

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF CROSS CREEK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

RE: THE LEGAL ISSUES INVOLVING TEACHER

ISSUED NOVEMBER 8, 2023

As a ministry, when an allegation is made against an employee, our organization immediately removes that individual from any contact with children pending the outcome of the criminal matter, and we fully cooperate with parents, state officials, and law enforcement. We believe that if children are safe anywhere, they should be safe at Cross Creek. Tuesday, Mr. Kyle Hilleary was arrested, and law enforcement contacted the school regarding the arrest. Mr. Hilleary was arrested for alleged exploitation of a child. At this time, we are not aware of any of the allegations involving any actions while on campus or as a teacher at the school.

As a matter of policy, Cross Creek reports all suspicions of potential child abuse to the authorities. We carefully interview and screen our employees and volunteers, and our leadership team works to maintain child protection policies based on best practices nationally and Mississippi law.

We believe that transparency, child safety, and accountability are essential for successful ministry, and we are fully committed to ministering to our students in a safe and responsible manner. Any information or concerns should be shared with local law enforcement or the Office of the Attorney General.

As this matter involves the arrest of a staff member, the Administrator and School Board have decided to immediately terminate Mr. Hilleary and not allow him on the campus while the investigation and legal proceedings are pending against him. Please understand that we have asked our staff to not discuss this matter while it is pending before the courts. This is our official statement.