

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER 1361

**WHEREAS**, to help improve practices in public contracting, Governor Phil Bryant established the Task Force on Procurement and Contracting in the Mississippi Department of Corrections ("Task Force") through Executive Order No. 1346 issued on November 7, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Task Force was charged with conducting a comprehensive review of the procurement process within the Mississippi Department of Corrections; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of its review, the Task Force determined that additional training for purchasing agents within the Mississippi Department of Corrections is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, seeking continuous improvement through ongoing training, education, and skill enhancement will help uphold high standards of job performance and help protect the interests of the taxpayers and the operations of state government.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order as follows:

1. No later than March 31, 2016, the Mississippi Department of Corrections shall satisfy the requirements to be recognized as a Certified Purchasing Office by the Department of Finance and Administration.
2. As used in this order, "Certified Purchasing Office" means a state agency in which fifty percent (50%) or more of its Purchasing Agents hold a certification from the Universal Public Purchasing Certification Council or other nationally recognized purchasing certification, and one hundred percent (100%) of the Purchasing Agents hold a certification from the State of Mississippi's Basic or Advanced Purchasing Certification Program. *see* Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-1(i).
3. "Purchasing Agent" means any administrator, superintendent, purchase clerk or other chief officer so designated having general or special authority to negotiate for and make private contract for or purchase for any governing authority or agency. *see* Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-1(c).
4. This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

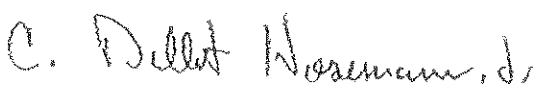


**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

**DONE** at the Capitol, in the City of Jackson, this the 31st day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and of the two hundred and fortieth year of the United States of America.

  
PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR

**BY THE GOVERNOR**

  
C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.  
SECRETARY OF STATE