

A close-up photograph of the American flag, focusing on the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The stars are embroidered in white. The background is blurred, showing warm, bokeh lights.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The United States Constitution vests all legislative powers of the federal government in a Congress consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives.

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The government of the United States of America is a federal government of the constitutional republic of the 50 states constituting the United States of America, as well as one capitol district and several other territories. The federal government is composed of three distinct branches: legislative, executive and judicial, which powers are vested by the U.S. Constitution in the Congress, the President, and the federal courts, including the Supreme Court, respectively. The powers and duties of these branches are further defined by acts of Congress, including the creation of executive departments and courts inferior to the Supreme Court.

- **Executive Branch** – The executive branch of the government is responsible for enforcing the laws of the land. The president, vice president, department heads (cabinet members), and heads of independent agencies carry out this mission.

- **Judicial Branch** – Courts decide arguments about the meaning of laws and how they are applied. They also decide if laws violate the Constitution—an authority known as judicial review. This authority is how federal courts provide checks and balances on the legislative and executive branches.

- **Legislative Branch** – Article I of the Constitution establishes the legislative or law-making branch of government. It has a bi-cameral Congress—the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives.

CONGRESS

The Congress assembles at least once every year, beginning on the first Monday of December, in the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

Powers granted to Congress by the constitution include imposing and collecting taxes, paying the national debt, regulating international and interstate commerce, establishing military forces, sitting in tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court, and providing for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

THE SENATE

Each state is represented by two Senators who are elected to six-year, staggered terms. Each Senator represents his or her entire state. Reserved to the Senate are the powers of trying all impeachments and reviewing all presidential appointments requiring Senate approval. The Vice President of the United States is President of the Senate, but only votes in case of a tie.

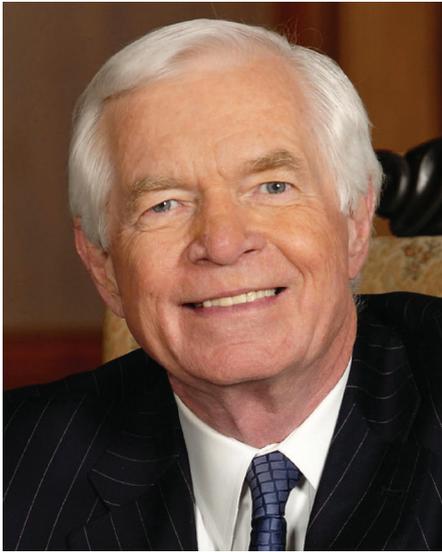
Senators must be at least 30 years of age, a citizen of the United States for nine years, and an inhabitant of the state he or she represents. Senators may be re-elected to consecutive terms.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House of Representatives is composed of members chosen every second year to represent the congressional districts of his or her state. Each state's number of congressional districts is determined by population, with the total membership of the House of Representatives set at 435. Reserved to the House of Representatives is the origination of bills to raise revenue and the sole power of impeachment. The House of Representatives is led by a Speaker who is chosen by the members.

Representatives must be at least 25 years of age, citizens of the United States seven years, and inhabitants of the state they represent. They may be re-elected to consecutive terms.

*Source: The Constitution of the United States of America/
ARTICLE 1 The Congress.*



**U.S. Senator
THAD COCHRAN**

Thad Cochran was born December 7, 1937, in Pontotoc. He is the son of William Holmes Cochran and Emma Grace Cochran, who were educators in Pontotoc, Tippah and Hinds counties.

Cochran was strongly influenced by his parents' careers in education. He and his brother, Nielson, were immersed in academic environments even at young ages. They spent summers at the University of Mississippi as their parents earned Masters degrees and also lived at Blue Mountain College where their parents were members of the faculty.

In 1946, the Cochrans moved to the Byram community of Hinds County near Jackson. There was much time devoted to sports, music, the Boy Scouts and church activities. Cochran became an Eagle Scout and helped establish a new scout troop at Spring Ridge Methodist Church. He served as its first Junior Assistant Scout Master.

At Byram High School, Cochran earned varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball and tennis. Valedictorian of his graduating class, he was also a member of the 4-H Club and Daniel Memorial Baptist Church.

In 1955, Cochran enrolled in the school of liberal arts at the University of Mississippi.

He earned a B.A. degree with a major in psychology and a minor in political science. He was elected president of his social fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, was a company commander in the Navy ROTC, Vice President of the Student Body, and was selected for membership in Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honorary leadership fraternity. During the summers, he worked as a lifeguard at Livingston Lake in Jackson.

When Cochran graduated from Ole Miss in 1959, he was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve and assigned to duty aboard a heavy cruiser, the USS MACON, homeported in Boston. He served on this ship for 18 months becoming the ship's legal officer after graduating as an honor student from the U.S. Navy School of Justice in Newport, Rhode Island. He also became qualified as Officer of the Deck, in port and underway.

When his ship was decommissioned in January 1961, he was assigned to the staff of the Commandant of the 8th Naval District in New Orleans to complete his two-year tour of active duty in the Navy.

In 1961, Cochran enrolled in the School of Law at the University of Mississippi. While in law school, he won the Frederick Hamel Memorial Award for having the highest scholastic average in the first year class. He was selected for membership in Phi Delta Phi, honorary legal fraternity; served on the editorial board of the Mississippi Law Journal; argued before the Mississippi Supreme Court as a moot court finalist; and was elected Chairman of the Honor Council.

Before graduating from law school, Cochran was awarded a Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship and studied jurisprudence and international law for a year at Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland. During this year abroad, he spoke to numerous Rotary Clubs and other groups in Ireland on the subject of the civil rights struggle in Mississippi and the United States. He also won the Hillary Term Moot Court competition sponsored by the Dublin Law Society.

On June 6, 1964, he was married at the First Methodist Church in New Albany, to Rose Clayton, who had graduated from the

University of Mississippi in 1963.

In his final year of law school at Ole Miss, he served as Article Editor of the Mississippi Law Journal and was selected for membership in Phi Kappa Phi, a national honorary scholastic fraternity. Several years later when he delivered the graduation address at the law school, Dean Parham Williams observed that Thad Cochran's law school grade point average was the third highest of all students who had graduated from the Ole Miss law school during the decade of the 1960s.

During his summer vacation in law school, Cochran returned to active duty in the Navy and taught military law and naval orientation at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

After graduating from law school, he joined the firm of Watkins & Eager in Jackson. He was made a partner in the firm in only two and one-half years.

Cochran served as President of the Jackson Men's Y Club, member of the Board of the Jackson Rotary Club and member of the Board of Mississippi Opera, Inc. He organized the first Mississippi chapter of the American Field Service and served as charter president to sponsor foreign exchange programs for high school students.

He was Chairman of the Legal Services program of the Jackson Junior Bar, Chairman of the Mississippi Law Institute, a continuing legal education program for Mississippi lawyers, and President of the Young Lawyers Division of the Mississippi Bar Association. In 1971, Cochran was named by the Jaycees as Jackson's Young Man of the Year and as one of the three Outstanding Young Men of the Year in Mississippi.

In 1972, Cochran was elected United States Congressman for the Fourth District which included 12 counties in southwest Mississippi. He was appointed to the Public Works and Transportation Committee, which had jurisdiction over economic development, transportation and flood control.

As a member of Congress, Cochran also served on a Republican task force to study the energy crisis, and he contributed to the

writing of a report that was published in book form by the House Republican Conference. He was appointed later to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and the Select Committee on Ethics which wrote a new ethics code for members of Congress.

After winning re-election to the House in 1974, Cochran was elected by his colleagues to represent the southern states on the House Republican Policy Committee. He was re-elected to the House of Representatives again in 1976. In both of his races for re-election, he received more than 70 percent of the votes.

In 1978, Cochran was elected to the United States Senate, becoming the first Republican in more than 100 years to win a statewide election in Mississippi. He has since been re-elected five times and is currently serving his sixth term in office.

As a member of the Senate, Cochran has served as Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference; Chairman of the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee; and Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. Cochran currently serves as Ranking Member of the full Appropriations Committee.

He is the Ranking Member of two Appropriations subcommittees, the Subcommittee on Defense and the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. He also serves as a member of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; and the Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Joint Committee on the Library, which oversees the activities of the Library of Congress.

Cochran's legislative record includes the sponsorship of the National Missile Defense Act of 1999, the Campaign Finance Reform Act, as well as key provisions of several farm bills. Cochran has also written legislation supporting education programs such as teacher training, vocational education, libraries, and educational television. He served as a member of the National Education Goals Panel.

Senator Cochran's leadership and assistance has contributed to the funding of various university-based research projects. Some of these include: energy, agriculture, and forestry facilities at Mississippi State

University; the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials at the University of Southern Mississippi; the Natural Products Center, Water and Wetlands Center, and Food Service Management Institute at the University of Mississippi; the National Warmwater Aquaculture Research Center at Stoneville; and the Jackson Heart Study at Jackson State University and the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Cochran authored the Mississippi Wilderness Act which is the first federal legislation ever passed for the perpetual protection of lands in the State of Mississippi. He also helped establish national wildlife refuges as a member of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, and he authored the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. In 1994, he was named by Ducks Unlimited as Conservationist of the Year in Mississippi. He was named Conservationist of the Year in 1996 by the North American Waterfowl Federation and received the Conservation Achievement Award from the National Wildlife Federation. He has received the Lifetime Achievement Award of The Nature Conservancy.

Cochran has helped develop, maintain, and improve the Natchez Trace Parkway, the Natchez Historical Park, the Vicksburg National Military Park and the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

As a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, he has worked successfully to support the Navy's shipbuilding programs and the military bases and installations in Mississippi. Senator Cochran has served on the Board of Visitors of the Air Force Academy, as Chairman of the Board at the Military Academy at West Point, and as a member of the Board of Visitors at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Cochran used his role as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee to advance legislation providing over \$87 billion in supplemental federal assistance to Mississippi and other states affected by Hurricane Katrina.

During previous Congresses, Cochran served on the Senate Ethics Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Labor and Human Resources Committee, and the Committee on Indian Affairs. Service on these committees

has enabled him to be actively involved in the writing of laws affecting a wide range of issues including rural development, health care, and criminal law.

Senator Cochran has been awarded honorary degrees from Kentucky Wesleyan College, Mississippi College, Blue Mountain College, the University of Richmond and Tougaloo College. He is a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution and the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees.

Cochran is a member of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson. He and his wife Rose have two children and three grandchildren.

Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office
U.S. Senate
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2402
(202) 224-5054

Jackson Office
190 East Capitol Street, Suite 550
Jackson 39201
(601) 965-4459

Oxford Office
911 East Jackson Avenue, Suite 249
Oxford 38655
(662) 236-1018

Gulf Coast Office
2012 15th Street, Suite 451
Gulfport 39501
(228) 867-9710

senator@cochran.senate.gov
www.cochran.senate.gov



**U.S. Senator
ROGER WICKER**

Roger F. Wicker has represented Mississippi in the United States Senate since December 2007. During his time in the Senate, Wicker has championed pro-growth policies to create jobs and has worked to reduce spending, limit federal overreach, and maintain a strong national defense.

Wicker serves as Deputy Whip and is a member of the Armed Services Committee; the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee; the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; and the Veterans Affairs Committee. As Deputy Whip, Wicker works alongside Republican Whip Jon Kyl to promote a conservative agenda and build support for the legislative plan.

Senator Wicker has been a strong advocate for economic development initiatives to help keep Mississippians competitive in a global marketplace. He has been honored by the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) for his work on pro-growth, pro-manufacturing policies in Congress. His advocacy for programs such as the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration has led to hundreds of millions of dollars in private

investment in predominantly rural areas.

Senator Wicker has actively supported cancer survivorship programs and efforts to fight heart disease with the American Heart Association, diabetes and childhood obesity. He has been recognized twice as a “champion” of polio eradication for his work to wipe out polio worldwide. In 2003, he was one of three federal lawmakers to be presented the American Cancer Society’s Capitol Dome Award for leadership in securing bipartisan support for programs “to address the devastating impact cancer has on individuals, families and communities throughout the U.S.”

Senator Wicker is the co-founder of the Senate Malaria Caucus and has worked to eliminate this preventable disease. He was recognized by the American Heart Association which presented Wicker with its 1998 National Public Service Award. He was honored for developing an initiative to fund new, state-based disease prevention strategies and information activities.

He has been instrumental in bringing more research funding to Mississippi universities for a wide range of health-related projects to fight disease and improve quality of life. Most notably, Wicker authored the Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education (MD CARE) Act of 2001, which created NIH centers of excellence to coordinate and enhance muscular dystrophy research. The Wicker Project at Children’s National Medical Center is a leader in muscular dystrophy research.

Prior to his service in the Senate, Wicker was elected seven times, beginning in 1994, to represent Mississippi’s First Congressional District in the House of Representatives. Before being elected to Congress, he served in the state Senate representing Lee and Pontotoc counties.

As a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Wicker served on the leadership team as deputy whip. In 2001, he was elected to the Republican Policy Committee and was re-elected to that position in 2007.

He served on the House Appropriations Committee, a seat he received as a freshman

in 1995. He was a member of the Defense Subcommittee and in 2007 was named ranking minority member of the Military Construction/VA Subcommittee. As the top Republican on the panel, his responsibilities encompassed helping fund wide-ranging activities affecting veterans including health care, construction of VA health facilities, pensions and benefits as well as military construction projects in the U.S. and around the world.

Senator Wicker served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force and then joined the Air Force Reserve. He retired from the Reserve in 2004 with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

A native of Pontotoc, the Senator is the son of former Circuit Judge Fred Wicker and the late Mrs. Wordna Wicker. He was educated in the public schools of Pontotoc and received his B.A. and law degrees from the University of Mississippi. While at Ole Miss, Wicker served as the Associated Student body President and was inducted into the Hall of Fame. Wicker is a member of the First Baptist Church of Tupelo, where he sings in the choir. He formerly served as chairman of the deacons at First Baptist Church.

Active in his community, Wicker is a member of the Community Development Foundation and the Lions Club, where he has served as vice president.

Senator Wicker is married to the former Gayle Long of Tupelo. They have three children: Margaret and son-in-law Manning McPhillips; Caroline and son-in-law Kirk Sims; and McDaniel Wicker; and two grandchildren: Caroline and Henry McPhillips.

Contact Information:*Washington, D.C. Office*

555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-6253/F (202) 228-0378

Jackson Office

U.S. Federal Courthouse
501 East Court Street, Suite 3-500
Jackson 39201
(601) 965-4644/F (601) 965-4007

Gulfport Office

452 Courthouse Road
Suite F
Gulfport 39507
(228) 604-2383/F (228) 896-4359

Pascagoula Office

3118 Pascagoula Street
Suite 179
Pascagoula 39567
(228) 762-5400/F (228) 762-0137

Tupelo Office

2801 West Main Street
P.O. Box 3777
Tupelo 38803
(662) 844-5010/F (662) 844-5030

Hernando Office

321 Loshier Street
P.O. Box 385
Hernando 38632
(662) 429-1002/F (662) 429-6002

senator@wicker.senate.gov
www.wicker.senate.gov



**Congressman First District
ALAN NUNNELEE**

Congressman Alan Nunnelee represents the citizens of Mississippi's First Congressional District. On January 5, 2011, he first took the Oath of Office to support and defend our Constitution. He was re-elected in 2012. Nunnelee believes that the strength of America lies in its people, neighborhoods, churches and communities, not the federal government. Nunnelee is known for his conservative, pro-life, pro-family, fiscally responsible values and is a defender of the Second Amendment. Congressman Nunnelee currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee and the Agriculture, Energy and Water and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittees.

Before joining Congress, Nunnelee represented Lee and Pontotoc counties in the Mississippi State Senate. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and was a leader on several national committees addressing public health issues. He was instrumental in bringing comprehensive tort reform to Mississippi. Nunnelee has also been nationally recognized for his success in

making Mississippi the safest place for unborn children. In 2001, Nunnelee passed legislation to place our national motto, "In God We Trust" on the wall of every school classroom in Mississippi without spending any tax dollars to achieve this goal.

He has been rated as a Business Champion for his support of issues relating to the free enterprise system as well as recognized by the Mississippi Lions Eye Bank for invaluable service to the blind. The Mississippi Farm Bureau named him the "Friend of Agriculture" in 2001 for his outstanding contribution to agriculture and rural Mississippi.

Nunnelee is a graduate of Mississippi State University. Prior to Congress, he was Vice President of Allied Funeral Associates, a life insurance company and a member of the Community Development Foundation's board of directors.

Nunnelee is a deacon and Sunday School teacher at Calvary Baptist. He and his wife Tori have three children: Reed who is married to Kemily, Emily who is married to Trey, and Nathan who is married to Colleen. Nunnelee and Tori also have two grandchildren, Thomas Kemp and Harper Grace Nunnelee.

Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4306/F (202) 225-3549

Columbus Office
318 N. Seventh Street, Ste. D
P.O. Box 1012
Columbus 39701
(662) 327-0748/F (662) 328-5982

Hernando Office
133 East Commerce
P.O. Box 218
Hernando 38632
(662) 449-3090/F (662) 449-4836

Tupelo Office
337 A East Main Street, Ste. 450
Tupelo 38804
(662) 841-8808/F (662) 841-8845



Congressman Second District
BENNIE THOMPSON

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson is a firm believer in giving back to those who afforded him an opportunity to serve. His 45 years of public service are a testament to his unwavering dedication to fulfill their expectations and to be the resounding voice for the constituents of the Second District of Mississippi.

While earning his Bachelor of Science and Masters of Science degrees from Tougaloo College and Jackson State University, respectively, Thompson began to develop his grassroots political activism. He joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and helped to organize voter registration drives for African-Americans in the Mississippi Delta. As a product of the Civil Rights Movement, Thompson has remained committed to ensuring that all people are allowed to exercise their fundamental rights.

After graduating from college, Thompson followed in the footsteps of his mother and worked as a schoolteacher. It was during this time that he began to pursue aggressively a career in politics.

From 1968 to 1972, Thompson served as alderman, and he went on to serve as

mayor from 1973 to 1980 in Bolton. As Bolton mayor and as founding member and President of the Mississippi Association of Black Mayors, he initiated policies and provided services benefitting the underserved citizens of his hometown. Thompson made sure that resources were invested to improve the city's infrastructure, paved streets in rural areas, renovated dilapidated houses in developing neighborhoods, spearheaded the construction of a city hall and reevaluated the town's real estate to reflect accurate values.

In 1975, having firsthand knowledge of the disparity between funding, equipment, and supplies provided to historically black universities and those provided to white colleges, Thompson filed a lawsuit to increase funding at Mississippi's historically black universities. With Thompson as lead plaintiff, the Ayers case was subsequently settled for an unprecedented \$503 million.

From 1980 to 1993, Thompson served as Hinds County Supervisor and was the founding member and President of the state's Association of Black Supervisors. His reputation of being a pragmatic local public servant afforded him an opportunity to be the vocal champion for his constituents.

In 1993, Thompson was elected the Democratic Congressman for Mississippi's Second District. Presently serving his ninth term as Congressman and being the longest-serving African-American elected official in the state of Mississippi, Thompson's stellar voting record is indicative of his determination to be an activist for reform. Congressman Thompson has served on the Agriculture, Budget and Small Business Committees.

In 2000, Thompson authored legislation creating the National Center for Minority Health and Health Care Disparities, which subsequently became law. He received a Presidential appointment to serve on the National Council on Health Planning and Development.

In August 2005, the State of Mississippi was devastated by the natural disasters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Thompson aggressively advocated for disaster relief

improvements within government agencies, and provided oversight to ensure that federal funds were properly allocated for Gulf Coast recovery.

In 2006, Thompson was chosen to serve as the first Democratic Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. As Chairman, Congressman Thompson introduced and engineered House passage of the most comprehensive homeland security package since September 11, 2001 – H.R. 1, the “9/11 Commission Recommendations Act of 2007.” Thompson is now serving his third term as Chairman.

Thompson’s 26 years of experience as a volunteer firefighter motivates him to aggressively advocate on behalf of our law enforcement and first responders. He believes that they should receive the necessary resources and tools to effectively respond to any and all emergencies.

Thompson is a lifelong member of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Bolton, Mississippi. He has been married to his college sweetheart, London Johnson of Mound Bayou, for 44 years. The couple has one daughter BendaLonne, one granddaughter Jeanna, and one grandson Thomas Gordon.

Thompson is an avid outdoorsman. He also enjoys gardening, reading, and listening to blues music.

Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office
2466 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5876/F (202) 225-5898

Bolton Office
107 West Madison Street
Bolton 39041
(601) 866-9003/F (601) 866-9036
(800) 355-9003 (In State)

Greenville Office
910 Courthouse Lane
Greenville 38701
(662) 335-9003/F (662) 334-1304

Greenwood Office
509 Highway 82 West
Greenwood 38930
(662) 455-9003/F (662) 453-0118

Jackson Office
3607 Medgar Evers Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39213
(601) 946-9003/F (601) 982-5337

Marks Office
P.O. Box 356
263 East Main Street
Marks, MS 38646
(662) 326-9003

Mound Bayou Office
City Hall
P.O. Box 679
106 Green Avenue, Suite 106
Mound Bayou, MS 38762
(662) 741-9003/F (662) 741-9002

www.house.gov/writerep
www.benniethompson.house.gov



Congressman Third District
GREGG HARPER

Gregg Harper was re-elected November 2012 to serve his third term in the U.S. House of Representatives, after having been first elected to Congress in November 2008. He has lived in Mississippi's Third Congressional District since 1972 and currently resides in Pearl with his wife of 33 years, Sidney, and their two children, Livingston and Maggie. The Harpers are active members of Crossgates Baptist Church in Brandon where Harper serves as a deacon.

Harper serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and is a member of three subcommittees: Environment and the Economy; Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade and Oversight and Investigation. Additionally, he has been appointed by Speaker John Boehner to serve his second term on the Committee on House Administration, where he serves as chairman of the Subcommittee on Elections, and to the Committee on Ethics. For the past two terms in Congress, his peers have elected him as their class's representative on the Republican Steering Committee. He also serves as chair of the Joint Committee of the Library of

Congress.

Prior to his swearing-in, Harper practiced law for 27 years, including serving as the prosecuting attorney for the cities of Brandon and Richland, and also served on the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board. Harper is active in his community as a member of both the Pearl and Rankin County Chambers of Commerce. A strong advocate for our Second Amendment rights, he is a Life Member of the National Rifle Association.

The son of a former petroleum engineer and a mom who worked two days a week until she was 88 years old, Harper learned at a young age the value of hard work and the importance of a solid education. Harper and his wife are both graduates of Mississippi College, where he majored in chemistry and then earned his law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1981.

Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office
 307 Cannon HOB
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-5031/F (202)225-5797

Meridian Office
 1901 Front St., Suite A
 Meridian 39301
 (601) 693-6681/F (601) 693-1801

Starkville Office
 1 Research Blvd. Suite 206
 Starkville 39759
 (662) 324-0007/F (662) 324-0033

Brookhaven Office
 230 South Whitworth Street
 Brookhaven 39601
 (601) 823-3400/F (601) 823-5512

Pearl Office
 2507-A Old Brandon Road
 Pearl 39208
 (601) 932-2410/F (601) 932-4647

www.harper.house.gov
www.house.gov/writerep



Congressman Fourth District
STEVEN PALAZZO

Congressman Steven M. Palazzo represents the Fourth Congressional District of Mississippi and some of the finest people in the country. Like them, Palazzo believes in limited government, a strong defense, and the need for common-sense solutions to today's challenges.

Congressman Palazzo was sworn into office on January 5, 2011, and serves on the House Armed Services and Science, Space and Technology committees.

Born in Gulfport, Palazzo attended Saint John's High School before earning his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in accounting from the University of Southern Mississippi. During college, Palazzo met his wife Lisa and they are the proud parents of three children. The Palazzo family attends St. James Catholic Church.

In 1988, Palazzo enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves. As a member of 3rd Force Reconnaissance, he celebrated his 21st birthday in the deserts of the Middle East while serving in the Persian Gulf War. After finishing his tour in the Marine Corps, he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard, where he still serves.

Palazzo and his wife started a small business in 2001, giving him a unique perspective on what it means to create jobs and manage a budget. Over time, they have been able to grow their CPA firm into a successful agency that specializes in helping Americans living abroad with their income taxes.

In 2006, Palazzo was elected in a special election to the Mississippi House of Representatives. A year later, he was elected to a full term. During his time in the state legislature, Palazzo utilized his background in business to push through a tax cut for Mississippians and authored a resolution reaffirming the 10th Amendment, which properly defines a limited role for the federal government by reserving power for the states.

Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office
 331 Cannon HOB
 Washington, DC 20515
 (202) 225-5772/F (202) 225-7074

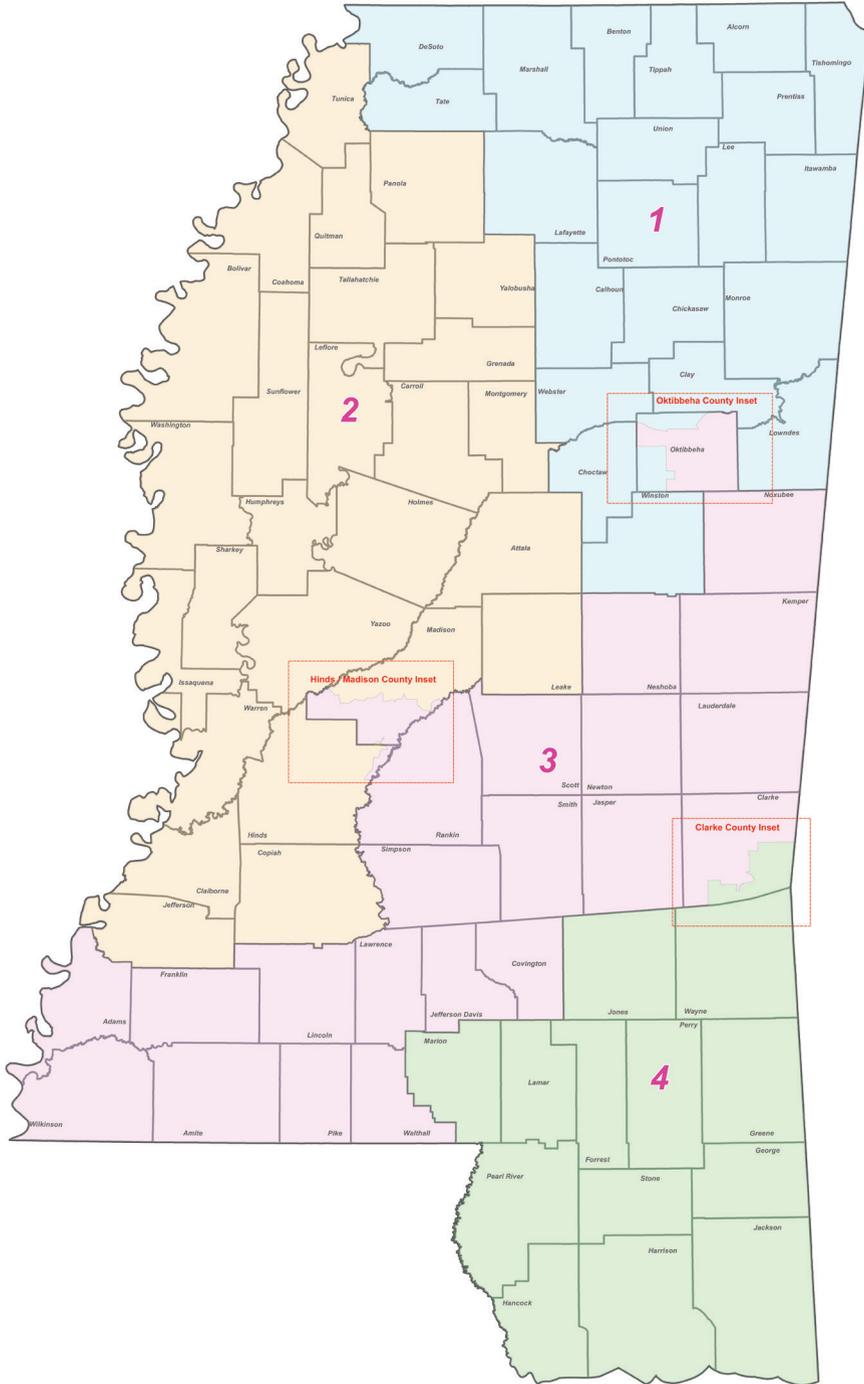
Gulfport Office
 1325 25th Avenue
 Gulfport 39501
 (228) 864-7670/F (228) 864-3099

Pascagoula Office
 3118 Pascagoula St., Suite 181
 Pascagoula 39567
 (228) 202-8104/F (228) 202-8105

Hattiesburg Office
 641 Main Street, Suite 215
 Hattiesburg 39401
 (601) 582-3246/F (601) 582-3246

www.palazzo.house.gov
www.house.gov/writerep

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS



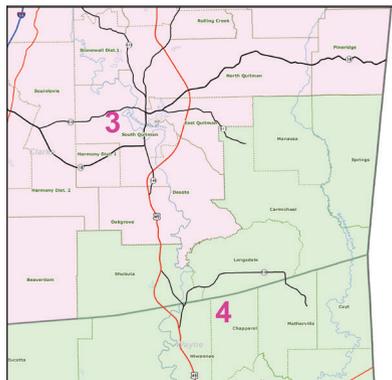
SPLIT-COUNTY DISTRICTS



Hinds County/Madison County Inset



Oktibbeha County Inset



Clarke County Inset

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FIFTH FEDERAL JUDICIAL CIRCUIT***(Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas)***CIRCUIT JUDGES**

Carl E. Stewart, Chief Judge . . . 300 Fannin St., Ste. 2299 (318) 676-3765
Shreveport, LA 71101-3074

Carolyn D. King 515 Rusk St., U.S. Courthouse, Rm. 11020 (713) 250-5750
Houston, TX 77002-2694

E. Grady Jolly 501 E. Court Street, Rm. 3.850 (601) 608-4745
Jackson, MS 39201

W. Eugene Davis 800 Lafayette St., Ste. 5100 (337) 593-5280
Lafayette, LA 70501-6883

Edith H. Jones 515 Rusk St., U.S. Courthouse, Rm 12505 (713) 250-5484
Houston, TX 7002-2655

Jerry E. Smith 515 Rusk St., U.S. Courthouse, Rm. 12621 (713) 250-5101
Houston, TX 77002-2698

James L. Dennis. 600 Camp St., Rm. 219 (504) 310-8000
New Orleans, LA 70130-3425

Edith Brown Clement 600 Camp St., Rm. 200 (504) 310-8068
New Orleans, LA 70130-3425

Edward Charles Prado McCombs Plaza Bldg. (210) 472-4060
755 E. Mulberry Ave., Ste. 350
San Antonio, TX 78212-3186

Priscilla Richman Owen 903 San Jacinto Blvd., Rm. 310 (512) 916-5167
Austin, TX 78701-2450

Jennifer Walker Elrod 515 Rusk St., .S. Courthouse Rm. 12014 (713) 525-2950
Houston, TX 77002-2600

Leslie H. Southwick. 501 E. Court Street, Suite 3.750 (601) 608-4760
Jackson, MS 39201-2413

Catharina Haynes 1100 Commerce Street, Rm. 1302 (214) 753-2750
Dallas, TX 75242

James E. Graves, Jr. 501 E. Court Street, Suite 3.550 (601) 608-4775
Jackson, MS 39201

Stephen A. Higginson 600 Camp St., Rm. 300 (601) 310-8228
New Orleans, LA 70130

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Austin, TX 78701-2450

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New Orleans, LA 70130

Circuit Clerk

- Lyle W. Cayce 600 S. Maestri Place (504) 310-7700
New Orleans, LA 70130

Senior Staff Attorney

- Mikel E. Schneider 600 S. Maestri Place (504) 310-8504
New Orleans, LA 70130

Circuit Librarian

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New Orleans, LA 70130

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- Gina P. Kilgore 911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622 (662) 234-1971

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Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Sallie Wilkerson911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622(662) 234-1538

Court Reporter

Rita Davis Sisk911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622(662) 281-3027

Judge

VACANT305 Main St., Rm. 329, Greenville 38701-4013(662) 335-4416

Courtroom Deputy Clerk

VACANT305 Main St., Rm. 329, Greenville 38701-4013(662) 335-1651

Court Reporter

Susan May305 Main St., Rm. 329, Greenville 38701-4013(662) 335-4416

Judge

Sharion Aycock301 West Commerce St. #321, Aberdeen 39730(662) 369-2628

Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Ginger SiskP.O. Box 704, Aberdeen 39730(662) 369-4952

Court Reporter

Phyllis K. McLarty301 W. Commerce St., Aberdeen 39730(662) 369-1017

Senior Judges

Neal B. Biggers, Jr.911 Jackson Ave., Oxford 38655-3622(662) 234-3401

Glen H. DavidsonP.O. Drawer 767, Aberdeen 39730-0767(662) 369-6486

Courtroom Deputy Clerks

Nita S. Morris911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622(662) 234-1971

Raye E. LongP.O. Box 704, Aberdeen 39730-0704.(662) 369-4952

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Jane M. Virden305 Main Street Rm. 329, Greenville 38701.(662) 335-9214

Divisions

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Delta911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622(662) 234-1971

Western911 Jackson Ave., Rm. 369, Oxford 38655-3622(662) 234-1971

United States Attorney

Felicia Adams900 Jefferson Ave., Oxford 38655(662) 234-3351

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

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J.T. Noblin501 E. Court Street, Suite 2.500, Jackson 39201(601) 608-4000

P.O. Box 23552, Jackson 39225-3552

Divisions

Jackson, West, East501 E. Court Street, Suite 2.500, Jackson 39201(601) 608-4000

P.O. Box 23552, Jackson 39225-3552

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Southern2012 15th St., Ste. 403, Gulfport 39501(228) 563-1700

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Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Carol Gray2012 15th St., Ste. 814, Gulfport 39501(228) 563-1767

District Judge

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Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Twana Summers501 E. Court Street, Suite 6.750, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4100

District Judge

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Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Shane Powell501 E. Court Street, Suite 5.750, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4120

District Judge

Carlton W. Reeves501 E. Court Street, Ste 5.550, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4140

Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Joyce Smith501 E. Court Street, Ste 5.550, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4140

District Judge

Keith Starrett701 N. Main St., Ste. 228, Hattiesburg 39401 (601) 583-4422

Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Sharon Potin701 N. Main St., Ste. 228, Hattiesburg 39401 (601) 583-4422

District Judge

Sul Ozerden2012 15th St., Ste. 714, Gulfport 39501 (228) 679-1070

Courtroom Deputy Clerk

Anne Scafide2012 15th St., Ste. 714, Gulfport 39501 (228) 669-1070

Senior Judges

Walter J. Gex III2012 15th St., Ste. 572, Gulfport 39501 (228) 563-1732

William H. Barbour, Jr.501 E. Court Street, Suite 4.550, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4400

Tom S. Lee501 E. Court Street, Suite 4.756, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4420

David Bramlette, IIIP.O. Box 928, Natchez 39121 (601) 442-3006

Courtroom Deputy Clerks

Lisa Evans501 E. Court Street, Suite 4.756, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4420

Debra JacksonP.O. Box 928, Natchez 39121 (601) 442-3006

Magistrate Judges

John Roper, Chief Magistrate. . .2012 15th St., Ste. 870, Gulfport 39501 (228) 563-1779

F. Keith Ball501 E. Court Street, Suite 5.150, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4460

Robert H. Walker2012 15th St., Ste. 672, Gulfport 39501 (228) 563-1720

Michael T. Parker701 N. Main St., Ste. 216, Hattiesburg 39401 (601) 544-9100

Linda Anderson501 E. Court Street, Suite 6.150, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4440

Courtroom Deputy Clerks

Vicki Kelly2012 15th St., Ste. 870, Gulfport 39501 (228) 563-1779

Jackie E. Jones501 E. Court Street, Suite 5.150, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4460

Sandra Ryan2012 15th St., Ste. 672, Gulfport 39501 (228) 563-1720

Kim Mitchell701 N. Main St., Ste. 216, Hattiesburg 39401 (601) 544-9100

Winnie Goodwin501 E. Court Street, Suite 6.150, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4440

Court Reporters—Jackson

Cherie Bond501 E. Court Street, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4186

Gina Morris501 E. Court Street, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4487

Brenda Wolverton501 E. Court Street, Jackson 39201 (601) 608-4188

Court Reporter—Hattiesburg

Fred Jeske701 N. Main St., Ste. 253, Hattiesburg 39401 (601) 583-4383

Court Reporters—Gulfport

Teri Norton2012 15th St., Gulfport 39501(228) 563-1748
 Kati Vogt2012 15th St., Gulfport 39501(228) 563-1751

United States Attorney

Gregory K. Davis501 E. Court St., Ste. 4.430, Jackson 39201(601) 965-4480
 1575 20th Ave., 2nd Floor, Gulfport 39501(228) 563-1560

Satellite Librarian

Rosemarie Tominello501 E. Court St., Rm. 1.500, Jackson 39201-5002(601) 608-4800

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Judges

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 Neil P. Olack*P.O. Box 2448, Jackson 39225-2448(601) 608-4690
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Henry G. Hobbs400 Poydras St., Texaco Center, Ste. 2110(504) 589-4018
 New Orleans, LA 70130

Assistant U.S. Trustee

Ronald H. McAlpin501 E. Court St., Ste. 6.430, Jackson 39201 (601) 965-5241

Chapter 7 Panel

Eileen N. Shaffer401 E. Capitol St., Ste 316, Jackson 39215 (601) 969-3006

Derek A. Henderson1765-A Lelia Drive, Ste. 103 Jackson, 39216 (601) 948-3167

J. Stephen Smith5 Old River Pl., Ste. 107, Jackson 39202 (601) 352-6767

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Chapter 12

Harold J. Barkley, Jr.P.O. Box 4476, Jackson 39296-4476 (601) 362-6161

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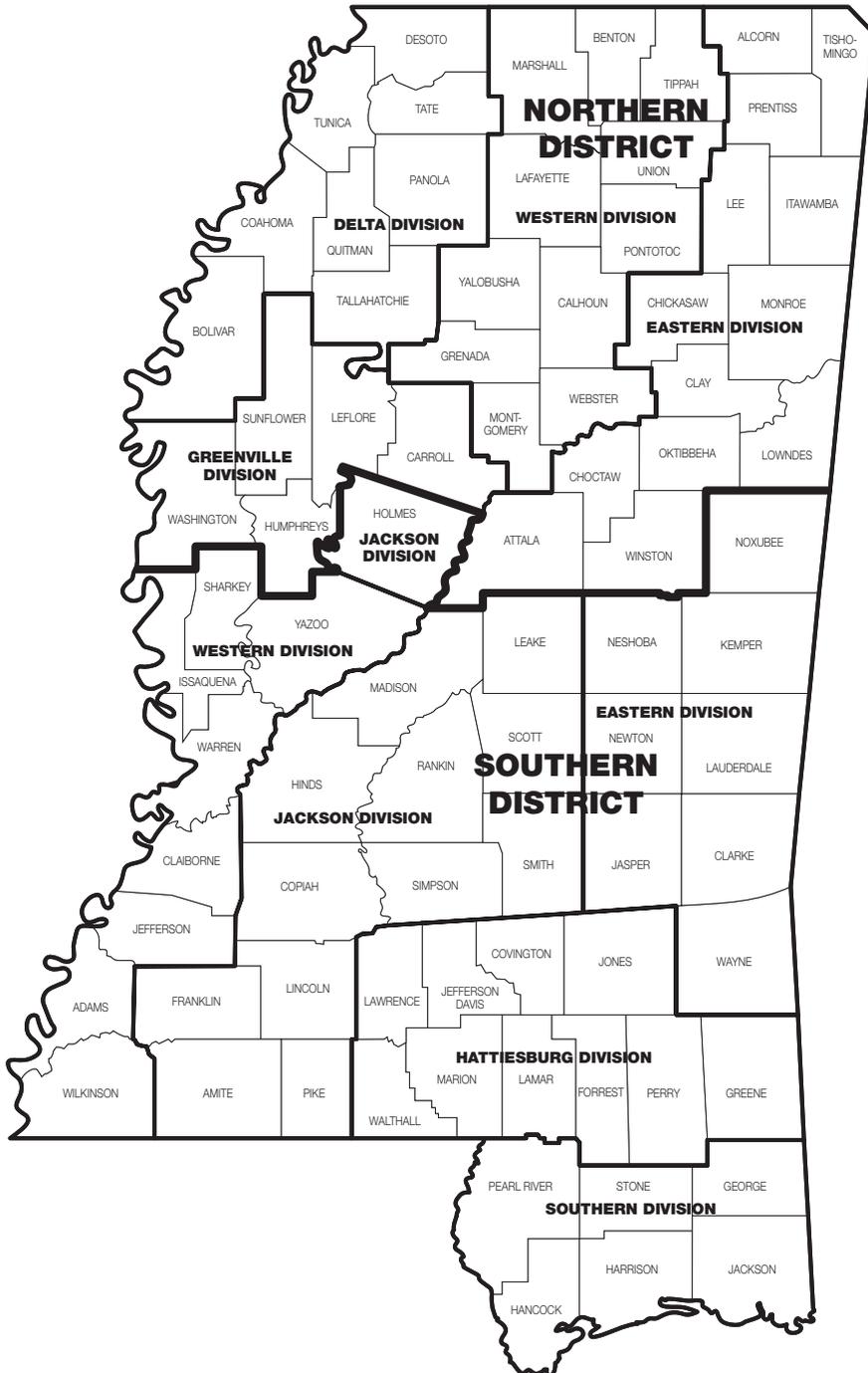
Harold J. Barkley, Jr.P.O. Box 4476, Jackson 39296-4476 (601) 362-6161

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UNITED STATES FLAG ETIQUETTE

The following flag laws and regulations are contained in the Public Law as amended July 7, 1976, by the 94th Congress of the United States. They set forth the existing rules, customs, and etiquette pertaining to the display and use of the flag of the United States of America.

Section 1

The following codification of existing rules and customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag of the United States of America shall be and is hereby established for the use of such civilians or civilian groups or organizations as may not be required to conform with regulations promulgated by one or more executive departments of the Government of the United States.

The flag of the United States, for purposes of this chapter, shall be defined according to Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1, §§ 1 and 2, and Executive Order 10834 issued pursuant thereto.

Section 2

(a) It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaves in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

(b) The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered cautiously.

(c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is displayed.

(d) The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on New Year's Day, January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, third Monday in February; Easter Sunday (variable); Mother's Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Constitution Day, September 17; Columbus Day, second Monday in October; Navy Day, October 27; Veterans Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November; Christmas

Day, December 25; and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of States (date of admission); and on State holidays.

(e) The flag should be displayed daily, on or near the main administration building of every public institution.

(f) The flag should be displayed in or near every polling place on election days.

(g) The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse.

Section 3

The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag or flags, should be on the marching right, that is, the flag's own right; or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.

(a) The flag should not be displayed on a float in a parade except from a staff, or as provided in subsection (i).

(b) The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or boat. When the flag is displayed on a motor car, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.

(c) No other flag or pennant should be placed above or, if on the same level, to the right of the flag of the United States of America, except during church services conducted by naval chaplains at sea, when the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for the personnel of the Navy.

(d) The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

(e) The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies

are grouped and displayed from staffs.

(f) When flags of States, cities or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the United States flag's right.

(g) When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.

(h) When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from a windowsill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff. When the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.

(i) When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.

(j) When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.

(k) When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the

right of the audience.

(l) The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.

(m) The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.

On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with the law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of any State, territory or possession of the United States, the Governor of that State, territory or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff. The flag shall be flown at half-staff thirty days from the death of the President or a former President; ten days from the death of a Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives: from the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice President, or the Governor of a State, territory or possession; and on the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress. As used in this subsection:

1. the term "half-staff" means the position of the flag when it is one half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff;
2. the term "executive or military department" means any agency listed under sections 101 and 102 of Title 5, United States Code; and,

3. the term “Member of Congress” means a Senator, a Representative, a Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.

(n) When the flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered in the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

(o) When the flag is suspended across a corridor or lobby in a building with only one main entrance, it should be suspended vertically with the union of the flag to the observer’s left upon entering. If the building has more than one main entrance, the flag should be suspended vertically near the center of the corridor or lobby with the union to the north, when entrances are to the east and west, or to the east when entrances are to the north and south. If there are entrances in more than two directions, the union should be to the east.

Section 4

That no disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America, the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

(a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.

(b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water or merchandise.

(c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.

(d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free. Bunting of blue, white and red, always arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used for covering a speaker’s desk, draping the front of the platform, and for decoration in general.

(e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such manner

as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

(f) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.

(g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature.

(h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything.

(i) The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard.

Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.

(j) No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica, should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.

(k) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

Section 5

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove the headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Aliens should stand at attention. The salute to the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.

Section 6

During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform shall stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.

Section 7

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

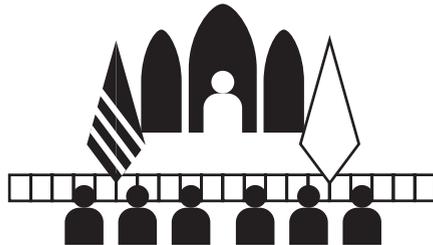
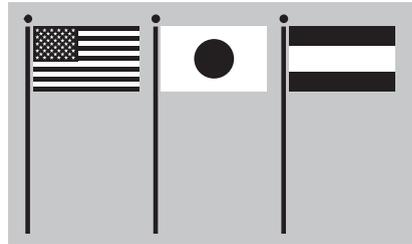
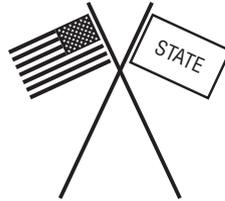
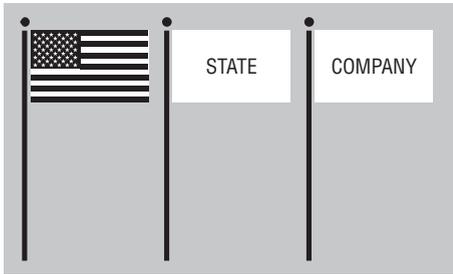
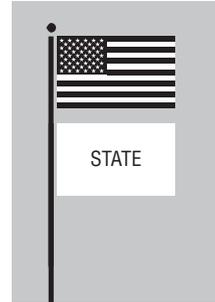
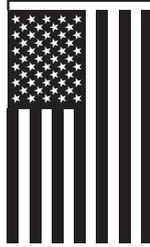
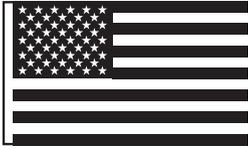
The Pledge should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

Section 8

Any rule or custom pertaining to the display of the flag of the United States of America, set forth herein, may be altered, modified or repealed, or additional rules with respect thereto may be prescribed, by the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, whenever he deems it to be appropriate or desirable; and, any such alteration or additional rule shall be set forth in a proclamation.

No person shall display the flag of the United Nations or any other national or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to, or in place of, the flag of the United States at any place within the United States or any Territory or possession thereof: provided that nothing in this section shall make unlawful the continuance of the practice heretofore followed of displaying the flag of the United Nations in a position of superior prominence or honor, and other national flags in positions of equal prominence or honor, with that of the flag of the United States at the headquarters of the United Nations.

PROPER FLAG DISPLAY



Sources: www.niceflag.com, *United States Code*, *Miss. Code Ann.* (1972).