

The Office of the Mississippi

Secretary of State

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



DELBERT HOSEMAN
Secretary of State

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DELBERT HOSEMAN
Secretary of State

Our Mission

The Secretary of State's Office serves the citizens of the State of Mississippi and fulfills statutory requirements for Business Services, Charities, Education & Publications, Elections, Policy & Research, Public Lands, Regulation & Enforcement and Securities in a transparent, efficient and cost effective manner.



Key Priorities

The Secretary of State's Office has targeted key priorities for fiscal year 2015 and for each of the eight divisions of the Secretary of State's Office. The plans to facilitate these priorities for each division of the Agency are highlighted within this 2015 Annual Report.

Message from Delbert Hosemann



The Office of the Secretary of State was first established in our State's original Constitution in 1817. Over the years, the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State has been entrusted with a number of duties, responsibilities and functions by the State Legislature.

The Agency's functions range from the oversight of 16th Section Lands and Tidelands to scrap metal sales; from the registration of pre-need cemetery plans to the registration of corporations; from conducting elections to conducting investigations of securities firms and charities. The Agency's list lengthens each year as legislation designed to protect our citizens is implemented.

We are proud of the services we provide daily to our citizens, and invite you to contact us for any information or assistance you may need.



DELBERT HOSEMAN
Secretary of State



About the Secretary of State



The Office of the Secretary of State is dedicated to being both a service and information agency. There are eight divisions within the Secretary of State's Office: Business Services, Charities, Education & Publications, Elections, Regulation & Enforcement, Securities, Policy & Research and Public Lands. In addition, the Agency employs executive and administrative staff which help oversee the various functions of the office.

Locations

JACKSON

401 Mississippi Street
Jackson, MS 39201-1004
(601) 359-1350

New Capitol Building, Room 105
Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 359-3123

125 South Congress Street
Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 359-1350

TUPELO

431 West Main Street/Suite 403
Tupelo, MS 38802
(662) 844-0194

HERNANDO

316 West Commerce Street
Hernando, MS 38632-2120
(662) 449-3362

GULFPORT

1701 B 24th Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501-2972
(228) 864-0254

About the Secretary of State



Divisions

Business Services

The *Business Services Division* administers Mississippi's Corporation, LLC and UCC laws and handles filings related to business formations and regulation. The Division also issues notary commissions, registers correspondence schools, and administers trademark, service mark, and non-profit laws. It serves as a default agent for service of process.

Charities

The *Charities Division* registers charitable organizations and professional fundraisers that solicit contributions in the State, in addition to responding to charities complaints and investigating potential charities fraud.

Education & Publications

The *Education & Publications Division* produces and distributes statutory publications of the State, including the Official and Statistical Register, known as the "Blue Book." The Division also oversees the annual K-12 Promote the Vote program and other educational outreach efforts.

Elections

The *Elections Division* administers the State Election Code, trains municipal and county Election Commissioners, and enforces campaign finance and lobbying requirements, as well as supports the Secretary of State in his role as Chief Elections Officer for the State of Mississippi.

Policy & Research

The *Policy & Research Division* acts as a research and development arm for the Agency, looking for new ways to streamline services and develop potential legislation.

Public Lands

The *Public Lands Division* administers and supervises State-owned lands, including 16th Section School Trust Lands, Public Trust Tidelands, Lieu Lands, and Tax-Forfeited Property. Public Lands also maintains an inventory of Agency-held lands.

Regulation & Enforcement

The *Regulation & Enforcement Division* is tasked with regulating pre-need/perpetual care providers, enforcing scrap metal laws in the State, and overseeing administrative procedures for State government. The Division also conducts Scrap Metal Law Enforcement Training.

Securities

The *Securities Division* administers Mississippi's Uniform Securities Laws and investigates securities fraud. The Division also registers State investment advisers, and broker-dealer firms and representatives.

Public Lands



By the Numbers

12,840

16th Section Land leases

\$72.6 million

Revenues from 16th Section leases

\$24 million

Revenue from surface leasing

\$21.7 million

Sales of timber/forest products

\$15.5 million

Oil and gas royalty payments



* All 16th Section Land revenue stays with the local school district

16th SECTION LANDS



This division strives to improve leasing practices on 16th Section Lands for the maximum rate of return for schools.

The Public Lands Division continues to fulfill the constitutional and statutory duties regarding the stewardship of 16th Section Public School Trust Lands and Lieu Lands, timber, and the Public Trust Tidelands.

The Secretary of State serves as supervisory Trustee overseeing the management and leasing of more than 640,000 acres of 16th Section Public School Trust Lands by 103 local school districts. The Public Lands Division strives to improve leasing practices on 16th Section lands and maximize the rate of return.

The Division maintains a map on the Agency website showing the approximate location of all hunting and fishing leases across the State, with rental information and contact information for managing school boards.

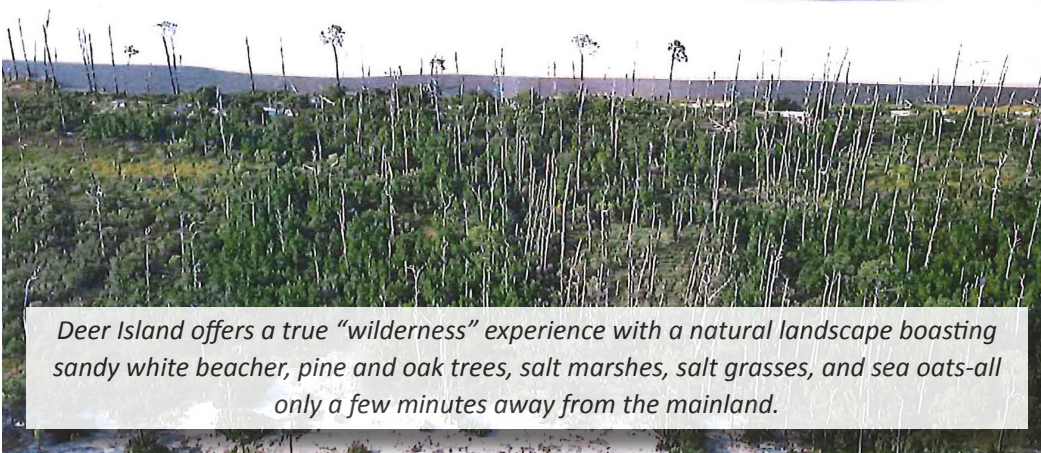
The Agency website also publishes public bid notices for hunting and fishing leases, agricultural leases, sales of timber and other forest products, and oil and gas leases.

The Secretary of State and Mississippi Forestry Commission maintain a cooperative partnership with local school districts to manage timber assets. This division maintains presale inventories of timber sold by lump-sum sale, monitors current timber harvest operations, inspects properties for proper usage and waste, and assists businesses by emerging markets for renewable energy in determining the availability and type of resources available on public school trust lands.

Public Lands



PUBLIC TRUST TIDELANDS



Deer Island offers a true "wilderness" experience with a natural landscape boasting sandy white beaches, pine and oak trees, salt marshes, salt grasses, and sea oats—all only a few minutes away from the mainland.

Public Trust Tidelands and submerged lands are under waters naturally subject to tidal influence. The inland boundary is the mean high tide line established over 19-years epochs, and the seaward boundary is the State boundary, about 10 miles south of the Barrier Islands. These Tidelands are owned by the State in trust for the citizens of Mississippi. The Secretary of State is the trustee of this great public trust.

It is declared to be the public policy of this state to favor the preservation of the natural state of the public trust tidelands and their ecosystems and to prevent the despoliation and destruction of them, except where a specific alteration of specific public trust tidelands would serve a higher

public interest in compliance with the public purpose of the public trust in which such tidelands are held. (Miss. Code Ann. 1972 §29-15-3)

With regard to the Public Trust Tidelands and submerged lands held by the State in trust, the focus of this division is to:

- Protect public use and public access
- Acquire property for preservation and protection in the coastal preserve system
- Support the restoration of degraded public wetlands
- Develop the use of Public Trust Tidelands for recreational and educational purposes which meet the higher purpose for which the trust was established

By the Numbers

1700s - 1800s

Deer Island was used as hunting grounds by Native Americans as early as 8000 B.C. A cattle ranch by a French settler in the mid 1700s and a small population of coastal settlers making a living farming and fishing in the 1800s.

550 acres

Deer Island is approximately 550 acres, 5 miles long, 2500 feet at its widest point, and 7/10ths of a mile south of the Biloxi Point Cadet Harbor.

\$360,000.00

The Access Pier will be 160 feet long and cost approximately \$360,000.00



More than a Decade ago, the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office began work on a plan to acquire Deer Island for permanent preservation and inclusion in the Mississippi Coastal Preserves System to protect Deer Island for Mississippi residents and future generations.



Public Lands

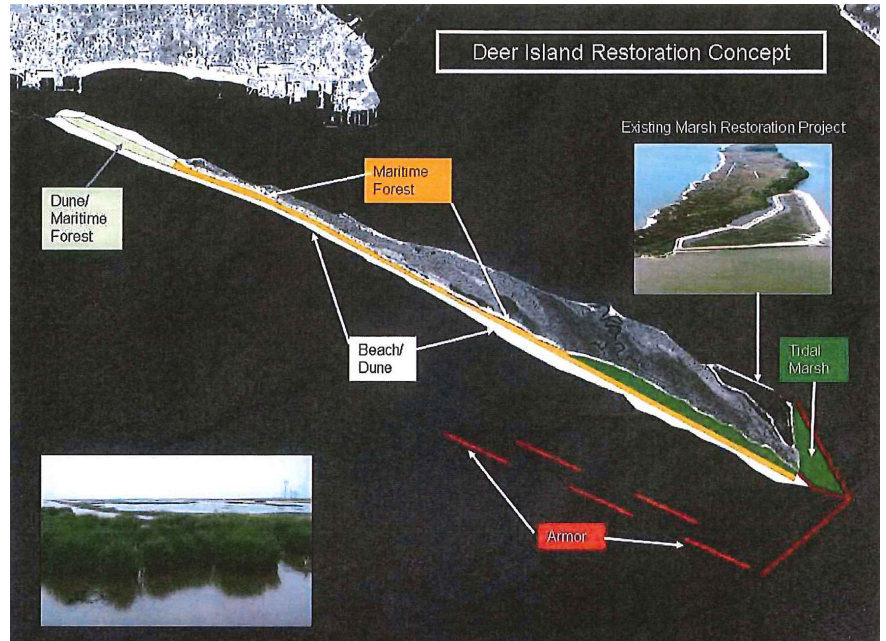


Deer Island Restoration

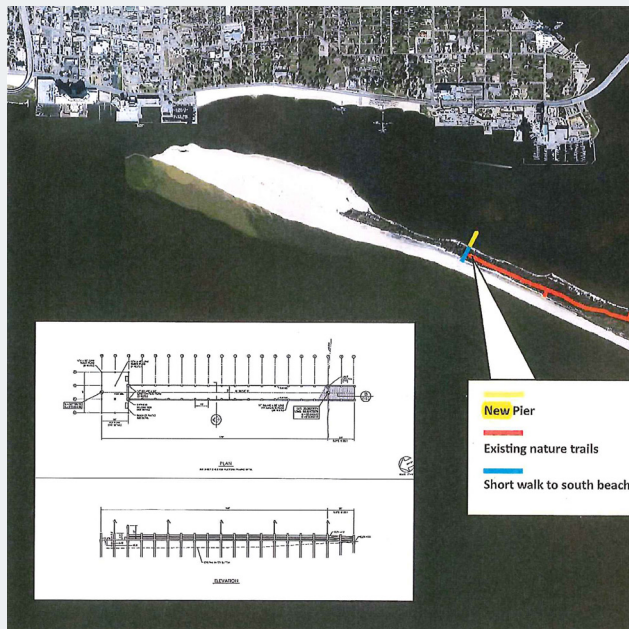
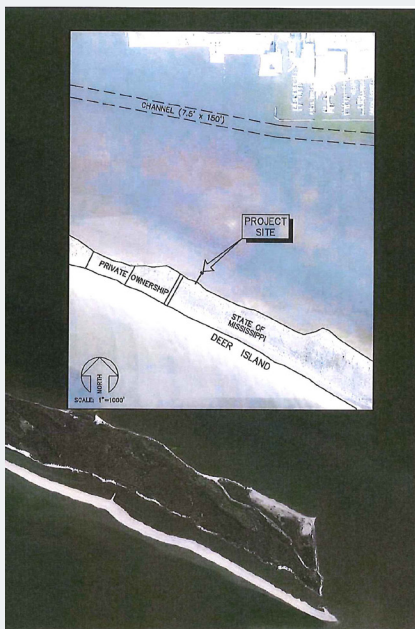


"We plan on providing a low-cost alternative to Mississippians who would like to enjoy Deer Island but do not have access to watercraft, while protecting the ecological integrity of the island."

Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of State



Three restoration projects will restore approximately 400 acres and return the island to its mid-1800s footprint. Dredge material is provided to the State at no cost through the Beneficial Use of Dredge Material Program. Future plans include planting vegetation on the tidal marsh restoration sites.



The pier will be operated by the Department of Marine Resources and will create opportunities for eco-tourism charters. Island access will provide educational opportunities for visitors to learn about the preservation and restoration of the island's natural habitat.

Public Lands

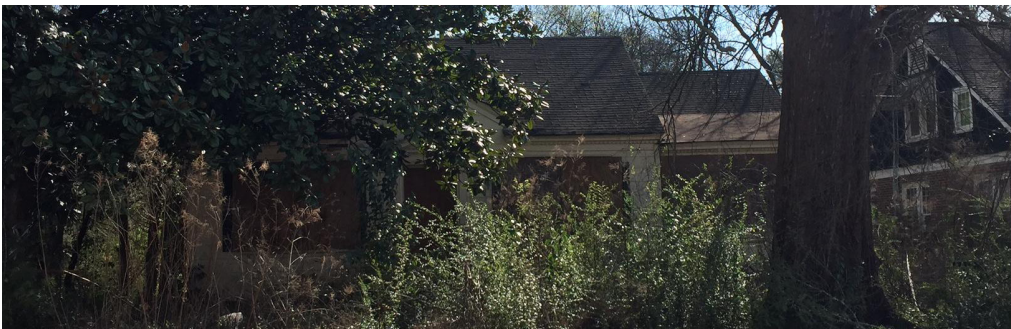


Tax forfeited lands held by the State of Mississippi for non-payment of property taxes are available for acquisition. Our goal is to return these lands to the tax rolls.

TAX FORFEITED LANDS

All properties for which ad valorem taxes are past due are subject to sale by the county in which the lands are located. Any lands not purchased at the local tax sale are stricken from local tax rolls, and transferred to the State, subject to sale by the Secretary of State pursuant to applicable statutes. The Secretary of

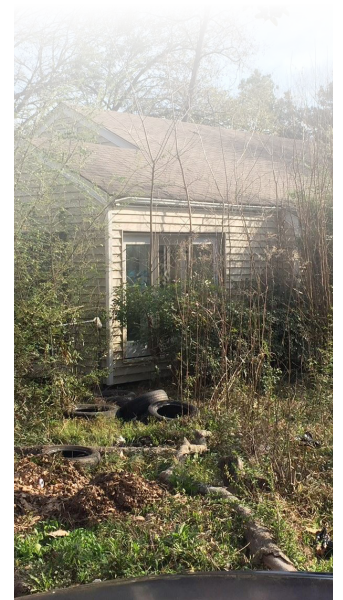
State works to sell these lands and return parcels to productive use. Through private ownership, these lands once again produce property tax revenues for the counties and municipalities in which they are located. The current amount of tax forfeited lands held by the State include 13,726 parcels with a value of \$84.6 million.



Highlights

Tax forfeited lands can be transferred to governmental entities without cost for public use.

Real estate brokers are now helping to market tax forfeited properties in all 82 counties.



Agency Lands

Our continued goal is to provide the members of the Legislature, agency officials, county officials and the general public accurate land information to allow proper utilization and management, and, where the Legislature deems appropriate, transfer parcels so they may be transitioned back onto the county property rolls.

Highlights

An inventory of tax forfeited lands owned by the State are now available on the Secretary of State's website.

Approximately 400,000 acres of agency lands are under State ownership.

Business Services



By the Numbers

95,262

Phone calls for business-related services.

543,138

Corporate documents and UCC's filed with the Secretary of State's Office.

26,162

Notary applications/renewals and Apostille registrations.

IMPROVING BUSINESS PRACTICES IN MISSISSIPPI

The Business Services Division provides business-related services to anyone wishing to do business in Mississippi. The Secretary of State's Office developed Y'all Business to help small businesses locate or expand in the State of Mississippi. This website is part of our Office's continuing effort to promote jobs in our great State. It provides a wealth of detailed information you need for your job and your business.

Use Y'all Business interactive map tools to take a close look at a county or community where you are now doing business and to research where you may want to expand or open a new venture.



Investigate hundreds of categories of critical data and explore existing businesses in a targeted area and investigate demographic data and buying trends of potential customers.

Business Services



STARTING A BUSINESS

The Business Services Division is the starting point for many entrepreneurs wishing to conduct business in the State.

Consumers can search for a unique business name, check their corporate status, order certified documents and search other companies. Business

Services assists with the formation of corporations, limited liability companies, foreign business trusts, limited partnerships and other business structures. State law determines the structure of each business.



NOTARIES PUBLIC

The Business Services Division oversees all notaries public in the State and receives nearly 5,000 notary applications and renewals per year. The Division investigates all notary complaints.

Apostilles and Authentications are prepared and attached to documents to verify authenticity or validity. Many of these documents are presented in foreign countries.

Business Services



UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE

Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filings are also handled through this division. These secured transactions are recorded and accessible to financial institutions, governmental agencies and others engaged in commercial lending and trade.



STATUTORY SERVICES

The Division is also responsible for a wide array of statutory responsibilities including accepting service of process, recording pesticides, registering carnivals, circuses, polygraph examiners and recording public official bonds.

TRADEMARKS & SERVICE MARKS

Trademarks and Service Marks are recorded and approved through this division. Recent trademarks legislation proposed by the Secretary of State's Office and adopted by the Legislature received international recognition as one of the most forward, aggressive trademark laws in the nation.



CHARTERS & ANNEXATIONS

This division also files interlocal agreements, municipal charters and records annexations for all municipalities.

Elections



Administration

In 2014-2015, the Elections Division dedicated much time and energy to the success of the implementation of Voter ID. Efforts were directed towards training county election officials for the General Federal and county elections, which included the general elections for United States Senate and Congress, Circuit Court Judges and Chancery Court Judges. The June 2014 Elections were the first elections Mississippi Voter ID laws were in effect, and over 99.9% of voters presented an acceptable photo ID to cast their ballots in the June Primary and in the November General Election.



This Division works for fair, unbiased elections through accountability and training as Mississippi citizens exercise their right to vote.



SUPPORTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN FAIR ELECTIONS

The Secretary of State's Office works to bring more accountability to Mississippi elections by providing the most accurate knowledge regarding elections to the Legislature, Governor, local election officials and the public. The goal is to ensure Mississippians' voices are heard clearly as they exercise their right to vote.

The role of the Elections Division will continue to include election administration, training county and municipal election officials, managing the Statewide Election Management System (SEMS), providing elections-related financial, technical and legal support to the counties and municipalities, receiving election returns, assisting local elections officials in carrying out their election-related responsibilities, and collecting campaign finance and lobbying reports.

What We Do

Assist county and municipalities in preparing for elections

Train and certify county and municipal election officials

Maintain and publish campaign finance and lobbying reports

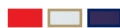
Accept constitutional initiative filings

Accept qualifying paperwork for statewide, judicial and legislative candidates

Maintain the statewide voter registration database



Elections



By the Numbers

3,398

Voter IDs issued from January 2014 through June 30, 2015

631,858

Votes cast in the 2014 Federal General Election. Reflects 34% of the registered voters in the State.

975

Number of Lobbyist Registrations filed for 2015 Session

425

Number of Lobbyist Registered for 2015 Session

605

Number of Clients represented by Lobbyist registered for 2015 Session

Campaign Finance and Lobbying

The Division is streamlining the reporting systems for campaign finance and lobbyists through a more user-friendly, computer-driven approach. The Agency has consistently advocated increased public disclosure and transparency from elected officials, candidates and lobbyists. Maintaining open and accessible information is a top priority for the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State.

Mississippi law requires that all candidates for public office disclose to the public the sources of their receipts and disbursements.

Those disclosures lead to a more informed electorate and increase the likelihood of fair and unbiased elections. The Elections

Division maintains such filings and provides guidance to candidates regarding reporting requirements. Campaign Finance and Lobbying reports may be viewed online by the general public on the Secretary of State's website (www.sos.ms.gov).

Mississippi law requires all lobbyists register with the Secretary of State's Office in order to conduct business in the State.

Training

The Elections Division provides certification programs and continuing education training programs to county and municipal election commissioners and executive committees. Training programs address substantive law as well as technical aspects of the Statewide Elections Management System (SEMS) and the Statewide Voting Machine System. Training is provided to election officials on how to operate specific voting devices, as well as how to train individual poll managers for Election-Day responsibilities. This division is focused on utilizing current technology, such as webinars and online poll manager training, to make our training accessible to election officials throughout the State.

SEMS

The Elections Division works with election officials of counties and municipalities to maintain a statewide voter registration database, known as the Statewide Elections Management System, or "SEMS." This Division provides education and the tools available to the appropriate election officials in order to maintain accurate voter rolls.

Other Activities

Certification of Election Results

The Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State is responsible for certifying Statewide elections and multi-county elections.

ACCESS Grants

The Division administers federal ACCESS grants to assist counties in making their polling places compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and more accessible to voters with disabilities.

Initiatives

All proposed amendments to the Mississippi Constitution must be registered with the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office. The official ballot title and summary are

prepared by the State Attorney General. Initiatives are only valid for one year, during which time a petition must be circulated to gather signatures to place the measure on the next statewide general election ballot.

Public Requests from individuals, candidates and Federal Agencies

The Elections Division responds to numerous public records requests for voter registration statistics, Statewide and district voter rolls, election results, Uniformed and Overseas Voter statistics and the number of voters casting an absentee ballot. The Division provides information to the public on a Statewide and national level.

Education & Publications



Publications

Blue Book

Charities Report

Directory of State & County
Officials

Elections Calendar

General Laws

House Journal

Judiciary Directory & Court
Calendar

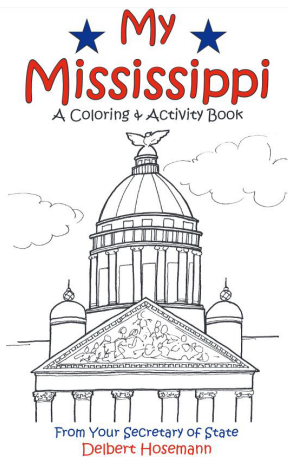
Local & Private Laws

Magnolia Booklet

Mississippi Constitution

My Mississippi Coloring
Book

Senate Journal



INFORMATION OF RECORD FOR STATE CONSTITUENTS



The Education & Publications Division of the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State produces State and Agency documents in traditional paper-and-ink publications as well as digital versions on the Agency's website. Interim

updates are also made to the digital versions of traditionally formatted print publications.

The *Official and Statistical Register of the State of Mississippi* (more commonly known as the Blue Book), is published in hard-cover, paperback, and digital versions.

To reduce printing costs, the Division now designs and prints most State and Agency publications in-house, including the *Magnolia*



Book (Mississippi Guide Book), Promote the Vote materials, Agency brochures and Voter ID materials. In addition to publishing both print and digital versions of the Judiciary Directory and Court

Calendar, the Elections Calendar and the Directory of State and Local Officials, the Division oversees the chaptering, indexing and distribution of all adopted legislation and compiles the information annually for publication of the General Laws and Local and Private Laws of the State. It also publishes House and Senate Journals for each legislative session.

Education & Publications



Promote the Vote is an annual voter education program sponsored by the Secretary of State's Office to educate Mississippi students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 about the political process and civic duties. The goal is to encourage students to become informed citizens and voters as adults. The award-winning program is free



for all public, private, parochial and home-school classrooms and offers a full curriculum developed in coordination with the Mississippi Department of Education. Promote the Vote includes classroom and extra-curricular activities, grade level art and writing contests and a statewide mock election preceding every statewide general election.



The Education and Publications Division hosts the Agency's annual Promote the Vote Awards Ceremony each year at the State Capitol in February, where students are honored for top honors in competitions including art, political cartoon, essay and political party.



Secretary Hosemann presents each student with a medal and certificate of achievement. Legislators and school officials are on hand to congratulate their district winners. Secretary Hosemann also presents teachers with tokens of appreciation for their support of the Promote the Vote program.



Securities



By the Numbers

\$16,569,258.02

Amount of revenue collected in filings, administrative enforcement cases and miscellaneous fees.

41

Investment adviser firms now registered with the Office of the Secretary of State.

66

Conducted more than 66 investigations, which included possible securities laws violations.



This division protects investors in the State from unscrupulous organizations using the most up-to-date Securities laws in the nation.

MORE INVESTMENT FIRMS UNDER STATE REGULATION

In addition to enforcing the Mississippi Securities Laws, the Securities Division is responsible for the regulation and registration of securities firms, agents and products.

The Securities Division regulates and registers

investment adviser firms in Mississippi having less than \$100 million in investment funds under management. Currently there are 41 investment adviser firms registered with the Division, which also examines Mississippi branch offices of broker-dealer firms registered in the State. For FY 2015 the Division examined 28 firms and conducted over 66 securities investigations.

Sources for these investigations included over 12 complaints and tips of possible securities laws violations from investors and the public. Of these 66 investigations, over 21 cases were for notice filings of Federal Regulation D Offerings that were filed late.

During the FY 2015 the Division collected \$10,113,951.00 in offering related filings, \$6,385,900 in registration filings for securities professionals and firms, \$63,057 in administrative enforcement cases and \$6,350 in miscellaneous fees and for a total



of \$16,569,258.02 in revenue. This revenue included 122,047 professional filings and 30,298 offering related filings which were processed by the Division.

In 2007-2008, a fund manager employed by Morgan Keegan misrepresented the value of certain

mortgage backed investments during the housing collapse. Over 39,000 investors nationwide lost over \$1 billion and over 2,000 Mississippi investors were affected.

In June 2011, as a direct result of an investigation launched by the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State and several other state securities regulators, Morgan Keegan agreed to pay over \$200 million in penalties into two separate funds: \$100 million to be distributed by the States and \$100 million to be distributed by the SEC to investors who suffered losses.

The State distribution fund included over \$5 million in distributions to Mississippians in November 2012. The SEC's distribution plan was adopted in August 2013, and the SEC approved the disbursement of funds in July 2014. On July 25, 2014 the SEC distributed over \$2 million to Mississippians from the SEC fund.

Charities



PROTECTING YOUR CHARITABLE DOLLARS

This division protects Mississippi donors from unscrupulous charities who might prey on our citizens.

Through enforcement of the Mississippi Charitable Solicitation Act, the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State's Charities Division is responsible for protecting donors in the State. The Charities Division protects Mississippians and works to ensure their hard-earned dollars are used for the purpose intended.

Each year, the Secretary of State's Office promotes a "Check your Charity" campaign during the holiday season. This division will continue to encourage Mississippians to check their supported charities with the Secretary of State's Office before they donate.

The Charities Act requires the registration of every nonprofit soliciting contributions and having fundraisers with the Charities Division. The Charities Act does allow certain organizations to be exempted from this registration requirement. However, this exemption is not automatic. The organization must request the exemption by submitting the Form CE, Notifier of Exemption.

The Charities Act not only strengthens the



Agency's ability to enforce laws against dishonest charities, but also gives the Charities Division the authority to subpoena witnesses and documents during investigations and to bring actions in

Chancery Court to stop illegal activities, collect fines and remove charitable corporate status. Through the strong enforcement of the Charities Act, Mississippi donors can have more confidence in their charitable giving.

To protect Mississippi donors, a key priority of the Agency is to make it more difficult for organizations to misappropriate charitable dollars. The Agency will continue working with charitable organizations in the state to maximize the amount of funds allocated for actual charitable purposes. Increasing the transparency in charitable organizations and providing this information to Mississippians allows our citizens to have peace of mind in charitable giving.

In an effort to increase this transparency and streamline the registration requirement to make it more efficient, the Division has implemented an online filing system for charities effective January 1, 2016.

For Your Protection

Armed with the most up-to-date Charities laws in the nation to protect Mississippians

An annual "Check your Charities" campaign lets you know how your hard-earned dollars are spent

Charities Renewal Filing Date is same as charity filing date with the Internal Revenue Service.

Supporting Charities

Making Your Contribution Count



DELBERT HOSEMAN
Secretary of State

Regulation & Enforcement



This division registers and regulates businesses subject to their jurisdiction, such as funeral homes, cemeteries and scrap metal dealers.

PROTECTING THE CONSUMER'S INTEREST

The Regulation & Enforcement Division of the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State serves various consumer protection interests with its regulation of pre-need funeral providers, privately owned cemeteries, and scrap metal dealers and recyclers. These business entities are examined and audited by division staff to determine if the business is complying with State legislation and regulations designed to protect the consumers' interests.



the Mississippi Athlete Agent's Act. This Act helps to protect young athletes in the State from falling victim to unscrupulous sports agents who might otherwise attempt to take advantage of an athlete's inexperience when signing with a professional sports team.

Examinations and audits may be either complaint-based or randomly selected. Violators are subject to administrative fines, suspension of a license, or, in extreme cases, revocation of a license issued by the Division. Additionally, this division licenses and monitors the activities of Athlete Agents under

The Regulation & Enforcement Division publishes the *Mississippi Administrative Bulletin* and the *Mississippi Administrative Code* where all State government rules and regulations are accessible to the public on the Secretary of State's Office website. The Division supports both the public and State agencies with procedural steps for adopting rules and obtaining public comment in the process.



What's Ahead

The Division is positioned to take the lead in supporting law enforcement agencies throughout the state with building successful cases for prosecuting metal theft. The Secretary of State's office is also working with adjoining states to synchronize our laws to deter metal theft commerce across state lines.

As the death care industry in our state shifts to more economical and environmental trends by choosing cremation and direct burials, the Division works to protect consumers from unscrupulous operators. This Division is diligent in safeguarding consumer confidence in the choices.

Policy & Research



PROMOTING BUSINESS LAWS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Policy & Research Division is the research and development engine of the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office. This division collaborates with volunteer panels of Mississippians selected by the Secretary of State to develop potential legislation and identify innovative solutions to challenges facing the State and the Agency. Since 2008, nearly 30 recommendations from these study groups have been adopted



by the Mississippi Legislature, including reforms to Mississippi's corporate, LLC, nonprofit, trademark, and securities laws.

These enactments included an economic development incentive bill aimed at attracting national corporate headquarters to Mississippi and a sweeping overhaul of Mississippi's trust laws. A summary of each of the six legislative proposals is provided below.

Policy Initiatives

House Bill 1127

(effective July 1, 2015)

Iranian Divestment Act – Is based on the “Comprehensive Iran Sanctions Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010” (Public Law 111-195). The legislation prohibits the state, any agency, or political subdivision from investing in any company which (1) engages in business valued at \$20 million in the Iranian energy sector, or, (2) invests in the Iranian energy sector in an amount of \$20 million. The proposal requires the Executive Director of the Department of Finance Administration (DFA) to maintain a list of any company matching these criteria, as well as notice provisions and the ability to challenge the Executive Director's determination. The

prohibitions remain until the President or Congress lifts the federal sanctions against Iran.

Senate Bill 2310

(effective July 1, 2015)

Mississippi Uniform Limited Partnership Act – Updates and modernizes limited partnership law in Mississippi. The current laws are based on the Revised Uniform Limited Partnership Act (RULPA 1978/1985) and were adopted in 1987. These updates will provide clearer protection for limited partners, perpetual duration for limited partnerships, expanded purposes for limited partnerships (allowing asset protection and estate planning type measures), and the formation of Limited Liability Limited Partnerships (LLLP).

House Bill 885

(effective July 1, 2015)

Autism – Requires most health insurance policies sold in Mississippi to provide coverage for the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder on or after January 1, 2016. This bill also creates the Mississippi Autism Board to license and regulate the practice of applied behavior analysis. The board shall consist of five members. One (1) licensed psychologists practicing in the area of applied behavior analysis, three (3) licensed behavior analysts, and one (1) public member who is not license in behavior analysis and who is the family member of a recipient of applied behavior analysis services.

Business Services

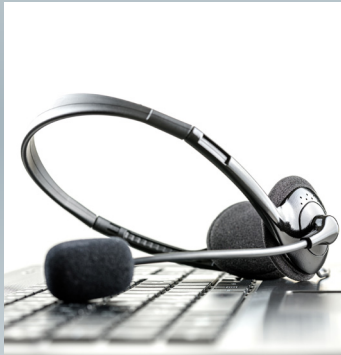
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(Including Business Services, Charities, Regulation & Enforcement, Securities)



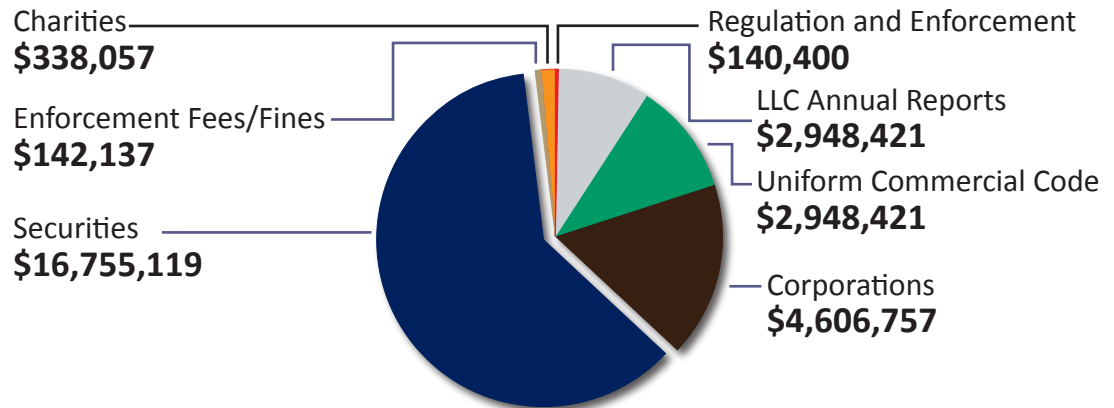
Efficiencies

- Increase online services provided for businesses and corporations
- Maintain turnaround times for customer filings to less than 24-48 hours
- Provide more opportunities and methods for enforcement education



- Increase registration of scrap metal dealers
- Reduce turnaround time for approval of Private Placement Securities Offering filings
- Increase number of routine exams of securities firms and investment advisers

Fee Income: FY 2015



Total: \$27,357,799

Our Performance

CATEGORY	OUTPUT
UCC documents filed	318,307
Security registration & renewals (firms/agents)	125,363
Telephone calls received	82,885
Corporate documents filed	67,873
Annual reports filed (Corp)	45,486
LLC annual reports filed (domestic)	57,613
Notary registration/renewals apostilles	26,050
Security registration & renewals (offerings)	25,247
LLC annual reports filed (foreign)	8,488
UCC searches	553
Securities/Charities audits, examinations & renewals (firms/agents)	356
Securities/Charities legal actions (dispositions & opinions)	147

Elections

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Fee Income: FY 2015

Lobbying Registrations
Civil Penalties from Lobbying
Civil Penalties from Campaign Finance
Candidate Qualifying Fees
Public Record Requests

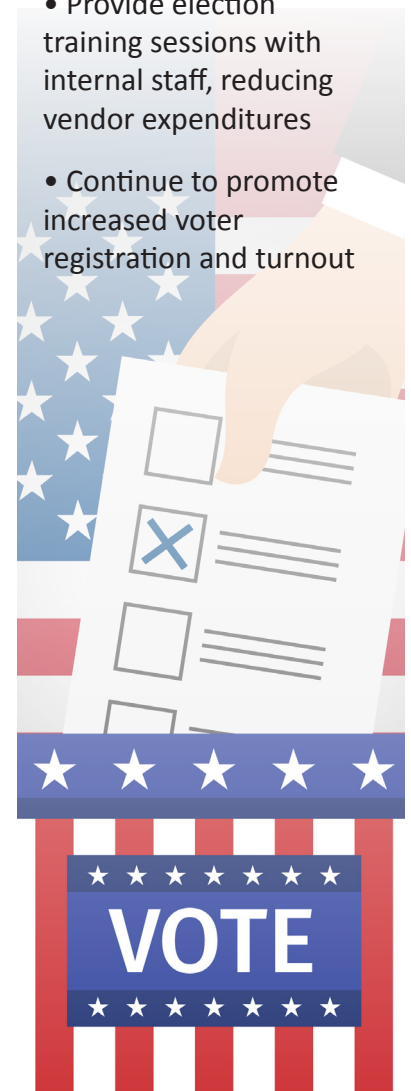
Total: \$78,201

Our Performance

CATEGORY	OUTPUT
Lobbying reports	4,858
Campaign finance reports	2,950
Election training sessions	49

Efficiencies

- Continue to promote fair and honest elections by providing accurate election reports
- Streamline campaign finance and lobbyist filings and reports
- Provide election training sessions with internal staff, reducing vendor expenditures
- Continue to promote increased voter registration and turnout



Education & Publications

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



The Education & Publications Division provides publications, Mississippi flags and document certifications to the general public. This division also produces all elected officials' commissions and certification documents for municipal and county Election Commissioners throughout Mississippi.

Efficiencies

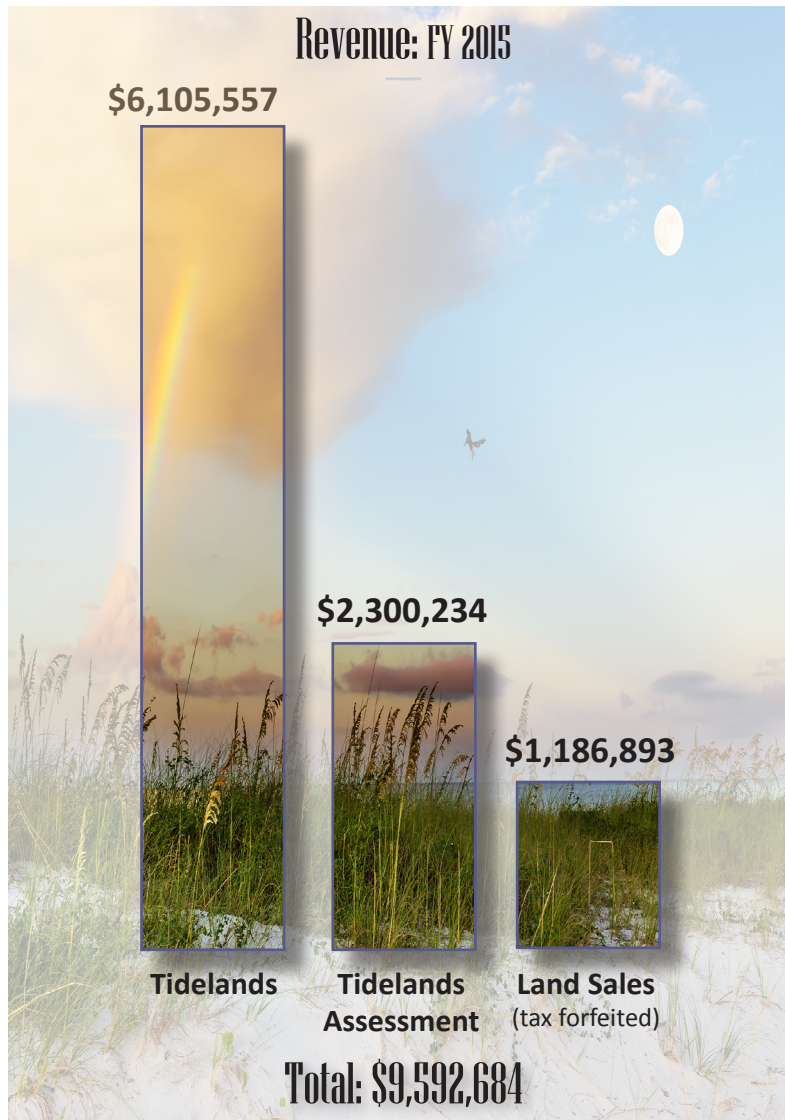
- Continue to provide publications required by statute
- Continue providing accessibility of publications to constituents
- Continue compiling and providing accurate and precise information

Our Performance

CATEGORY	OUTPUT
Publications produced (quantity ordered)	1,719,500
Publications distributed	1,538,500
Constituent services	2,623
Bills chaptered and recorded	576
Agency speaking and training events	6
Agency promotion and exhibits	13
Agency publications produced	34

Public Lands

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

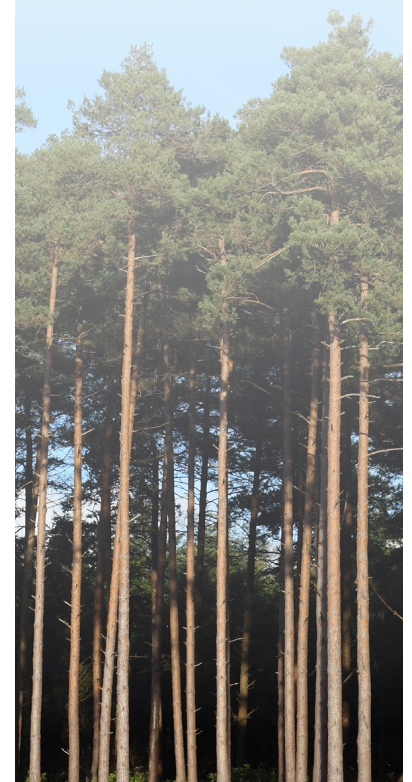


Efficiencies

- Continue to conserve, preserve, protect, and manage the public lands of Mississippi
- Continue to make available to the public, all records of real property belonging to or under the control of the State of Mississippi
- Implement an electronic environment for sales and collection of reporting data on public lands

Our Performance

CATEGORY	OUTPUT
16th Section leases managed	12,840
Tax forfeited applications processed	1,843
Tax forfeited patents issued	641



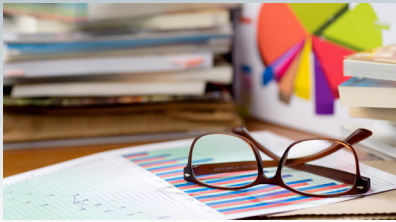
Administration and Executive

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



Efficiencies

- Continue to monitor and improve Agency internal controls/procedures to increase accountability for property and monies received specific to finance, purchasing, human resources and information services
- Continue to upgrade the technological systems to provide better constituent services



External Factors

- Changes in the economy, positive or negative, can affect the number of filings processed which may increase or decrease the amount of revenue
- External factors can change the direction of projects, funding and revenue
- Legislative directive changes the course of projects and funding
- Changes in federal law, such as HAVA, change the direction of projects and funding



INTERNAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The Secretary of State has offices in Jackson, Gulfport, Hernando and Tupelo to better serve the entire State. An office within the Capitol building in Jackson receives and records executive documents from the Governor. This is part of the Secretary of State's role as "Keeper of the Capitol."

Each division of the Secretary of State's Office establishes senior-level priorities. These top priorities are discussed during senior staff meetings. Performance measures are collected and reported quarterly. Budgetary constraints are reviewed when new or expanded priorities are considered or requested.

Our Performance

CATEGORY	OUTPUT
Parcels of mail processed	90,374
Help Desk requests completed	4,845
Payment vouchers prepared	6,578
Personnel transactions processed	89
Agency sponsored sessions	8

Additional Efficiencies: Turnaround Time

Vendor payments	15 days
Tax forfeited county refunds	15 days
Travel reimbursements	5 days

Contact the Secretary of State



Agency Contacts

Assistant Secretaries of State (Divisions)

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601-359-1684

Charities
Tanya Webber
601-359-1048

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Policy & Research
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601-359-6377

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Topics

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601-359-6377

Apostilles/Notary
601-359-1615

Campaign Finance
601-359-1358

Cemeteries
601-359-6747

Charity Lookup
601-359-1371

Corp./LLC/UCC
601-359-1633

Elections Hotline
800-829-6786

Flags
601-359-6344

General Laws
601-359-6344

Gov. Commissions
601-369-3123

Lobbying
601-359-6353

Public Records Request
601-359-6349

Scrap Metal
601-359-6361

Securities Investigations
601-359-1363

Tax Forfeited Land
601-359-1557

Tidelands
601-228-864-0254

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