Senate Banking and Insurance Subcommittee holding their first hearing on a bill that would further regulate PBMs and their business practices. The bill, by Senate Judiciary Chairman Luke Rankin (R-Horry), seeks to implement a cost methodology for prescription reimbursements to pharmacies; increases licensing fees and penalties with the Department of Insurance; and prohibits PBMs from steering patients to specific pharmacies. The Senate subcommittee did not take a vote on the legislation but plans to hold an additional hearing to continue hearing testimony from interested stakeholders. On the House side, Representative Heath Sessions (R-York) is the lead sponsor on six PBM related pieces of legislation, and it is anticipated that the House LCI Committee will begin their consideration of his legislation in upcoming weeks.

Members of a Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources held their first subcommittee hearing on Senator Tom Davis's (R-Beaufort) "Data Center Development Act" after adjourning on Thursday. The legislation seeks to regulate data centers in the state, with the creation of a Data Center Development Office within the Department of Environmental Services that would be responsible for processing and approving data center applications and siting permits; and creating best practice and guidance documents for data centers who wish to enter the state. The office would conduct infrastructure adequacy assessments of proposed locations, and data centers would have to comply with certain noise level, lighting level, and vibration impact requirements. The subcommittee plans to hold additional hearings on the legislation in future weeks.

Bill	Sponsor	Relating To	House Action				Senate Action				Signed Date
			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">S0012</a>	Rankin	Santee Cooper Joint Project Authorization					01/14/25	Jud	04/03/25	04/15/25	
<a href="#">S0093</a>	Young	Natural Gas Rate Stabilization Act					01/14/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0101</a>	Gambrell	Firefighter registration requirements	02/26/25	LCI	05/01/25	05/02/25	01/14/25	LCI	02/20/25	02/25/25	05/12/25
<a href="#">S0139</a>	Devine	NPDES Outlet Sign					01/14/25	Med Affairs			
<a href="#">S0144</a>	Devine	Firefighter Emergency Transportation Exemption					01/14/25	Med Affairs			
<a href="#">S0175</a>	Zell	Helping Alleviate Lawful Obstruction (HALO) Act					01/14/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0203</a>	Walker	Optional Leadership Information for Nonprofit and Entities Soliciting Charitable Funds					01/15/25	LCI			
<a href="#">S0211</a>	Massey	Ad Valorem tax					01/15/25	Fin			
<a href="#">S0227</a>	Davis	Local planning					01/15/25	LCI			
<a href="#">S0264</a>	Peeler	Property tax exemptions	03/05/25	WandM			01/28/25	Fin	02/26/25	02/27/25	

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">S0269</a>	Turner	Private Security Services in Public Schools	04/09/25	Ed&PW	05/06/25	05/07/25	01/28/25	Ed	04/02/25	04/03/25	05/12/25
<a href="#">S0275</a>	Grooms	EV Charging Stations	03/05/25	LCI	05/01/25	05/02/25	01/28/25	Trans	02/26/25	02/27/25	05/08/25
<a href="#">S0279</a>	Massey	DEW Restructuring	03/27/25	Jud			01/28/25	LCI	03/19/25	03/20/25	
<a href="#">S0297</a>	Turner	Employer and employee contribution rates under SCRS and PORS					01/30/25	Fin			
<a href="#">S0368</a>	Garrett	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion					02/20/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0420</a>	Young	Investment of Funds by Political Subdivisions					03/05/25	Fin			
<a href="#">S0445</a>	Verdin	Regulations					03/12/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0656</a>	Johnson	Public Utility Property					05/06/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0684</a>	Leber	Oath of office					05/28/25	Jud			
<a href="#">S0686</a>	Alexander	Prohibition of Discrimination in Contracts					01/13/26	Fin			
<a href="#">S0687</a>	Grooms	US produced iron and steel					01/13/26	Fin			

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading		
<a href="#">S0703</a>	Rice	Municipality May Require County Approval to Annex					01/13/26	Jud				
<a href="#">S0706</a>	Rice	Engineering Advancement and Public Safety Act					01/13/26	LCI				
<a href="#">S0735</a>	Kennedy	Sanctuary Jurisdictions and Release of Illegal Aliens					01/13/26	Jud				
<a href="#">S0743</a>	Kennedy	Fluoride Ban					01/13/26	Med Affairs				
<a href="#">S0808</a>	Rankin	Interference with workers providing critical services					01/14/26	Jud				
<a href="#">S0829</a>	Alexander	Joint System Governance					01/20/26	Jud				
<a href="#">S0891</a>	Corbin	Financing Agreements					02/04/26	Fin				

Bill	Sponsor	Relating To	House Action				Senate Action				Signed Date
			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">H3116</a>	Bustos	Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances	01/14/25	AgNR							
<a href="#">H3163</a>	Smith	Occupational diseases	01/14/25	LCI	04/10/25	04/22/25	04/23/25	Jud			
<a href="#">H3188</a>	Long	Firefighter training reimbursement	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3259</a>	Pope	First responder automobile insurance premiums	01/14/25	LCI	02/27/25	02/28/25	03/04/25	B&I			
<a href="#">H3268</a>	Rutherford	Local government	01/14/25	3M							
<a href="#">H3309</a>	Smith	Electrical Utilities	01/14/25	LCI	02/12/25	02/13/25	02/18/25	Jud	04/02/25	04/03/25	05/12/25
<a href="#">H3321</a>	Burns	Statement of economic interest	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3369</a>	Kilmartin	Government electronic devices	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3373</a>	Hixon	Rural Infrastructure Authority	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3375</a>	Guffey	Government electronic devices	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3378</a>	Burns	Property tax exemption	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3416</a>	Kilmartin	Income tax deduction	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3437</a>	Pope	Earnings Limitation	01/14/25	WandM							

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">H3461</a>	Lawson	Income tax exemption	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3485</a>	McDaniel	School district audits	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3495</a>	McDaniel	Inspector General	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3514</a>	Wooten	Flags	01/14/25	WandM	05/01/25	05/02/25	05/06/25	Fin			
<a href="#">H3533</a>	Pope	Assault and Battery of certain public servants	01/14/25	Jud							
<a href="#">H3542</a>	Williams	SCRS and PORS earnings limitation	01/14/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H3546</a>	Williams	Utilities - Delinquent, Late, and Unpaid Balances	01/14/25	LCI							
<a href="#">H3570</a>	Bannister	Disclosure of Economic Interests	01/14/25	Jud	02/12/25	02/13/25	02/13/25	Jud			
<a href="#">H3571</a>	Hiott	Underground Facility Damage Prevention	01/14/25	LCI	02/27/25	02/28/25	03/04/25	Jud	05/01/25	05/06/25	05/22/25
<a href="#">H3576</a>	Lawson	Luke Barrett Act	01/14/25	Ed&PW							
<a href="#">H3656</a>	Ligon	Wells and Septic Tanks	01/14/25	AgNR							
<a href="#">H3714</a>	Smith	Recognizing January as Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month									

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading		
<a href="#">H3731</a>	Bernstein	Special purpose district property conveyance powers	01/15/25	Jud	03/27/25	03/28/25	04/01/25	Jud				
<a href="#">H3734</a>	Cobb-Hunter	Collective bargaining by political subdivisions	01/15/25	Ed&PW								
<a href="#">H3768</a>	Brewer	Highway system construction	01/16/25	Ed&PW	04/08/25	04/09/25	04/09/25	Fin				
<a href="#">H3797</a>	Kilmartin	Firefighters	01/28/25	LCI								
<a href="#">H3807</a>	Hart	Burying Electrical Lines	01/28/25	LCI								
<a href="#">H3814</a>	Hixon	Surface Water Study Committee	01/28/25	AgNR	02/18/25	02/19/25	02/19/25	AgNR	03/20/25	03/25/25	04/28/25	
<a href="#">H3815</a>		House Rules revisions										
<a href="#">H3907</a>	Cox	Honor our First Responders Act	02/06/25	WandM								
<a href="#">H3927</a>	Gilliam	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	02/06/25	Ed&PW	04/02/25	04/03/25	04/10/25	Jud				
<a href="#">H3931</a>	Bailey	Coastal Tideland and Wetlands Permit Application	02/06/25	LCI	04/23/25	04/24/25	04/24/25	Med Affairs				
<a href="#">H3933</a>	Mitchell	Public Service Districts	02/06/25		02/12/25	02/13/25	02/13/25	LCI	03/19/25	03/20/25	04/28/25	
<a href="#">H3950</a>	Hixon	Soil classifiers	02/11/25	AgNR	04/30/25	05/01/25	05/01/25	LCI				
<a href="#">H3971</a>	Ligon	Cash payments	02/12/25	LCI								

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">H3997</a>	Cox	First responders	02/13/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H4002</a>	Burns	Greater Greenville Sanitation District	02/13/25	Referred to Greenville Delegation	03/06/25	03/07/25	03/11/25		03/27/25		
<a href="#">H4003</a>	Vaughan	Greater Greenville Sanitation District	02/13/25	Referred to Greenville Delegation	02/26/25	02/27/25	03/04/25		05/06/25	05/07/25	05/13/25
<a href="#">H4025</a>	W&M	Appropriations Bill, 2025-2026	02/20/25		03/11/25	03/12/25	03/13/25	Fin	04/22/25	04/23/25	
<a href="#">H4026</a>	W&M	Capital Reserve Fund	02/20/25		03/11/25	03/12/25	03/13/25	Fin	04/22/25	04/23/25	05/12/25
<a href="#">H4028</a>	Mitchell	Millage increases	02/18/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H4050</a>	Wetmore	Local planning	02/19/25	3M							
<a href="#">H4057</a>	Brewer	Railroad crossing fees	02/19/25	LCI							
<a href="#">H4098</a>	Moss	Employer and employee contribution rates under SCRS and PORS	02/26/25	WandM							
<a href="#">H4102</a>	Caskey	Wastewater Discharge Signage	02/26/25	AgNR							
<a href="#">H4168</a>	Forrest	Extension of Water and Sewer Systems	03/06/25	3M							
<a href="#">H4258</a>	Gilreath	Fluoridation	03/27/25	LCI							
<a href="#">H4265</a>	McGinnis	Penalties for Fires on Certain Lands	03/27/25	Jud							

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee		2nd Reading
<a href="#">H4294</a>	Schuessler	Gross income	04/03/25	WandM						
<a href="#">H4386</a>	Bustos	Considerations for public utility acquiring certain water or sewer property or assets	04/23/25	LCI						
<a href="#">H4399</a>	Holman	First Responder Wellness Exams	04/23/25	Jud						
<a href="#">H4429</a>	Burns	Alamo Cove		Inv			Trans			
<a href="#">H4539</a>	McGinnis	Penalties for Illegal Fires	05/08/25	AgNR						
<a href="#">H4561</a>	Gilreath	Local referendums	05/08/25	Jud						
<a href="#">H4576</a>	Bannister	Special Purpose Districts Retirement	01/13/26	WandM						
<a href="#">H4602</a>	Jones	Special Purpose Districts	01/13/26	WandM						
<a href="#">H4629</a>	Johnson	Public Water System	01/13/26	LCI						
<a href="#">H4645</a>	Bustos	Septic Tanks	01/13/26	AgNR						
<a href="#">H4655</a>	Edgerton	Urinary Metabolite Testing for Certain Wastewater Treatment Facilities	01/13/26	Jud						

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee		2nd Reading
<a href="#">H4697</a>	Mccravy	Expenditure and investment prohibition	01/13/26	LCI						
<a href="#">H4703</a>	Oremus	South Carolina Special Purpose District Accountability and Transparency Act	01/13/26	WandM						
<a href="#">H4705</a>	Rankin	Volunteer Fire Sales Tax Exemption Act	01/13/26	WandM						
<a href="#">H4709</a>	Yow	US produced iron and steel	01/13/26	LCI						
<a href="#">H4726</a>	Bustos	Local Government - Annexations	01/13/26	3M						
<a href="#">H4747</a>	Pedalino	County utilities	01/13/26	Jud						
<a href="#">H4777</a>	Wooten	Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan	01/13/26	WandM						
<a href="#">H5013</a>	Teeple	PFAS Testing Program	01/27/26	3M						
<a href="#">H5029</a>	Brewer	Engineers Day								
<a href="#">H5058</a>	Johnson	Interference with workers providing critical services	01/29/26	Jud						
<a href="#">H5060</a>	Stavrinakis	St. John's Fire District	01/29/26	Referred to Charleston Delegation						

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			1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	1st Reading	Committee	2nd Reading	3rd Reading	
<a href="#">H5067</a>	Edgerton	Testing for Certain Wastewater Treatment Facilities	01/29/26	Jud							
<a href="#">H5073</a>	Pedalino	Public school grading	01/29/26	Ed&PW							
<a href="#">H5093</a>	Caskey	Gross proceeds	02/04/26	WandM							
<a href="#">H5095</a>	Edgerton	Testing of drinking water	02/04/26	AgNR							
<a href="#">H5111</a>	Forrest	Public Water System Connections	02/05/26	AgNR							