

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF NEWBERRY)

RESOLUTION 08-24

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GUARD, TO COMMEND THEIR ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE WHO EMBODY THE SPIRIT OF NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH, AND TO DECLARE SEPTEMBER AS “SOUTH CAROLINA STATE GUARD MONTH” IN NEWBERRY COUNTY.

WHEREAS, September is observed as National Preparedness Month to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to build resilience before disasters strike;

WHEREAS, counties and municipalities throughout South Carolina have been affected by a variety of disasters and emergencies, including ice storms, flooding, earthquakes, hurricanes, and the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Newberry County deeply appreciate the protection that the South Carolina State Guard has provided to the citizens of this great State for more than three hundred fifty years;

WHEREAS authorized by the South Carolina Code of Laws, the State Guard is a professional military organization and component of the South Carolina Military Department which supports a variety of critical functions of the state, county, and municipal governments, such as providing disaster-relief assistance to communities and local first-responder organizations;

WHEREAS, the South Carolina State Guard traces its earliest manifestation to the formation of the Charleston Militia in 1670, the colony’s first military organization, protecting residents in earliest days from pirates, foreign invaders, and Native-American raids;

WHEREAS, throughout the Revolutionary War the State Guard played a pivotal role in recapturing the South from British control with leaders, such as Francis Marion, “The Swamp Fox”; Thomas Sumter, “The Gamecock”; and Andrew Pickens, “The Wizard Owl”; and additionally played key roles in later conflicts such as early 19th century battles against the Spanish in Florida, the Mexican War, and the Spanish-American War;

WHEREAS, the State Guard is organized as an army brigade under the leadership of the Commander and is comprised of the Command Staff, the Chief of Staff Section, the Professional Services Command, and the 1st Civilian Support Brigade, which is further divided into three battalions. The battalions are divided into companies which correspond to the boundaries of the six regions of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division;

WHEREAS, the State Guard trains new members at the McCrady Training Center in Eastover to provide a number of services: search and rescue operations, medical support, legal and engineering expertise, chaplain and counseling services, directing distribution of supplies, providing military funeral honors to veterans, executive governmental affairs that serves as a liaison to the Governor's Office and the Legislature as well as building relationships with military and civic organizations across the State;

WHEREAS, when serious natural or man-made disasters strike the South Carolina, the State Guard provides "boots on the ground" with the mission to swiftly respond, safeguarding people and property, and to aid community recovery, in coordination with the National Guard, law enforcement, and other state, county, and municipal agencies;

WHEREAS, the State Guard is part of the South Carolina Military Department and directed by the Adjutant General, and its Commander in Chief is the Governor of the State of South Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL THAT, the Council, by this resolution, recognizes and honors the members of the South Carolina State Guard and commends their all-volunteer force who nobly provides aid during times of disaster, who share a passion and strong commitment to their fellow South Carolinians, and who embody the Spirit of National Preparedness month, and to declare September as "South Carolina State Guard Month" in Newberry County.

ADOPTED by the Newberry County Council in a meeting duly assembled on the 18th Day of September 2024, at which a quorum was present and voting.


NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

(SEAL)

BY:


Todd Johnson, Chairman

Attest:


Andrew Wigger, Clerk to Council