

# Mississippi mayors set local path on coronavirus response



Jackson Mayor Lumumba



Vicksburg Mayor Flaggs

By Emily Wagster Pettus  
Associated Press

Mississippi mayors are responding to the coronavirus pandemic with stern warnings about the importance of social distancing and friendly reminders of good health practices like keeping clean hands.

Gov. Tate Reeves has said many times that the coronavirus response is federally funded, state supported and locally executed. That means mayors have lots of power to make decisions. Some mayors have butted heads with Reeves over local restrictions, including on the closure of bars and restaurants in cities before the governor set statewide limits.

As the economy falters and tax collections fall short of expectations, city leaders are making tough decisions about curtailing local government jobs and services.

In Oxford, Mayor Robyn Tannehill and the Board of Aldermen voted Thursday to furlough 135 city employees and to suspend curbside pickup of recyclable items to save money. Tannehill, a Democrat, told *The Oxford Eagle* that the decisions were “gut-wrenching.”



Mississippi Governor Reeves

“Probably the most difficult decisions that we’ve ever made as a board,” she said.

Tupelo leaders plan to save money by eliminating travel for city employees, stopping the purchase of new vehicles by city government and not filling vacant city government jobs, the Democratic Mayor Jason Shelton told the *Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal*.

Mississippi legislators will face larger-scale decisions about

state spending. They have suspended their session because of the pandemic, but they face a July 1 deadline to write a state budget for the year that begins July 1.

Reeves set a statewide stay-at-home order that took effect the evening of April 3 to try to slow the spread of the virus. It originally was supposed to expire Monday morning, but Reeves on Friday extended it by a week – until the morning of April 27. He

is allowing businesses such as florists and clothing stores to offer delivery or curbside pickup.

The governor said he will keep considering steps toward a broader reopening of economic activity.

Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba has extended his stay-at-home order until April 30 in Mississippi’s largest city.

**Mayors**  
*Continued on page 3*

# AARP and NNPA join forces for riveting webinar on saving black lives during COVID-19 pandemic

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

AARP, the nation’s oldest and largest nonprofit dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and over, and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade association of the Black Press of America, held a briefing to help provide critical information for those most at-risk and impacted by the novel coronavirus.

The 45-minute webinar addressed tools and resources to help the African-American community navigate through the pandemic and included a panel of experts in the fields of health, caregiving, financial security and entrepreneurship.

Lorraine Miller and Chris Brown of Burrell Communications in Chicago coordinated the webinar, which was titled, “AARP – NNPA COVID-19 Black Media Update.”

Jointly hosted by NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., and AARP Vice President of Multicultural Leadership, Shani Hosten, the live program also marked the first appearance by renowned infectious disease expert and Meharry Medical College President Dr. James Hildreth as a member of the NNPA Coronavirus Task Force and Resource Center.

“Data is critical, and we’ve got to have testing, testing, testing,” Hildreth stated.

“Testing is our best hope to save lives. I’ve been insisting this to the mayor of Nashville, the governor of Tennessee and anyone who will listen. If we don’t do widespread testing, people are going to die, and

that’s the bottom line,” he said.

As of the webinar, more than 609,000 Americans have contracted COVID-19, the deadly disease that’s caused by the coronavirus.

There have been at least 25,603 deaths, and based on incomplete data, African Americans are disproportionately affected and represent the majority who’ve died from the virus.

“This is a particularly critical time for the African-American community,” Hosten stated, noting the various resources AARP has developed, including a black resources tool kit on its website.

Chavis stated that it’s essential to get accurate information out as much as possible to the black community.

“We want to make sure that during this pandemic, we get information out that will help save black lives,” he said.

Rita Choula, AARP’s director of caregiving and caregiving information resources, said providing care to family members has its own share of problems. Still, the coronavirus has made that all the more challenging.

“People are stressed and worried, not only about caring for themselves but protecting and caring for someone in the home or someone long distance,” Choula stated.

“It’s very important that there is increased conversation with nursing facilities through virtual visitation and phone calls, which is what AARP is advocating.”

Cristina Firvida, AARP’s

**AARP**  
*Continued on page 3*

# 4,894 cases of COVID-19 identified: 193 eaths

## Updated by Miss. Dept. of Health April 22

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Mississippi State Department of Health continue to closely monitor the outbreak of respiratory illnesses caused by the novel (new) coronavirus COVID-19, and are working to limit the spread of cases nationally and in Mississippi. MSDH is actively working with doctors and

hospitals to quickly identify cases and respond effectively to limit this outbreak.

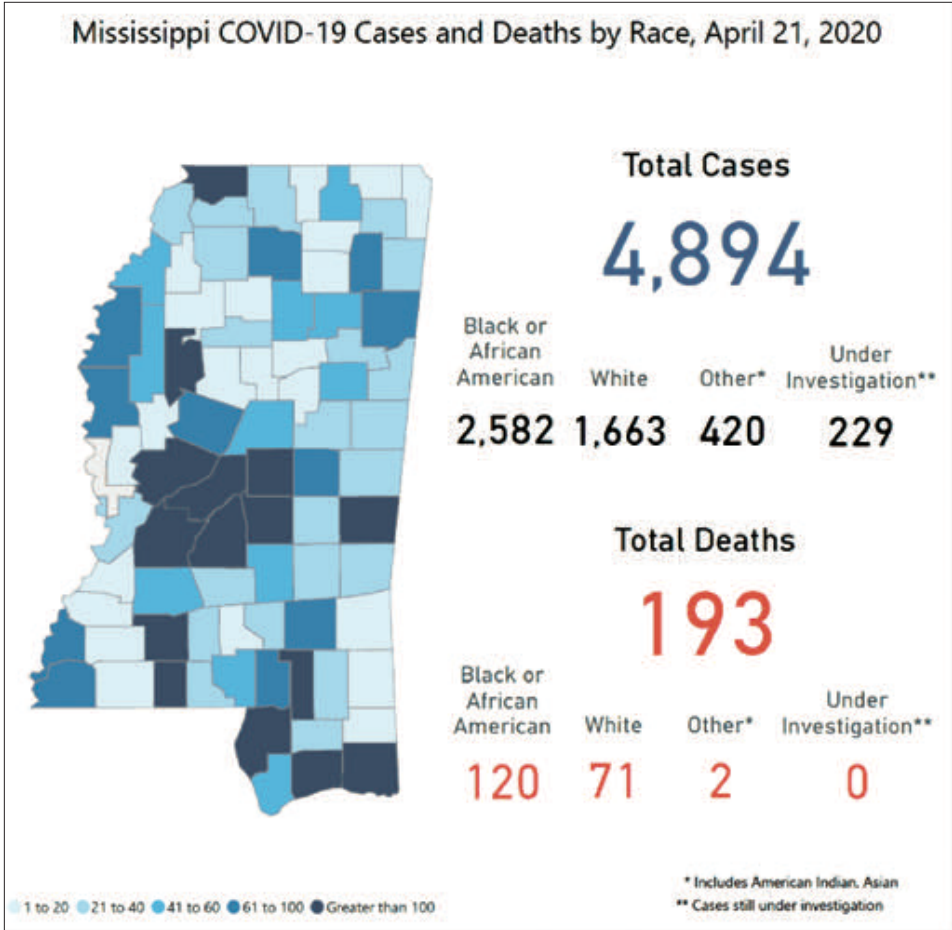
Cases of COVID-19 continue to be identified in U.S. states and in Mississippi. This is a rapidly changing situation that is continually being monitored by the CDC and MSDH as new cases are identified.

Mississippians are advised to take health precautions to prevent the

transmission of disease, and stay in touch for the latest information on the situation in Mississippi.

Mississippi COVID-19 Case Map  
This map and the following table show total cases in Mississippi as of 6 p.m. April 21, 2020, and include all reported cases since March 11, 2020.

- New cases reported: 178
- New deaths reported: 10





# On NAACP phone conference, Surgeon General appeals for trust

By Hazel Trice Edney  
*TriceEdneyWire.com*

American life as usual has drastically come to a halt around the nation and world due to the Corona virus. Churches, schools, sports events; even graduations and other large and even small gatherings are being postponed to abate the spread of the virus.

According to the World Health Organization, symptoms may include runny nose, sore throat, cough, fever, pneumonia, and difficulty breathing in the most severe cases.

The NAACP held a March 15 teleconference that engaged more than 21,000 people. What the listeners may not have expected was the matter-of-fact, straight to the point introduction of himself by U. S. Attorney General Dr. Jerome Adams:

“Many of you don’t know me and frankly some of you don’t have a lot of trust in me or this administration. So, I’m going to take just a quick moment to give you some background,” he began.

“I personally grew up in a rural mostly white Southern community. I benefitted from WIC, reduced lunch and other government assistance. All four of my grandparents died prematurely from chronic disease, my brother’s incarcerated due to his problems with and strug-



Dr. Jerome Adams, U. S. Surgeon General

gles with substance misuse; my mother had a major stroke last year and I’m currently on eight different medications myself.”

Adams continued, “I know what it’s like growing up poor, black and with minimal access

to health care. And I’m personally experiencing the life-long impacts that stem from that. I want you all to know I don’t affiliate with a party and I didn’t take my current job, which

pays a whole lot less than being an anesthesiologist, for political reasons. I’m a Christian and I believe God doesn’t put you where you’ll be comfortable. He puts you where he needs you to be.”

He concluded, “Our issue as people of color are too important to go four years without representation in the highest levels of government. And I have personally had faith that I am put where I am most needed. That said, I spent my life fighting and will keep fighting for the poor, the disadvantaged, the people of color along with the other health officials on the coronavirus task force. But I want you to hear it from me. I hope I can earn your trust.”

Adams’ words were quite timely given that President Donald Trump who appointed him had, early in the coronavirus spread, publicly dismissed it as a “Democratic hoax.” The now pandemic, which Trump has described as “bad,” has resulted in Trump and top federal medical experts, including Adams, standing front and center on almost a daily basis giving updates on the spread, now declared a “National Emergency” by Trump.

The key now is mitigation, Adams said. “Mitigation means limiting the impact within our communities by social distancing and also protecting the

most vulnerable,” Adams said.

According to Coronavirus.gov, the following are the strongest ways to protect yourself:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care. Learn what to do if you are sick.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.

Throw used tissues in the trash; then immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

If you are sick: You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider’s office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Adams also suggested connecting with each other through Facetime and skype in order to continue social connections and “establish buddy systems” and check in on elderly and vulnerable people by phone to make sure they are alright.

“Connections can give people strength to keep up and fight a national threat. There are resources for managing stress and anxiety at CDC.gov or Coronavirus.gov and the Hotline number 1-800-985-5990.”

According to his official bio, Adams, the 20th surgeon general of the U. S. called, the “Nation’s Doctor,” has a bachelor’s degrees in both biochemistry and psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, a master of public health degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and a medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine.



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## AARP

Continued from page 1

vice president of financial security and consumer affairs, noted that AARP has continued to advocate at the state and federal level for everyone struggling financially during the pandemic.

“Our friends, our families are hurting. We focused on how we can get more money in the hands of individuals as well as businesses,” Firvida said, adding that AARP lobbied that seniors also receive \$1,200 stimulus payments.

She said the original bill allowed for seniors to receive just \$600.

Reginald Nance, AARP’s New York associate state director of multicultural outreach, noted the importance of fraud protection and emphasized that AARP has organized various forms of assistance for seniors nationwide.

“AARP community connections have mutual aid and support groups where they might help with grocery shopping, financial assistance, or emotional support,” Nance stated.

Hildreth wrapped up the webinar by noting that the federal government fell asleep at the wheel and could have prevented much of the mayhem caused by the coronavirus.

He called the spread of COVID-19 “entirely predictable,” and noted that the lack of planning by the federal government obviously was bad news for African Americans.

Hildreth also stated his frustration with those who imply that African Americans are more susceptible to the virus.

“Absent a vaccine or a drug, the only way to protect our communities, which means to keep the virus out, is we have to have testing,” Hildreth stated.

“We need to do what South Korea did, which is to identify the positive tests, do contact tracing, and screen everybody. We should have a nationally coordinated response because viruses don’t respect orders,” he said.

Hildreth continued:

“You might have one state controlling the virus, but if the neighboring states don’t do that, we’ll find ourselves right back where we started. Data is critical. Many are saying that African Americans are more susceptible to the virus, and that’s absolutely not right.

“We may be more susceptible to severe diseases and death, but the evidence doesn’t support that black people are more susceptible to the virus. The only way to prove that is to have an equal number of African Americans and whites exposed to the virus at the same time and determine who got infected at a higher rate. Without data to support this, those statements drive me crazy. We have to have more tests.”

Updated information on the coronavirus can be found at [www.aarp.org/coronavirus](http://www.aarp.org/coronavirus) and at the NNPA’s [www.BlackPressUSA.com](http://www.BlackPressUSA.com) COVID-19 tab.

## Mayors

Continued from page 1

“I want our residents to know that the City of Jackson is not standing idly by as we deal with this pandemic,” said Lumumba, a Democrat.

In Gulfport, Republican Mayor Billy Hewes and other city leaders have indefinitely extended an 11 p.m.-5 a.m. curfew because of the virus. In a message posted to Facebook Friday, Hewes thanked people for abiding by restrictions on their movements.

“It is hard, and after a few weeks of this nobody likes it. None of it do,” Hewes said. “But it may give us an opportunity now to get on a glide path out of this in the next few weeks or months where we can get back to some sort of normalcy.”

Vicksburg Mayor George Flags Jr. said Friday that all city government employees will return to work Monday and will have their temperatures taken to screen for the virus, according to video posted by the Vicksburg Post. He also said the city will provide masks for its employees. First responders in Vicksburg will continue to be paid time-and-a-half wages during the pandemic.

Flags served as a Democrat in the state House, was elected mayor as an independent and has gone out of his way to praise Republican President Donald Trump on several occasions. Flags said Friday that he will pay attention to guidance the White House has given governors about taking multiple steps to reopen the economy.

Lumumba in Jackson and Tannehill in Oxford have helped distribute free hand sanitizer that was made by Cathead Distillery. The Jackson-based business switched from making vodka to making the hand sanitizer as COVID-19 started to spread in the United States.

## Mississippi COVID-19 Cases to Date

The numbers in this table are provisional. County case numbers and deaths may change as investigation finds new or additional information about residence.

Long-Term Care Facility Cases and Deaths

Long-term care (LTC) facilities like nursing homes are considered high risk locations because their residents are older or in poor health. Even one case of COVID-19 in these facilities among residents or employees is considered an outbreak. We investigate residents, staff and close contacts of infected individuals for possible exposure.

County	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total LTC Facility Cases
Adams	56	7	18
Alcorn	7	0	0
Awsie	30	1	3
Atchafalaya	51	0	4
Benton	8	0	0
Bolivar	83	6	12
Calhoun	43	2	18
Carroll	15	1	0
Chickasaw	51	4	16
Choctaw	13	1	0
Chickasaw	12	0	0
Clarke	36	3	6
City	27	2	0
Coahoma	33	2	1
Corrigan	32	1	1
Covington	38	0	0
Dallas	344	3	1
Forrest	158	4	13
Franklin	16	0	0
George	10	1	0
Greene	4	0	0
Greene	27	0	14
Hancock	54	5	6
Harrison	150	6	2
Hinds	377	6	6
Holmes	78	5	3
Humphreys	14	3	1
Jackson	27	1	11
Jackson	221	6	22
Jasper	34	1	0
Jefferson	5	0	0
Jefferson Davis	12	1	0
Jones	88	0	4
Kemper	35	0	1
Leflore	79	3	18
Lamar	79	2	0
Lauderdale	235	18	63
Lawrence	37	0	0
Leake	108	1	0
Lee	64	4	4
Jefferson	113	12	24
Lincoln	121	7	41
Leflore	36	1	2
Madison	151	4	18
Marion	48	2	12
Marshall	38	2	0
Monroe	99	9	34
Montgomery	16	1	0
Neshoba	91	2	0
Newton	33	0	1
Norfolk	34	0	1
Oktibbeha	44	3	6
Panola	37	2	0
Pearl River	136	10	25
Perry	32	1	0
Pike	118	3	8
Pontotoc	18	2	1
Prentiss	38	0	17
Quitman	13	0	0
Randall	148	4	4
Scott	163	0	7
Shelby	3	0	0
Simpson	32	0	2
Smith	51	3	17
Snow	31	0	0
Sunflower	50	2	0
Tallahatchie	9	1	0
Tate	35	0	1
Tallahatchie	48	7	0
Tishomingo	5	0	0
Trenton	34	1	12
Union	12	1	0
Waltham	25	0	0
Warren	39	2	0
Washington	71	3	4
Wayne	11	0	0
Webster	18	1	0
Wilkinson	66	6	4
Winston	36	0	0
Yalobusha	17	0	0
Yazoo	103	1	0
Total	4,894	193	470



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# JRC’s COVID-19 Care Team gives away more than 8,000 lbs. of chicken

## Sanderson Farms partners with church to bless the community

By Gail M. Brown  
Contributing Writer

Thanks to a partnership with Sanderson Farms, the Jackson Revival Center’s (JRC) CO-VID-19 Care Team recently blessed metro area residents with a monumental poultry out-reach.

When asked how much chicken the church served, Pastor Jennifer Biard told *The Mississippi Link*: “A lot. By the end of the distribution, we had distributed 816 cases of chicken from which 2,448 individuals benefitted. We gave away over 8,000 pounds of chicken,” she added.

Biard said JRC had already established a COVID-19 Care Team at the beginning of the pandemic to address the needs of its members and to facilitate various helpful efforts like the chicken give-a-way.

The leader of the large South Jackson Church campus explained how the event developed so quickly. “Sanderson Farms contacted us less than 24 hours prior to the giveaway with a desire to be a blessing to the community,” she said. “They provided all of the chicken that was distributed that day, and we were very grateful for the opportunity to partner with them to be a blessing to our community.”

The more than 2,000 individuals benefiting from the outreach were no doubt grateful as well. “Although the line of motorists was extremely long, it did not take me very long to receive my 10-pound blessing of Chicken Tender Fritters,” said Edison Brown Jr., a member at Holy Temple Baptist Church in West Jackson. The grateful U.S. Army veteran said he was impressed by how well-organized the effort was. “All we had to do was drive up, pop the lid of our trunk, and a church member wearing masks and gloves would place the chicken in, let the trunk down, and we would drive on without leaving our cars. So social distancing and everything else were being practiced.”

Others shared the following comments on social media about the chicken distribution:

“God is good! When you allow Him to be in the midst, look at what happens. Great job of serving and exemplifying God’s



Long line of cars at chicken give-away PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON, PUBLISHER

Word through ministry JRC, Pastor Jennifer Biard and staff.”

“Thank you Pastor Biard and the entire JRC family. I personally received a message about the blessing and some citizens headed your way. I don’t know if they were in the number who received the blessing, but it doesn’t matter because 2400 did. That’s all that matters. That was a huge blessing and I personally thank you and your congregation for blessing so many.”

(Taken from JRC’s public social media platforms)

“Whenever we have an opportunity to serve our community, we do it in full faith, believing that showing the love of God ALWAYS makes a positive and lasting impact. So that was our main objective,” said Biard. “This particular opportunity also lined up directly with the mission of our church’s nonprofit organization, Corporation for Global Community Development (CGCD).” CGCD is designed to promote the growth and development of low to moderate

income individuals and communities throughout the state by alleviating hunger, elevating social well-being and providing personal development and educational programs for children, adults, and senior citizens.

“So many have been directly affected by this pandemic, and the demand is incredibly great,” said Biard. “I wish that we could personally help everyone in need, but I’m grateful that God is actively at work through the many other wonderful churches, nonprofits, businesses and individuals who are striving diligently and daily to provide for our communities. I’m so encouraged by the efforts I see all around me, and fully believe that we will get through this, together.”

*For those who have a continuing need for food assistance, contact the Jackson Revival Center Food Outreach Mondays at 601-948-3618.*

*For other resources such as Mississippi Unemployment assistance, health guidance or educational updates, please visit [coronavirus.ms.gov](https://coronavirus.ms.gov).*

# MJI files lawsuit challenging Greenville ban on drive-in church services

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Last Thursday, members of the King James Bible Baptist Church in Greenville were greeted by virtually every member of the Greenville police department and threatened with fines as they arrived for drive-in church services that evening, even though they followed CDC guidelines by remaining in their vehicles, parking six feet apart and keeping their windows rolled up while listening to their pastor preach from the parking lot.

The Mississippi Justice Institute (“MJi”), a non-profit constitutional litigation center and the legal arm of the Mississippi Center for Public Policy, and First Liberty Institute, the largest legal organization in the nation dedicated exclusively to defending religious liberty for all Americans, have teamed up to represent the church.

Attorneys with the Mississippi Justice Institute and First Liberty Institute filed a federal lawsuit challenging Greenville Mayor Errick Simmons’s unconstitutional executive order, which categorically bans all drive-in church services.

“We understand that many safety precautions are necessary during this unprecedented time,” said MJi Director Aaron Rice. “But absurd government orders that single out churches for punishment while doing nothing to protect the public health are simply unconstitutional. Mississippians cannot and will not stand for these kinds of outrageous violations of our religious liberties by our government officials.”

As the coronavirus pandemic spread across the country, the church began hosting “drive-in” services in a manner consistent with Center for Dis-

ease Control and Mississippi Department of Health guidance. Members would stay in their cars with their windows closed. Traditional shouts of “Amen” or “Hallelujah” turned into flashing lights or honking horns.

While many churches have opted for live-stream services, this was the best option for many at the church, as several do not have social media accounts or the ability to connect online.

“The Mississippi Justice Institute is proud to stand with King James Bible Baptist Church, and we look forward to vindicating the right of all Mississippians to worship in a way that is safe and consistent with their religious beliefs or practical needs,” said Rice.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi.

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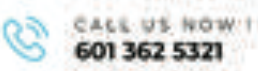

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Keila was selected based on her track record for healthcare leadership and for her scholarly and community contributions to chronic care management and preventative healthcare measures; particularly for her research on diabetes and for her roles in diabetes project management. Keila was recently published by the Journal of Doctoral Nursing Practice. Her manuscript entitled “*Effectiveness of Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) in Community Health*” is based upon data collected from a self-conducted quality improvement study on her patients at Jackson-Hinds.



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# Statewide COVID-19 testing proves instrumental to ‘flattening the curve’



About 50 people received COVID-19 testing April 8 at Traceway Park in Clinton, one of more than a dozen one-day testing sites.

By Ruth Cummins  
umc.edu

The University of Mississippi Medical Center’s reach is vast, but the COVID-19 pandemic finds the state’s sole academic health sciences center necessarily giving special focus to the smallest communities.

It’s come through mobile field collections that provide easy access to testing for the highly contagious virus. In coordination with the Mississippi State Department of Health, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, the Mississippi National Guard, C Spire and others, the medical center is helping the state to flatten the COVID-19 curve, with health experts warning the disease may not have yet peaked in the state.

“By partnering with UMMC and other state agencies, MSDH has greatly increased access to COVID-19 testing and enhanced our ability to halt transmission of the virus in communities statewide,” said Dr. Thomas Dobbs, MSDH’s state health officer. “Continuing this outreach is critical, because we expect the number of cases will peak before we see a decline.”

UMMC providers have swabbed the noses of people driving through appointment-only, one-day collection sites. Those numbers include 85 people in Olive Branch, 25 in Clarksdale, 55 in Vicksburg, 49 in Greenwood, 61 in Meridian, 110 in Natchez, 57 in Carriere, 33 in Ripley, 59 in Moss Point, 18 in Raleigh, 25 in Webster, 50 in Clinton and 25 in Tunica.

The biggest numbers tested, however, have come from drive-through collections at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds, which kicked off the collaborative effort March 24 and performs testing seven days a week.

All told, as of April 11, a total 2,036 people have given specimens at the Fairgrounds in downtown Jackson and 652 at the remote locations.

Testing sites for the week of April 13 include Houson and Fayette on Tuesday; Itta Bena on Wednesday; Lexington and Woodville on Thursday.

MEMA and the National Guard have been a constant presence at the drive-through sites in partnership with MSDH and UMMC. Invaluable to the collection site at the Fairgrounds are UMMC students and clinical



COVID-19 testing continues seven days a week at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds, where UMMC employees and students are swabbing the noses of patients at high risk of infection.

and non-clinical staff members who accepted re-deployment to the testing effort after their duties shifted when clinic operations curtailed and elective surgeries were canceled.

Those who believe they need testing based on their symptoms are being screened by a UMMC Center for Telehealth provider through the C Spire Health UMMC Virtual COVID-19 Triage smartphone app. They get an appointment for testing if they’re found to be at high risk for the virus.

Dr. Jonathan Wilson, UMMC chief administrative officer, said the drive-through collections leverage the medical center’s expertise in emergency services and telehealth to support a pressing health care need in the state.

“We are using best practices from around the country, and we will continue as long as we have specimen collection materials and good weather,” Wilson said. Collections have targeted some areas where testing partners were seeing a concerning spike in cases. That includes Jackson County, which as of April 13 had recorded five COVID-19 deaths and 147 cases. Only Hinds County, with 259 cases, DeSoto County, with 178 cases, and Lauderdale, with 150 cases, have wider community spread.

Making the testing more efficient is required use of the free C Spire Health app for screening, all but eliminating the “worried well” from contributing to collection site use of personal protective equipment and materials used to obtain specimens.

The fastest and easiest way to get screened and tested is with

the C Spire Health app. It’s available daily from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Users are asked questions about symptoms, including fever, cough, shortness of breath or sore throat. UMMC will contact those tested with their results.

Those without smartphones can call (601) 496-7200. Anyone not experiencing symptoms is asked not to use the app or call. Anyone determined to be at low risk for infection will receive instructions on social distancing, home isolation and self-care – and told to call back if symptoms worsen.

“C Spire is honored to be working closely with the state’s leading health care professionals to help save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic in Mississippi,” said C Spire CEO Hu Meena.

“As a leading technology company with most of our employees based here, we did not hesitate to quickly redesign our smartphone telehealth app to help doctors remotely diagnose individuals with symptoms of the virus. We also waived all fees along with the University of Mississippi Medical Center as a public service so the app can be used for all residents.”

“The use of the C Spire app and phone line for virtual COVID-19 triage and screening has been vital to our success,” Wilson said. “We are able to focus our efforts around the state where the epidemiological data are most useful in this pandemic.

“Our teams have been very successful in replicating our process we developed at the Fairgrounds with our state partners to deploy around the state.”

## MS Medical Association and MS Department of Health urge Mississippians to stay home until COVID-19 results are received

*Asymptomatic individuals can spread the coronavirus, which can lead to greater community spread of COVID-19*

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA) and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) are advising Mississippians who have been tested for COVID-19 to self-quarantine until they receive test results. Physicians and public health leaders are stressing the importance of social distancing, washing hands, and preserving critical medical supplies, including personal protective equipment (PPE).

State Health Officer Thomas Dobbs, MD emphasized that “a decision to test is a decision to isolate until test results come back.” The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends people stay home if they think they might have COVID-19 except to get medical care. Mississippians who may have COVID-19 should also call a doctor before visiting a clinic



or emergency room to avoid spreading the disease to others.

“Mississippi’s physicians and healthcare professionals are doing everything they can to prevent the spread of COVID-19, but we need help from the community to flatten the curve on this disease,” said Claude Brunson, MD, executive director of MSMA. “Taking simple steps like staying home until a test confirms you are negative for COVID-19

will help protect others and preserve the critical medical supplies we need to address this growing pandemic.”

*For more information about the impact of COVID-19 in Mississippi is available on the MSDH website at [www.msdh.ms.gov](http://www.msdh.ms.gov). MSMA continues to provide updated information, resources, and guidance about COVID-19 for physicians at [www.msmaonline.com/covid-19](http://www.msmaonline.com/covid-19) and on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.*

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# Dying to Work — Amazon, Other Frontline Workers Bear Brunt Of COVID-19

## Many Forced to Choose Between Safety and Paying the Bills

By Mel Reeves, Community Editor, Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder

“The organizer’s conduct was immoral, unacceptable, and arguably illegal,” is how an Amazon official sought to frame the efforts of one of its workers who was fired by the company. The worker, Christian Smalls, had tried to bring attention to unsafe working conditions at an Amazon warehouse in New York City.

Smalls had complained about the lack of gloves and masks and that the company had not been forthcoming in sharing with workers that others in the warehouse had contracted the virus, putting everyone at risk.

The official Amazon general counsel David Zapolsky also wrote in notes during a company meeting that included Amazon head Jeff Bezos, that Smalls who is Black, was not “smart or articulate.” Ironically, Smalls has told his story to several national news outlets, including a major news network.

Nationally, workers have voiced similar complaints about a lack of protective equipment such as masks, inefficient sanitizing of workspaces, and failure by some employers to honor the social distancing as recommended by the CDC to protect themselves from contracting the coronavirus.

Many have expressed anxiety about facing a kind of “Sophie’s Choice,” that is, forced to choose between going to work and possibly risk being exposed to the coronavirus or staying at home and not being able to put food on the table or pay bills.

The MSR last weekend asked



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a few employees at one of the local Minneapolis Cub stores why they were not wearing masks. Two of them said management had told them they didn’t want them to wear masks. They said management cited the CDC as declaring people do not need to wear masks to be safe from contracting COVID-19.

Asked if management had been informed that the CDC has since changed its guidelines, they said they were not sure. “I hope it changes,” said one employee who wished to remain anonymous.” I definitely want to protect myself.”

Amazon fired Smalls last week after he led a walkout by a number of employees at a Staten Island distribution warehouse. Amazon says he was fired for violating a company-imposed 14-day quarantine after he came into contact with an employee who tested positive for the coronavirus.

Smalls disputes this, say-

ing the employee who tested positive came into contact with many other workers for longer periods of time before their test came back. He said he was singled out because he wanted the company to sanitize the work area and be forthright about the numbers of fellow workers who had contracted the virus.

Amazon workers have been particularly vocal across the country as social media has shared protests by workers holding signs denouncing their working conditions. “This disease is killing people on a daily basis,” one worker who wished to remain anonymous told Business Insider. “As people are testing positive for it where I work, they still expect for us to come there.”

The U.S. Postal Service has confirmed that 259 employees have tested positive for the virus in its workforce of 630,000. To date, two letter carriers in New York City, one in Montgomery,

Alabama and one in Detroit have died after contracting the virus.

The Postal Service has sought to make gloves and masks available in all of its work stations, but employees still say basic items are not available. More than 85,000 workers have signed a petition asking for better protections.

The Washington Post recently reported that four grocery store workers have died after contracting the novel coronavirus. Two were Walmart workers who worked at the Evergreen Park Walmart in Chicago, one was a worker at Trader Joes in Scarsdale, New York, and another was a grocery greeter at a Giant store in Largo, Maryland.

A Detroit bus driver Jason Hargrove, whose Facebook rant warned people to be careful and be responsible died from the virus only weeks after posting the video. A bus driver in King County, Washington also suc-

cumbed to the disease last week; he too had been vocal about having his transit company provide better protection for him and his fellow drivers.

According to the Daily Mail, 22 New York City transit workers have died after contracting COVID-19.

Four workers at New York’s Shop Rite stores have come down with the disease. Frontline healthcare workers have also been contracting the virus in increasing numbers. A number of them have died.

Workers for American Airlines have reported that a few of their co-workers have come down with confirmed cases of COVID-19. A worker for an American Airlines regional carrier in Boston said, “Since my co-workers have come down with it, you would expect that they would at least investigate who the worker has been in contact with and have them quarantined.

“They are basically saying they don’t care if it spreads to our families or the general public. No serious measures have been taken to do anything about exposures.”

Eddie Ortiz, an assistant manager at the New York store Gristedes, described his staff as tireless frontline warriors. “They didn’t hesitate for one minute to stay and meet the needs of the public,” he said.

Several of the country’s most prominent union leaders and a number of New York political leaders have demanded that Amazon rescind Smalls’ dismissal. New York State Attorney General Letitia James and Mayor Bill de Blasio called for an investi-

gation into Smalls’ firing. James called Smalls’ firing “immoral.”

“At the height of a global pandemic, Chris Smalls and his colleagues publicly protested the lack of precautions that Amazon was taking to protect them from COVID-19,” James said in a statement. “In New York, the right to organize is codified into law, and any retaliatory action by management related thereto is strictly prohibited. At a time when so many New Yorkers are struggling and are deeply concerned about their safety, this action was also immoral and inhumane.”

According to Amazon their workers are heroes: “The truth is the vast majority of employees continue to show up and do the heroic work of delivering for customers every day,” said a company spokesperson.

“Amazon would rather fire workers than face up to its total failure to do what it should to keep us, our families, and our communities safe,” said Smalls. “... We won’t stop until Amazon provides real protections for our health and safety and clarity for everybody about what it is doing to keep people safe in the middle of the worst pandemic of our lifetimes.”

Smalls told the MSR that it was important for him to express solidarity with fellow Amazon workers in Minnesota and the rest of the country and urged them to, “take the power back. We are the power. If they are not caring about your well-being, then walk out! Without us they are nothing.”

Mel Reeves welcomes reader responses to mreeves@spokesman-recorder.com.

# Corona Virus and Sleep

By Vince Faust

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As the Covid-19 virus continues to affect the US it is now affecting our first responders in greater numbers. Our first responders are working hard. In Philadelphia 20% of the police force have called out. Nurses and doctors are getting sick. As they try to stop the spread of the Corona Virus we should ask ourselves what can we all do individually to protect our selves and others. One thing comes to mind for me and that is “get enough sleep”. Most of our first responders are working 16-hour days. These long hours will give needed help to those that are sick but it will put our health community at great risk. There are only 24 hours in a day. If you work 16 hours. That leaves you 8 hours to get to and from work, eat, shower, talk to your family and get some sleep. They my get 4 hours of sleep at the most. Once again there are only 24 hours in a day. If you work 6 and sleep 8 you have 10 hours

remaining. Drive time to get to work and back is 2 hours that leave 8 hours. If you give yourself 1 hour to shower and brush your teeth hopefully every that leaves 7 hours. Take an hour and a half to eat three meals you have 5 and a half hours. You have not talk to your family, your mother or any of your friends. Spend an hour and a half to socialize with your family or friends and you have 4 hours left in your day. I want you to spend at least a half an hour for exercise and that leaves 3 and half hours in your day. And that’s if everything goes right. Now give yourself a half an hour for errors during your day. That will leave you with 3 hours to wash cloths, shop, talk to other people in your social circle, put out the trash, feed the dog or cat, pay some bills and maybe watch a little TV. 24 hours is not a lot of time to work 8 hours and sleep 8 hours. Nobody should be working more than 6 hours a day.

Sleep is very important now.

If you get the right amount of sleep it will help to strengthen your immune system. Get less sleep than what you need and you’ll find yourself stressed more often and you’ll raise your risk of contacting Covid-19.

Most of us want to do as much as we can to help, which causes us to lose a lot of sleep. We value hard work and dedication, which is what our first responders give their community. Not getting enough sleep can actually make their performance worse. It will also affect their health.

A lot of things happen when you sleep. Your brain stores new information and gets rid of toxic waste. Your nerve cells are coated with a new protein cover, which supports healthy brain function.

Your body repairs cells, restores energy, and releases molecules like hormones and proteins. A healthy and strong immune system depends on sleep. You can put on mask, wear a face shield and wear gloves but if you’re

not getting enough sleep the Covid-19 virus will be attacking a weaken immune system. Most adults need 7 to 9 hours of sleep each night. The National Sleep Foundation said that Americans need about 7.1 hours of sleep per night to feel good, but 73 percent of Americans fall short of that goal on a regular basis.

If you develop any of the following symptoms you should see your doctor:

- Develop a fever of 104 or higher that doesn’t go away after over the counter treatment in a couple of hours.
- Develop a fever of 101 with shaking, chills and a productive cough. A productive cough is a cough that produces mucus.
- Have a persistent fever.
- 102 or higher for two days
- 101 or higher for three days
- 100 or higher for four days
- Labored, shallow or rapid breathing with shortness of breath.
- Coughing up mucus that is yellow, green, rust colored or blooded.

- Develop facial pain.
- Nasal discharge that changes from clear to yellow or green.
- A cough that last longer than 7 to 10 days.
- Wheezing
- Lack of appetite
- Loss of smell

In addition to boosting your immune system with sleep, the CDC recommends the following precautions to ward off the coronavirus.

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent isopropyl alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose.
- Avoid contact with individuals who are sick or those who show symptoms of the virus.
- Put distance between yourself and others if the virus is present in your community.
- Stay home if you are sick or have symptoms of the coronavirus.
- Use a tissue to cover your nose and mouth if you need to

cough or sneeze, throw away used tissues immediately, and wash your hands.

- Wear a facemask if you are sick or if you are caring for someone who is ill.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily—such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, desks, phones, handles, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks

We are all in this pandemic together. What we all do affects everyone else. Even how we live our individual life.

Before starting your fitness program, consult your physician.

Watch “Tips to be Fit” on www.lifeandspiritonline.com and www.GoodDayGood-Health.com

If you have a fitness question or concern you would like addressed write to “Tips to be Fit” P O Box 53443 Philadelphia PA 19105 or tipstobefit@gmail.com

If you’ve missed an article of “Tips to be Fit” just search “Vince Faust” “Tips to be Fit”



# Office of Global Education assists Mississippi College International Students

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

More than one million international students enrolled at USA colleges face extraordinary challenges amid the COVID-19 health crisis.

Mississippi College leaders and staff at the Office of Global Education are working long hours to meet the needs of the Christian university's 140 students from around the globe.

"I really feel for our international students," says Mei-Chi Piletz, director of the Office of Global Education.

Like all students going through the pandemic, anxiety levels and fears are high. It's hard to predict when the crisis will subside in countries worldwide.

The work never goes away as Piletz proceeds. She's in daily touch with MC students from around the globe. She contacts prospective students thousands of miles away in countries like Germany.

Piletz and Office of Global Education staffer Wen Weng Jones are thankful for the leadership of President Blake Thompson as March turns to April.

"The Office of Global Education appreciates Dr. Blake Thompson's exhibition of servant leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic," Piletz said. "MC's international community expresses its sincere appreciation for the amazing support coming from all fronts at Mississippi College."



Major events cancelled at MC included the March 27 International Festival. The event showcases the talents and attire of international students at the university each year.

Following the show, they fellowship with festival audience members. For more than a decade, the event features delicious foods from their native lands. The program was designed to raise funds for international student scholarships.

Guanyang "Gary" Li, a computer science major from China, applauds MC staffers for going the extra mile. Like

others enrolled this Spring, international students are adjusting to online classes from home.

"Both Mrs. Weng and Mrs. Piletz have checked to see if things are alright with me. Also, President Thompson has been sending us updates via

email since day one," the MC junior says. "Most importantly, none of the international students have been abandoned nor forgotten by MC and the Office of Global Education."

He saluted the MC faculty for working with them as studies switched to online formats.

International students are not just worried about academics, and any language barriers. Due to the slump in the USA economy, jobs are hard to find for international students. Many hoped to stay in the United States after their graduation. Students applied for the optional practical training program or OPT so they can temporarily stay in the United States for one to three years after graduation. One in ten American workers lost their jobs the past three weeks.

Also making things uncertain for international students is that many USA embassies around the globe are closed.

That halts steps in the visa process for international students seeking to attend colleges across the nation next Fall.

Qimeng Zhou, an MC graduate student in public relations, lauds the university's staff for doing their best during the crisis. Switching to Zoom and taking online classes wasn't easy for the native of China. "Luckily my teachers and classmates have been very helpful."

Student tutors at the online MC Writing Center are helpful as well, she said. "My tutors are always patient, and they try their best to help me modifying my papers."

Church services are on the internet and that helps her, too. The more difficult the circumstances, says the native of China, "the stronger our faith is."

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# Mississippi is the 9th best state for millennial home buyers

Mississippi Link Newswire

Over the past few years, homeownership rates for millennials have been slowly on the rise. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the homeownership rate for Americans under 35 grew to roughly 37 percent in 2019. However, homeownership among today's millennials is still below its peak of 43 percent in 2004 and woefully below the national rate of 65 percent across all major regions of the U.S.

There are several factors that contribute to the low rate. For example, many millennials are focused on paying off student loan debt and have not yet reached their peak earning potential.

According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, median annual earnings for millennial workers is about \$40,000, and while many could potentially afford a mortgage payment, they don't have the money to make a down payment. In addition, millennials are more likely than previous generations to delay major life events like marriage and children. However, as millennials grow more established in their careers and start families, the homeownership rate for this demographic will likely continue to move up.

That said, when factoring in housing affordability, cost of living, employment opportunities, and forecasted home value growth, some parts of the country are much friendlier to millennial home buyers than others. Overall, the best states for millennial home buyers are in the Midwest and South, especially Oklahoma, Ohio, Arkansas, Iowa and Nebraska. These states tend to offer more reasonable home prices compared to income, low living costs, and below-average millennial unemployment rates.

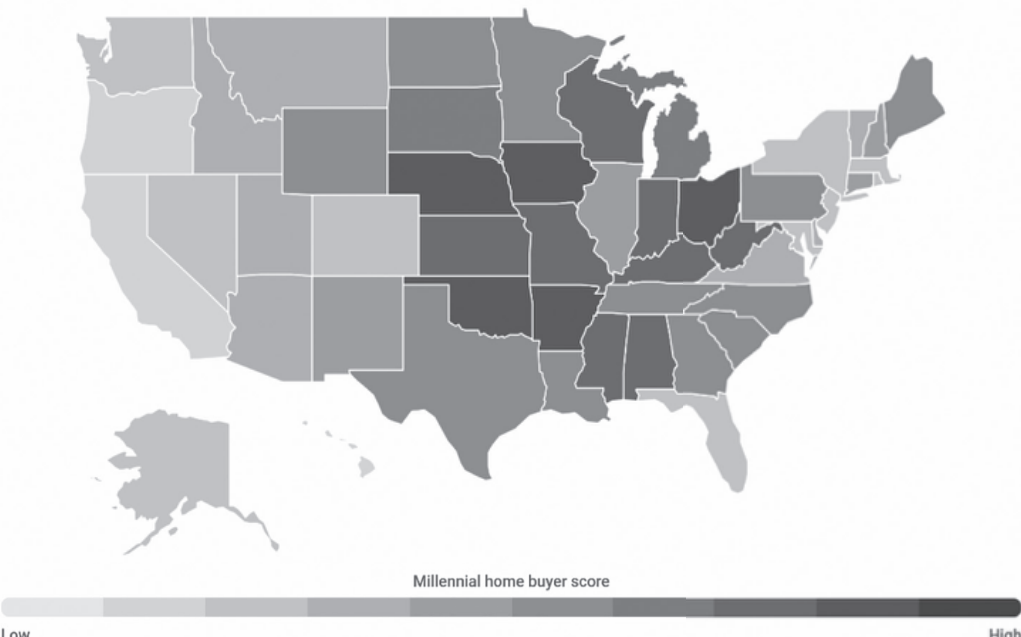
The least favorable states for millennial buyers tend to be on the West Coast and in the Northeast, for example, California, Oregon, Massachusetts and New Jersey. Notably, homeownership rates for millennials are almost ten percentage points higher in the Midwest than in the West.

To find which states are most affordable for young home buyers, researchers at Construction Coverage analyzed data from

## Homeownership Among Millennials is Rising Across the United States



## States in the Midwest & South Are More Favorable for Young Home Buyers



Zillow and the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey. They created a composite score based on home affordability (median millennial earnings as a share of home prices), unemployment among millennials, projected home value growth, and cost of living.

The median home price of \$127,206 and median full-time earnings for millennial workers of \$33,000 in Mississippi, along with several other factors, make it a more attractive location for millennial home buyers. Overall, Mississippi ranks 9th best for millennial home buyers among all U.S. states. Here is a

summary of the data for Mississippi:

- Overall score: 87.90
- Median home price: \$127,206
- Median earnings for full-time millennial workers: \$33,000
- Estimated monthly mortgage payment: \$510
- Forecasted 1-year change in home price: 4.2%
- Unemployment among millennials: 9.3%
- Cost of living (compared to national average): -14.3%
- For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:
- Overall score: N/A
- Median home price: \$245,193

- Median earnings for full-time millennial workers: \$40,000
- Estimated monthly mortgage payment: \$982
- Forecasted 1-year change in home price: 4.1%
- Unemployment among millennials: 5.3%
- Cost of living (compared to national average): N/A
- For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results for all states, you can find the original report on Construction Coverage's website: <https://construction-coverage.com/research/best-cities-for-millennial-home-buyers-2020>

# IN MEMORIAM Former Supreme Court Chief Justice Lenore Prather died April 11

Mississippi Link Newswire

Former Mississippi Supreme Court Chief Justice Lenore Loving Prather died Saturday, April 11, at her home in Columbus. She was 88.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete. Memorial Gunter Peel Funeral Home in Columbus is handling arrangements.

Her former colleague, former Chief Justice William L. Waller Jr. of Jackson, called Justice Prather a trailblazer. He recalled her as a mentor and role model.

Her accomplishments included numerous firsts for women in the legal profession. "She served with class, character, scholarship and impeccable integrity." He noted that she also deserves recognition for her role in the funding and design of the Mississippi Supreme Court Courthouse, the Gartin Justice Building in Jackson.

Prather was the first woman to serve on the Mississippi Supreme Court, and was the court's first female chief justice. In that role, she was the leader of the judicial branch of government in Mississippi.

She began her judicial career as West Point Municipal Judge in 1965, and served until September 1972, when Gov. John Bell Williams appointed her Chancellor of the 14th Chancery District of Chickasaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha and Webster counties. She was the state's first woman chancellor. Gov. William Winter appointed her to the Supreme Court in 1982. She became a presiding justice in January 1993. She served as Chief Justice from January 1998 to January 2001.

Prather wrote the landmark decisions of *Albright v. Albright* and *Ferguson v. Ferguson*. *Albright* created a list of considerations, now known as *Albright Factors*, to determine the best interests of the child in parental custody disputes. *Ferguson* adopted guidelines for equitable distribution of marital assets in divorce, including giving women credit for their non-financial contributions to the family.

After she left the Supreme Court, she served as interim president of MUW from July 2001 to June 2002.

Prather was born Sept. 17, 1931, in West Point, Mississippi,



Prather

the daughter of Byron Herald Loving and Hattie Hearn Morris Loving. She graduated from West Point High School in 1949, then studied communications and political science at Mississippi State College for Women, now Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1953.

She earned her law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1955. During her first year in law school, in 1953, she was one of only three female law students enrolled at Ole Miss. In a September 2002 oral history interview, she recalled that three women law students at that time was the most who had been enrolled at the same time. One of her fellow students was Mary Libby Payne, who went on to become the first woman judge of the Mississippi Court of Appeals.

Prather grew up around the law and the courthouse. Her father was an attorney, state representative and senator. His law office was near the courthouse in West Point. Her mother was a legal secretary. Prather was a fourth generation lawyer and practiced with her father in her early career. She later practiced law with her husband, Robert Brooks Prather, whom she married in 1957. While practicing law, she also taught speech at Mississippi State University.

MUW awarded her its Medal of Excellence in 1990 and the MUW Alumni Achievement Award in 1993. The University of Mississippi inducted her into the Hall of Fame in 1986. The University of Mississippi School of Law named her Alumna of the Year in 1995, and in 2012 inducted her into the Law Alumni Hall of Fame. Gov. Haley Barbour awarded her the Mississippi Medal of Service in 2009.

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# Testing times make us humble

By Pastor Simeon R. Green III  
Special to The Mississippi Link



Hebrews 12:26-28 states: “Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.” You

will become carnal if you do not have grace when you go through testing times.

In these closing days of time, God is shaking everything that can be shook. If we do not build our experience upon a solid foundation, we cannot stand. If our foundations are built upon our father, mother, wife, husband or children, we cannot stand. Our foundations must be built upon the Lord and Him only.

Too many people stand only if their husband, wife, daddy or mommy stands. Every one of us is an individual. We each must have a foundation that cannot be shook. Romans 8:28 reads, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that

love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” In Isaiah 43:1-2, we read: “But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

Our scripture text lets us know that we will be tried. We are tried in ways that are beyond our human comprehension. Sometimes those trials will shock us, but they

would not be trials if we were expecting them. Our trials sometimes come from areas, places and people that we would never suspect.

Sometimes people who seem to have great understanding and great knowledge will fall. Our best friends may fall and our father or mother may disappoint us. When we go through trials and testing times, if we will stay right there until we get through the difficulty, we will be better off.

*Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.*

# PRESERVED

## How strong is your connection?

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



A few years ago, I had to have my car battery replaced. I didn't realize it until after I had it replaced how weak the battery was. According

to the auto parts store manager, my battery was operating on less than 1/3 of its necessary power.

Before he could definitely blame the battery, he cleaned off the cables after noticing that there was corrosion on one of the battery posts. At first, he thought that was the reason for the problem. Even as he tested the strength of the battery, he said that corrosion prevented the car from having as strong a battery charge as it could have.

When I told him how my car started okay most of the time, he explained that the connection was strong enough to keep the car running for a certain time. He explained that any additional strain like running the air conditioning or radio would cause the car to stall.

Even though my concern at this point was getting a new battery, I was still amazed that my car was still able to run with that much of the battery power gone. The more I thought about it, my car had been giving me signs that it was losing power. It was getting harder to start and hesitated sometimes when I turned the ignition.

At first, it only happened once every other month. I didn't think much about the hesitation because it didn't happen all the time. Then


I noticed the hesitation and stalling began to happen almost every other week; then every day. I even tried to ignore the signs but knew that eventually I'd have to have the car checked out.

The danger of a faulty connection is that it can give you a false sense that you have more time than you actually do. Because there were days when my car would start without a problem, I thought that whatever the problem was wasn't that serious. In fact, the bad connection was much worse than I realized. Even though it was getting weaker, my car battery's connection was strong enough to keep my car running until I was able to get it fixed.

We can sometimes have a faulty or weak connection to God. We may struggle in certain areas of our lives and feel like we are not as strong as we used to be. Or, we may go to church but feel like we are just going through the motions. Isaiah 40:29 says, “He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.”

Rather than focus on the things we lack or the times when we feel discouraged, sometimes all we have to rely on is our praise. This is just enough of the necessary connection to God until we can get recharged, regenerated and re-focused.

*Shewandaaa Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.*



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7:00 p.m. • Bible Class

**TV BROADCAST**  
8:00 a.m. • Channel 14 (Comcast)

*Prayer Everyday: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.*

# True Light Baptist Church

224 E. Bell Street | Jackson, MS 39202 | Phone: (601) 398-0915

*Join Us!*  
*for our Light Line Prayer Call*  
*each Wednesday morning at*  
*6:00 a.m. or join us on*  
*Periscope @MarcusCheeks*

## The Light Line PRAYER



Rev. Marcus E. Cheeks, Pastor  
Small Group Study | 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service | Sundays 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study | Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

Phone Number: | Access Code:  
(218) 339-7800 | 627 6205#  
(712) 832-8330 (Alternate Number)  
\*The call will last only 30 minutes

## New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Live Radio Broadcast  
WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



*"A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man"*

New Bethel M. B. Church • 450 Culberston Ave. • Jackson, MS 39209  
601-969-3481/969-3482 • Fax # 601-969-1957 • E-Mail: Serenitynbc@aol.com

## Crossroads Church of God

*Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others*



Sunday Morning  
Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship  
Service 11:15 a.m.  
(Worship following  
worship service for  
Sundays)

Wednesday  
Prayer/Bible  
Study 7 p.m.

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor  
221-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046  
Church: 601-409-2858





LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2020-01 School District Depository

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) May 08, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing [HYPERLINKmailto:jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us) jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at [HYPERLINKhttp://www.jackson.k12.ms.us](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us) www.jackson.k12.ms.us

4-23-2020, 4-30-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS  
A. NEW BUSINESS

1. CASE NO. 2020-05, REQUESTED BY: JEFF SEABOLD, TO CONSTRUCT CUSTOM DESIGNED FENCE ALONG SIDE AND BACK YARD OF THE PROPERTY AT 1320 ST. ANN ST, LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

2. CASE NO. 2020-06, REQUESTED BY: JETT DESIGN/BUILD, TO RELOCATE AND REPLACE TWO EXISTING 8 OVER 8 DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS WITH 4 OVER 1 DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS MATCHING THE STYLE OF THOSE ORIGINAL TO THE HOUSE AT 6 PARK AVE, LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

3. CASE NO. 2020-09, REQUESTED BY: SAM NEWMAN, TO CONSTRUCT A NEW MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT 0 GILLESPIE STREET (PARCEL 15-9), LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

II ADJOURN

DUE TO A CONFLICT IN HIS/HER SCHEDULE, COMMISSIONERS MAY UTILIZE TELECONFERENCE OR VIDEO MEANS TO HEAR CASES & VOTE IN THE EVENT OF THEIR ABSENCE.

4-16-2020, 4-23-2020

LEGAL

Notice of Sale  
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2005 Honda Accord 1HGCM66575A079869  
Registered to Beale Shanna  
Date of Sale: 5/15/20  
TitleMax Financial, Lien Holder  
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;  
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.,  
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

4-23-2020, 4-30-2020, 5-7-2020

LEGAL

Notice of Sale  
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2007 Toyota CMB 4T1BE46K37U694031  
Registered to Shirley Chasity  
Date of Sale: 5/15/20  
TitleMax Financial, Lien Holder  
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;  
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.,  
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

4-23-2020, 4-30-2020, 5-7-2020

ANYTIME ONLINE

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Streaming Videos  
Interactive Blogs

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[www.mississippilink.com](http://www.mississippilink.com)

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
BELHAVEN CREEK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS  
CITY PROJECT NO. 15B5014-701

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. Local Time, June 2, 2020, for supplying all labor and materials (as specified) necessary for construction of BELHAVEN CREEK DRAINAGE IMPROVMENTS, CITY PROJECT NO. 15B5014-701.

Contract time for this contract shall be 150 consecutive calendar days from the effective date shown in the Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed for each consecutive calendar day the Work has not achieved Final Completion. The amount of liquidated damages per day will be \$500.00 plus any additional actual costs above \$500.00 incurred by the Owner. These actual costs include, but are not limited to, engineering, inspection, and other construction related costs resulting from the Contractor's failure to complete the work on schedule.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact Yika Hoover, Equal Business Opportunity Officer at 601-960-1638 or [thoover@jacksonms.gov](mailto:thoover@jacksonms.gov). Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 218 South President Street, 2nd Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all bidders will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and/or conduct business in the City to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi Law and show current Certificate of Responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors establishing his classification as to the value and type of construction on which he is authorized to bid.

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for BELHAVEN CREEK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, CITY PROJECT NO. 15B5014-701." Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids and EBO plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [HYPERLINKhttp://www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). Electronic Bids may be submitted at [HYPERLINKhttp://www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810.4814.

A Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2020 at 10:00 AM local time onsite at Belhaven Creek at Laurel Street. Attendance by all potential contractors, subcontractors, and other interested parties is strongly encouraged.

Awarding public contracts to non-resident Bidders will be on the same basis as the non-resident bidder's state awards contracts to Mississippi Contractors bidding under similar circumstances. Current state law, Mississippi General Laws of 2010, Chapter 383, section 31-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, requires a non-resident bidder to attach to the bid a copy of the Bidder's resident state's current laws pertaining to such state's treatment of nonresident contractors. Non-resident bidders must attach to their bid a copy of any bid preference law of the state, city, county, parish, province, nation or political subdivision where they are domiciled. If there is no such law where they are domiciled, all non-resident bidders shall attach a letter to their bid stating that there is no bid preference law where they are domiciled. The bid of any non-resident bidder who fails to attach to its bid a copy of its domicile's bid preference law or a letter stating that its domicile has no such bid preference law, whichever is applicable, shall be rejected and not considered for award.

Each Bidder must deposit with his bid a Bid Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to five percent of his bid, payable to the City of Jackson as bid security. Bidders shall also submit a current financial statement, if requested by the City of Jackson. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Payment Bond and Performance Bond each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount.

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, Instructions to Bidders and Bidders Proposal forms are on file and open to public inspection in the office of the Engineering Division, Department of Public Works, City of Jackson, Mississippi. Copies of the Instructions for Bidders and Bidder's Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract Drawings and Contract Specifications may be procured at the office of the Engineer between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Local Time, Monday through Friday, upon payment of \$100.00, which will not be refunded. Checks are to be made payable to the Engineer.

The Engineer is Southern Consultants, Inc. (A Woman's Business Enterprise), 5740 County Cork Road, Jackson, Mississippi 39206; (601) 957-0999, Fax No. (601) 957-9332. For technical questions please contact James S. Stewart, P.E. at Southern Consultants, Inc.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all Bidders that minority and women business enterprises are solicited to bid on these contracts as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities, equipment, material and/or supply needs.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

Robert K. Miller, Director  
Department of Public Works

4-23-2020, 4-30-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement For Bids  
MEDGAR EVERS BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS  
City Project No. 18B4017.302

Sealed bids will be received by the City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. Local Time, May 19, 2020, for supplying all labor and materials (as specified) necessary for construction of MEDGAR EVERS BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS, City Project No. 18B4017.302.

Principal items of work are as follows:

- Removal of concrete combination curb & gutter,
- Concrete pavement punchout repair,
- Removal of integral curb
- Removal of pavement, all types and depths,
- 10" Concrete Pavement,
- Concrete Header Curb,
- Concrete Integral Curb,
- Combination Concrete Curb and Gutter,
- Maintenance of Traffic,
- Signal Stop Bar Radar Vehicle Detection Sensor,
- Roadway Construction Stakes

The above general outline of features of the work does not in any way limit the responsibility of the Contractor to perform all work and furnish all labor, equipment and materials required by the specifications and the drawings referred to therein.

Contract time for this contract shall be 180 consecutive calendar days from the effective date shown in the Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed for each consecutive calendar day the Work has not achieved Final Completion. The amount of liquidated damages per day will be \$500.00. These actual costs include, but are not limited to, engineering, inspection, and other construction related costs resulting from the Contractor's failure to complete the work on schedule.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact Yika Hoover, Equal Business Opportunity Officer at 601-960-1638. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Suite 223, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all bidders will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and/or conduct business in the City to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi Law and show current Certificate of Responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors establishing his classification as to the value and type of construction on which he is authorized to bid.

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal forms to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for MEDGAR EVERS BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS, City Project No. 18B4017.302". Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Each Bidder must submit with his proposal a separate attachment stating the Bidder's qualifications to perform the Work. The Statement of Qualifications shall list past projects of similar size and nature, a list of references with name and telephone number, a list of key personnel who will perform the work, and other information supporting the bidder's qualifications.

Bids and EBO plans shall be submitted in triplicate (bound/stapled separately), sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Official Bid Documents, including the Contract Documents and Drawings can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). Electronic Bids may be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions related to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Awarding public contracts to non-resident Bidders will be on the same basis as the non-resident bidder's state awards contracts to Mississippi Contractors bidding under similar circumstances. Current state law, Mississippi General Laws of 2010, Chapter 383, section 31-3-21 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, requires a nonresident bidder to attach to the bid a copy of the Bidder's resident state's current laws pertaining to such state's treatment of nonresident contractors. Non-resident bidders must attach to their bid a copy of any bid preference law of the state, city, county, parish, province, nation or political subdivision where they are domiciled. If there is no such law where they are domiciled, all non-resident bidders shall attach a letter to their bid stating that there is no bid preference law where they are domiciled. The bid of any non-resident bidder who fails to attach to its bid a copy of its domicile's bid preference law or a letter stating that its domicile has no such bid preference law, whichever is applicable, shall be rejected and not considered for award.

Each Bidder must deposit with his bid a Bid Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to five percent of the bid, payable to the City of Jackson as bid security. Bidders shall also submit a current financial statement, if requested by the City of Jackson. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Payment Bond and Performance Bond each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount.

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, Instructions to Bidders and Bidders Proposal forms are on file and open to public inspection in the office of the Engineering Division, Department of Public Works, City of Jackson, Mississippi and the Office of the City Clerk.

The Engineer is Neel-Schaffer, Inc., 125 South Congress, Suite 1100, Jackson, MS 39201, 601-948-3071, Fax No. 601-948-3178. For technical questions email [medgareversblvd@neel-schaffer.com](mailto:medgareversblvd@neel-schaffer.com).

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all Bidders that minority and women business enterprises are solicited to bid on these contracts as prime contractors and are encouraged to make inquiries regarding potential subcontracting opportunities, equipment, material and/or supply needs.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

Robert K. Miller, Director  
Department of Public Works

4-16-2020, 4-23-2020



LEGAL

CITY OF JACKSON  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
FEBRUARY 2020 FLOOD DAMAGE INFRASTRUCTURE  
REHABILITATION PROJECTS

The City of Jackson intends to employ a consulting engineering firm (s) to provide engineering services utilizing a Cost plus Fixed Fee, Labor Hour/Unit Price or Lump Sum/Firm Fixed Price contract for various infrastructure assets damaged by the February 14, 2020 Pearl River Flooding, Hinds County, Mississippi. These services shall include construction engineering administration, design engineering, hydraulic analysis, pavement assessment/design, bridge design, water/sewer utilities design, surveying, soil testing, regulatory permitting and other related work specifically directed toward rehabbing/repairing critical infrastructure damaged by the February 14, 2020 Pearl River Flooding event. The consulting firm (s) shall work with the City of Jackson, MEMA, FEMA, and MDEQ to assist with assessing the damage from the February 14, 2020 flood event, and preparing all required documents for reimbursement submittals for eligible expenses for design engineering, construction administration, and construction.

The City of Jackson experienced historic flooding from the Pearl River on February 14, 2020. The City along with MDEQ, MEMA, and FEMA officials visited various sites, and based on the preliminary damage assessments it was deemed necessary to hire a consultant (s) to assist with repairing and rehabilitating various infrastructrue damaged by the flooding event.

Upon selection, negotiation, and execution of contract, the City anticipates the duration of the contract to be approximately 6-9 months. The City anticipates executing the contracts by June/July 2020.

To be considered, the “Expression of Interest” proposal must respond to all requirements of this Legal Advertisement. The recommended proposal length should not exceed twenty-five (25) pages, exclusive of appendices. The resumes (which should not exceed 2 pages per individual in length), SF-330 Part II, proof of State Licensure and certificates requirements, and other information not relevant to the requirements should be included in the appendices. The Consultant's cover letter, table of contents, summaries and introductions, team organizational chart, past performances, and any other responses to the evaluation criteria should be included in the 25 pages. Pages should be numbered, single-spaced, one-sided, 8.5" by 11" with margins of at least one inch on all four sides. No more than five pages may be 11" by 17", but they may count as two sheets each against the recommended 25 page maximum. Information within the recommended 25 page limit of the proposal should be complete and sufficient in scope for the selection committee to evaluate the Consultant. Also, all text information in the recommended 25 page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. Headers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers, tabs, or similar means are recommended but are not counted as part of the recommended 25 page limit. These recommendations will be considered when evaluating the quality of proposal.

With the exception of the information to be supplied in the appendices, the “Expression of Interest” proposal should be divided into the following sections as listed below.

Consulting engineering firms (CONSULTANT) interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the City {one (1) copy and one Flash Drive} of an Expression of Interest which should consist of the following unless specifically stated otherwise:

- The Prime CONSULTANT should provide a cover letter specifying the name and complete description of the Contract, the name of the Prime CONSULTANT and any of its Subconsultant(s), the name of an individual who will be the single point of contact throughout the selection process, the name of the project manager, the location and address of the managing office, and the location and address of the office(s) that may be assigned the work. Should any Subconsultant(s) be listed as team members, identify the roles of each of the team's members. In addition, the CONSULTANT must note if this is a joint venture;
- The CONSULTANT should provide a resume for each principal member, the project manager, project engineer and employee(s) of the firm anticipated to be assigned to the project. Also, provide a team organizational chart and list each person's experience and qualifications, including proof that the Project engineer is licensed as a Mississippi Professional Engineer and that the firm has met state licensure and certification requirements\*. The team organizational chart should include each individual's name, job description (for the project), and company of employment.

- The CONSULTANT should provide a description of similar type work completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the consultant for this work. Provide a detailed description of the role of the consultant and define whether the consultant was the prime or a subconsultant. Include in the description the amount of the consultant's contract for the work they provided for the project, the date the consultant's project was initiated. The firm should provide contact information for each of the projects. This will include the name of the client and client's representative that can verify and discuss the project;
- The CONSULTANT should provide a description of the team's approach to performing the water, sewer, roadway, drainage, and bridge design repair and rehabilitation services as referenced in this advertisement in an efficient manner. This description should identify the CONSULTANT's (and subconsultant's) resources and abilities in project operations, project management and describe how they will utilize their equipment, personnel, and other technical and procedural resources. The CONSULTANT should estimate the number of crews anticipated to perform the work and identify how they intend to break out their resources in an efficient manner to provide proper oversight, inspection, and testing services. In addition, the CONSULTANT should identify any unique company resources, procedures, and/or equipment which will benefit the CONSULTANT to efficiently oversee the PROJECT.
- The CONSULTANT should provide Part II of Standard Form (SF) 330, Architect-Engineer Qualifications. If a firm has branch offices, complete the form for each specific branch office seeking work. In addition, this form should be completed for any subconsultants in the same manner.

The City will evaluate the Expressions of Interest based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance:

1. Experience of the Firm in performing specific services and experience on similar Dam projects
2. Qualifications and experience of Staff to be assigned to the project based on requested scope of services
3. Size of the firm's professional and technical staff with respect to the services needed
4. Project Approach
5. Local Presence of the Firm

The City reserves the right to select one (1) consultant or select a short list of consultants from whom more information will be required. The City reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals, discontinue Contract execution, and/or request additional information with any party at any time prior to final Contract execution.

All questions regarding this request for proposals can be directed toward the City Engineer, Charles Williams Jr., PE, PhD, (601) 960-1651 or cwilliams@jacksonms.gov

A completed EBO plan must be submitted with the proposal.

Any questions regarding the City of Jackson's EBO ordinance should be directed toward the EBO Officer Ms. Yika Hoover at (601) 960-1638 or thoover@jacksonms.gov.

The CONSULTANT should mark any and all pages of the proposal considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Each page of the proposal that the CONSULTANT considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the upper right hand corner with the word “CONFIDENTIAL.” Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

To be considered, all replies must be received by the Office of the City Clerk, at Jackson City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205, on or before 3:30 PM p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2020. The Expressions of Interest should be submitted and marked on the outside as Jackson Dry Dam Repair and Rehabilitation Project Proposal.

Robert K. Miller, Director  
Department of Public Works  
City of Jackson

4-23-2020, 4-30-2020

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING WATERSTONE INC. A REZONING FROM R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-3 (TOWNHOUSE AND ZERO LOT LINE) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EIGHT (8) ZERO LOT LINE TOWNHOMES FOR THE PROPERTIES LOCATED ON PARCELS 450-3-20, 450-3-21, 450-3-22, 450-3-23 & 450-3-24 (LOTS 18-22) OF THE WATERSTONE SUBDIVISION. CASE NO. 4083.

WHEREAS, Waterstone Inc. has filed a petition to rezone properties located on Parcels 450-3-20, 450-3-21, 450-3-22, 450-3-23 & 450-3-24(Lots 18-22) of the Waterstone Subdivision, in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-3 (Townhouse and Zero Lot Line) Residential District to allow for the construction of eight (8) zero lot line townhomes; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has recommended the approval of the rezoning of the properties on Parcels 450-3-20, 450-3-21, 450-3-22, 450-3-23 & 450-3-24 (Lots 18-22) of the Waterstone Subdivision from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-3 (Townhouse and Zero Lot Line) Residential District for the construction of eight (8) zero lot line townhomes; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, March 16, 2020 to consider said change, based upon the record of the case as developed before the City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on February 6, 2020 and February 20, 2020, that a hearing had been held by the Jackson City Planning Board on February 26, 2020, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board had recommended the rezoning of the properties located on Parcels 450-3-20, 450-3-21, 450-3-22, 450-3-23 & 450-3-24 (Lots 18-22) from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-3 (Townhouse and Zero Lot Line) Residential District; and

WHEREAS, the Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound land use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the properties and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with said application since any previous City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. That the properties located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, and Mississippi, more particular described as follows:

Lots 18, 19, 20, and 21, Waterstone Subdivision, Part Two, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 38 at Pages 10 and 10A, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

Lot 22, Waterstone Subdivision, Part Three, being a re-subdivision of Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 23 & 24 of Waterstone Subdivision, Part Two, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 40 at Page 40, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

are hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the properties located on Parcels 450-3-20, 450-3-21, 450-3-22, 450-3-23 & 450-3-24 (Lots 18-22) from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to R-3 (Townhouse and Zero Lot Line) Residential District for the construction of eight (8) zero lot line townhomes. However, that before for any structure is erected or use thereof on the said properties, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Foote moved adoption; Council Member Banks seconded.  
Yeas- Foote, Banks, Lindsay, Priestler and Tillman. Nays- None.  
Absent- Stamps and Stokes.

ATTEST: Angela Harris  
Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk

I, Angela Harris, the duly appointed qualified Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk and lawful custodian of records of the Council and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Zoning Council Meeting on March 16, 2020 and recorded in Minute Book “6Q, Pgs. 581- 582”.

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 1st day of April, 2020.

SEAL  
Angela Harris, Interim Chief Deputy Municipal Clerk

4-23-2020

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Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

		1	7					
					9		1	6
6						9	2	
	6	2		8				
8			1					
	5					2		4
		6	5				7	
2	8			3			4	
					9			

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Sudoku Solution

5	9	1	7	2	6	4	3	8
7	2	8	4	9	3	1	6	5
6	4	3	8	1	5	9	2	7
3	6	2	9	8	4	7	5	1
8	7	4	1	5	2	6	9	3
1	5	9	3	6	7	2	8	4
9	1	6	5	4	8	3	7	2
2	8	7	6	3	1	5	4	9
4	3	5	2	7	9	8	1	6

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DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

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Week of April 12, 2020





Phoebe Elaine Slaughter Lenear (Dr. Lenear) was the eighth of ten children born to James Sr. and the late Theresa Sims Slaughter in Chicago, Illinois April 29, 1965. She gave her life to Christ at an early age at Greater Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of her uncle, the late Rev. J. B. Sims Jr.

She was educated in Chicago public schools where she graduated valedictorian from Harlan High School. She enjoyed bowling, traveling, mentoring and quality time with family. As a teenager, she was an active member in a bowling league. In classic Dr. Lenear fashion, she was known to carry her books with her to the bowling alley. So, often when it was her turn to bowl, someone would have to call her name because her head was in her books. Lenear is also remembered for her hearty laugh.

Lenear received the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in General Engineering (Mathematics and Human-Computer Interaction), and the Ph.D. degree in Human Resource Education (Technology Educa-

# Dr. Phoebe Elaine Slaughter Lenear

## April 29, 1965 - April 15, 2020

tion) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

In 1990, she was united in holy matrimony to the love of her life, the late Rev. Booth Ezell Jr. Two sons, Stephen Michael and Christopher Daniel, were born to this union.

In addition to her love for science and engineering, Lenear always had a heart for singing. She was born into a family of singers and instrumentalists and grew up singing on the Southside of Chicago in the home basement with her nine siblings and cousins, later to be known as The Slaughter Singers. Leading out as a soloist, Lenear gave her special interpretation to two gospel classics: Walter Hawkins’ “Goin’ Up Yonder” and “Changed.”

Continuing her musical expression upon entering college, Lenear quickly distinguished herself as a singer of exceptional musical and interpretative ability. Since 1984, she has appeared with the University of Illinois Black Chorus as a signature voice and is a frequent featured artist for the UIUC Black Sacred Music Symposium. She sang with noted artists, including the late Thomas Whitfield, V. Michael McKay, Minister A. Jeffrey LaValley, Rev. K. Edward Copeland, Brian Courtney Wilson and Willie Wilson & Company.

In 2012, Lenear released her highly anticipated debut gospel album, Consecrated. The album is a compilation of psalms, hymns, praise and traditional gospel music.

For over thirty years, Lenear served as a faculty member, administrator, program manager and director of education, training and integration projects. Her positions in academia and the research sector have required extensive communication, collaboration and technical skills. As a program manager at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), she was responsible for the National Computational Science Alliance Partner Relations Program where she interacted with more than 50 research partners from universities, government and businesses across the U.S. She has also conducted and facilitated training for military personnel, university faculty and staff.

She served on the faculty at Southern Illinois University, where she taught courses in training systems management, distance education and multimedia technologies. She also served as Educational Programs Manager for the NSF Science and Technology Center on Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems, where she managed the daily operations of the Center’s Education program.

Lenear was most recently employed as technology transfer officer for the U.S. Army Engineering Research and Development Center (ERDC). In this role, she assisted research staff in identifying appropriate authorities and in preparing and negotiating agreements for entering into research and development partnerships with industry, aca-

demia, and non-Federal government agencies.

Lenear was diagnosed with stage III ovarian cancer in 2016. During that time of chemotherapy, God reminded Lenear of His love for her and He reminded her to recall the scriptures: “By His stripes, I’m healed;” “I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me;” and “I shall live and not die and shall declare HIS works and recount the illustrious acts of the Lord.”

As a result of this experience, Lenear wrote and published a book along with recording a sophomore CD both entitled “Prevailing Faith.” Lenear’s battle with cancer was extended and she did not waiver. She fought a good fight, she finished her course and she kept the faith.

Lenear served her community faithfully, as a celebrated vocalist, as a former member of Canaan Baptist Church (Urbana), and as a charter member of Grace Fellowship Church (Champaign).

Lenear was also active as founder and president of the Center for Educational Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (CEESTEM), a nonprofit organization whose goal is to increase minority youth participation in STEM fields.

Whether she was taking her young scholars to the Construction Engineering and Research Laboratory each month for lab experience or organizing a Washington D.C. tour that included a visit to the National African American

Museum, Lenear led with excellence.

It was Dr. Lenear’s desire to return to her roots and encourage youth to be all that God has called them to be. She fulfilled that desire through CEE-STEM. She was dedicated to the call to mentor and encourage. Her life’s motto was: “If I can help somebody, as I pass along, then my living will not be in vain.”

Lenear accepted her call to the ministry and preached her first sermon June 23, 2019.

Lenear transitioned to glory April 15, 2020. She was preceded in death by her mother Theresa Slaughter and her husband, Rev. Booth E. Lenear. She leaves to cherish her memory two devoted sons, Stephen Michael and Christopher Daniel Lenear of Urbana; her father, James Slaughter Sr. (Barbara) of Madison, MS; grandson, Zane Greyson; siblings: Patricia Slaughter Mitchell, James Slaughter Jr., Rev. Julius Slaughter, Phyllis Slaughter of Chicago, IL, Jacques Slaughter (Elon) of Champaign, IL, Pamela Slaughter Walker of Lynwood, IL, Paula Slaughter Coleman of Richton Park, IL, Penela Slaughter Lumpkin of Calumet City, IL, Patrice Slaughter Lightfoot of East Hazel Crest, IL, Carletta Slaughter, Jocelyn Slaughter White (Trey) and Jakki Slaughter of Madison, MS; three close friends: Michelle Cooper, Nicole Devitt and Pamela Greer and a host of godchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

# Hinds County School District Weekly Update

## ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

### HCSD Shares Tips on How to Slow or Prevent the spread of COVID-19

- As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses. Based on the latest guidance from MSDH, individuals should adhere to the following:
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home if you are sick.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
  - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based hand rub with at least 70% alcohol.
  - Avoid any gatherings with more than 10 people.

### HCSD to Provide Weekly To-Go Breakfast and Lunch for Students

- The Hinds County School District (HCSD) is now serving to-go meals for students weekly. Students will be given a To-Go Lunch for the day and a breakfast for the following morning. Meals will be provided for children age 18 and under, Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the following school sites:
- BEEMS at 9700 I-20, Bolton, MS 39041
  - GRE at 7255 Gary Road, Byram, MS 39272
  - RES at 417 Palestine Road, Raymond, MS 39154
  - THS at 235 West Beasley Road, Terry, MS 39170
  - UEMS at 260 Highway 18 and 27, Utica, MS 39175

The student must be present in order to receive the meal.

### High Speed Internet Access Survey

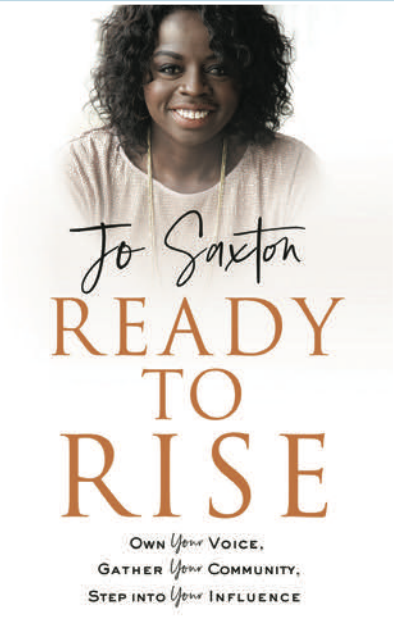
The HCSD is asking all parents to go to the district website at [www.hinds.k12.ms.us](http://www.hinds.k12.ms.us) and take the High-Speed Internet Survey. The information from the survey will allow the district to determine your home internet capability for various devices (desktop computers, laptop computers, and tablets).

### Update Your Contact Information Survey Request

The HCSD is asking any parents who have relocated and/or changed their contact information to go to the district website at [www.hinds.k12.ms.us](http://www.hinds.k12.ms.us) and take the Update Your Contact Information Survey. This will allow the district to better communicate with its parents and mail students their “Blended Study at Home Course Work” during our school closure.







BOOK REVIEW:

READY TO RISE

BY JO SAXTON

C.2020, WATERBOOK

\$16.99 / \$22.99 CANADA • 224 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

You know you have it. There’s all kinds of potential inside you but how can you actually use it? Says author Jo Saxton in her new book “Ready to Rise,” it takes determination, a community, strength, belief in yourself and a little leaning on God. After hearing her seventh-grade daughter give a speech to classmates, Saxton reflected on what her child said and how, as a teenager, Saxton’s daughter understood that she had it with-


in herself to help fix “a broken world.” That was a lesson that Saxton herself didn’t possess at that same age. Born in Nigeria, the child of a broken home, Saxton was raised by an elderly foster mother whom she cared for deeply. Still, she says, she was fearful that something was wrong with her, and leadership was very far from her mind then. “... I was the last person who should be given opportunity for influence,” she muses. Many women are like that, in

that respect, Saxton suggests, and it’s not good – for a woman herself, for any business she may be invested in, or for the world at large. Disempowerment, for example, is detrimental to women who are searching for mentors or “living examples.” As for business, “including women in leadership improves a business’s bottom line,” and diversity improves its culture. Personally, Saxton says that she relies heavily on her faith to find the right path toward influence. She often thinks of the

women in the Bible, the travails they endured, and the actions they took. Biblical tales have many lessons for today’s women and their quest for “faith-shaped purpose...” Embrace the gifts God has given you, Saxton says; He was happy to give them to you, so you should use them. Find your voice and use it, too; outspokenness with purpose is not a bad thing. You are smart; never forget that. Learn to “grow your grit” and build the “village” you need for success. And finally, take care of yourself, in mind,

body, and spirit, and you’ll be amazed at what you can accomplish. The very first thing you need to know about “Ready to Rise” is that it’s very faith-based. That doesn’t at all make this a bad book, but it’s absolutely going to change the audience for it: women who’re looking for a strictly-business book will want to look elsewhere. Yes, the advice here is solid and do-able, especially for the woman who truly needs that first baby-step toward self-confidence, or for the quiet type

who’s newly assimilating into a large corporation. Yes, author Jo Saxton offers a wide variety and range of business-related topics as they relate to women in the workplace, but most of those are woven with mostly Old Testament stories and musings on the life and works of Jesus and several women of the Bible. Again, not bad; just be aware. Men, of course, can read this book but it’s really meant for women who need a faith-based boost. If that’s you, then find it: “Ready to Rise” has potential.



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Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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Monday - Friday  
(Except on legal holiday)

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- Medical License
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**Victim Advocate:** 601-359-3752

**Victim Advocate (Parole):** 601-359-5751

**MS SAVIN Director:** 601-359-5759

**Email:** [victimservices@mdoc.state.ms.us](mailto:victimservices@mdoc.state.ms.us)

**Visit us on the web:** [www.mdoc.ms.gov](http://www.mdoc.ms.gov)

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