

EXECUTIVE

*If you just make every effort to do the right thing,
you'll come out ok. It comes down to priorities
and making good decisions.*

————— ARCHIE MANNING —————



Executive



Article 5 and Article 6 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 authorize the duties and responsibilities of the statewide elected officials.

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GOVERNOR Tate Reeves

As the 65th Governor of Mississippi, Tate Reeves continues to build on his strong record as a steadfast conservative leader who is fiercely committed to making Mississippi the best state in the nation to live, work, and raise a family.

Since 1972, the most federally declared disasters in Mississippi in any one year was four. In Governor Reeves' first 14 months in office, there were 14. During his tenure, Mississippi has faced down historic flooding and tornadoes, a worldwide pandemic, and the failure of the capital city's water system. Through multiple crises, Governor Reeves brought a steady hand and common-sense driven leadership to protect the lives and livelihoods of Mississippians.

Mississippi is in the best fiscal and financial shape ever and its economy is thriving thanks to Governor Reeves' fiscally conservative leadership. He delivered the largest tax cut in Mississippi history, returning over half a billion dollars to its rightful owners – taxpayers. During his tenure as governor, Mississippi reached record-low unemployment rates and collected billions in excess revenue. In 2021, Mississippi had the largest annual increase in employees since the last century. From June 2021 to June 2022, employment increased by another 30,000 jobs.

Just one month into 2024, Mississippi saw approximately \$12 billion in new private sector investment – shattering the previous record of \$6 billion set in 2022. This includes the largest economic project in Mississippi history: a \$10 billion corporate investment that will create 1,000 high-paying, high-tech jobs.

Academic achievement in Mississippi has also reached historic levels under Governor Reeves' leadership and students of all backgrounds are having academic success. Mississippi's high school

graduation rates hit an all-time high and dropout rates hit an all-time low. The state was top of the nation in 4th grade reading gains for black students. And while some states stayed shuttered, Governor Reeves reopened schools and ensured students got the in-person education they deserve. Recognizing this success, Governor Reeves was proud to sign into law the single largest teacher pay raise in Mississippi's history.

A Rankin County native, Governor Reeves is a graduate of Florence High School and an honors graduate of Millsaps College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics. Governor Reeves and his wife, Elee, are the proud parents of three daughters, Tyler, Emma, and Maddie.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR Delbert Hosemann

Re-elected to a second term in November 2023 with more than 60 percent of the vote, the Honorable Delbert Hosemann is serving as Mississippi's 33rd Lieutenant Governor. He previously served as Secretary of State. Lt. Governor Hosemann is committed to serving the public with open and fair government. He advocates for increasing state government transparency, growing small businesses, shoring up Mississippi's roads and bridges, providing better access to healthcare, and ensuring every child receives a high-quality education. As the President of the 52-member state Senate, he remains committed to making Mississippi an even better place for our children and grandchildren.

Under Lt. Governor Hosemann's leadership, the Mississippi Legislature implemented the largest teacher pay raise and largest tax cut in state history, moving Mississippi to one of the lowest income tax rates in the nation. The Legislature also consolidated workforce development efforts, developed a new student-centered funding formula for schools, retooled economic development incentives to be competitive and performance-based, and paid off \$1.2 billion in state debt. Investment in roads, bridges, and other infrastructure has topped \$2.3 billion in additional funding during Lt. Governor Hosemann's administration. Legislators also respectfully retired the state flag and allowed citizens to vote on a new design.

Raised in Warren County, Lt. Governor Hosemann comes to the position with substantial experience in the private sector as a businessman and tax lawyer. He is a former partner of Phelps Dunbar, LLP. He received his undergraduate degree in Business from the University of Notre Dame, a law degree from the University of

Mississippi, and a Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University. Prior to attending law school, Lt. Governor Hosemann served his country in the United States Army Reserve. Lt. Governor Hosemann's tenure as Secretary of State was marked by several major accomplishments including requiring 16th Section land, a revenue source for public schools, to be leased for fair value. By the end of his third term, the Office raised more than \$1 billion for public education. He was also instrumental in acquiring over 20,000 acres of now public land.

As Secretary of State, Lt. Governor Hosemann revised Mississippi's business laws, automated legal filings, and fought to enact a constitutional Voter ID law. While other states are still embroiled in expensive litigation related to Voter ID, Mississippi's law has increased security in elections and remains unchallenged. In 2022, he received the prestigious Major General Charles Dick Medal of Merit from the National Guard Association of the United States for his efforts to make voting more accessible for overseas servicemembers.

Lt. Governor Hosemann also advocated to provide better access to health insurance for children with autism and other developmental disorders. Autism Speaks, the nation's leading autism science and advocacy organization, named Lt. Governor Hosemann Executive of the Year in 2018.

In his spare time, Lt. Governor Hosemann is an avid hunter and runner. He belongs to the National Rifle Association and is a past recipient of the NRA's Kirk Fordice Freedom Award. He is also a member of Ducks Unlimited. He has completed both the New York Marathon and the Boston Marathon.

He and Lynn, his wife of 54 years, are members of St. Richard Catholic Church. They are extremely proud of their three children: Kristen, Chad, and Mark; and grandchildren Grace, Nora Lynn, Carson, Charlie, Manse, Charlotte, Howard Delbert, and Bobby.

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SECRETARY OF STATE
Michael Watson

Michael Watson is currently in his second term as Mississippi's 36th Secretary of State. Since taking the oath of office at the outset of his tenure, Secretary Watson has launched numerous initiatives and expanded existing efforts. From strengthening the integrity of Mississippi's elections process through legislation, to reducing the regulatory burden on businesses with the award-winning Tackle the Tape initiative and safeguarding the state's natural resources through the assembly of the Conservation Task Force, Secretary Watson has worked to serve all Mississippians.

Not only has he effected policy change, but he continues to find ways to give back to Mississippians and build relationships across the state. By creating the SOS Student Ambassador leadership program, Mississippi Businesses Against Trafficking, and completing his 82-County Tour, he has personally invested in citizens from across the state and all walks of life.

Prior to taking office as Secretary of State, Watson served three terms in the State Senate, where he represented District 51 in Jackson County. He authored the Fetal Protection Act, which strengthened the penalties for injuring an unborn child. He also wrote Mississippi's first comprehensive law to tackle illegal immigration, as well as legislation to allow alternate-track diplomas—one of the first efforts to return a focus to career and technical training for high school students.

A graduate of Pascagoula High School and the University of Mississippi, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a law degree, Watson began his work in

public service as an intern for then U.S. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott in the summer of 1999. That experience strengthened his desire to become a public servant in order to improve the quality of life for all Mississippians.

Born and raised in Mississippi, Michael is a husband to his wife Lauren, father of three beautiful young daughters, the son of a shipyard worker and bank teller. After his work as a pipefitter, Michael's father entered the ministry and continues to serve as pastor at Liberty Church in Gautier. His mother passed away shortly before Michael became Mississippi's 36th Secretary of State.

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ATTORNEY GENERAL Lynn Fitch

Lynn Fitch was sworn in as Mississippi's 40th Attorney General and first ever woman Attorney General on January 9, 2020. She was re-elected to her second term in 2023.

Raised in Holly Springs, Mississippi, Attorney General Fitch earned both a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Juris Doctorate at the University of Mississippi. At the age of 23, she began her legal career as a Special Assistant Attorney General at the Mississippi Attorney General's Office. She continued her career in private practice as a bond lawyer, accumulating more than 35 years of legal experience both in private practice and public service.

Before becoming the State's chief legal officer, Attorney General Fitch served as Mississippi's elected State Treasurer for eight years, from January 2012 to January 2020. Prior to that, she was selected by Governor Barbour to serve as Executive Director of the Mississippi State Personnel Board (MSPB), and she served as Deputy Executive Director at the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) and as Counsel for the Mississippi House of Representatives Ways and Means and Local and Private Legislation Committees.

General Fitch was active on the national level as State Treasurer, serving as Vice President for the National Association of State Treasurers and as Chair of the State Financial Officers Foundation. Since taking office as Attorney General, she has served on the Executive Committees of the Republican Attorneys General Association and the National Association of Attorneys General, and as Co-Chair of the National Association of Attorneys General Human Trafficking Committee.

In 2022, TIME named General Fitch to its list of the 100 most influential people in the world and Worth Magazine named her to its Worthy 100 for

her work protecting women and children. She was recognized as one of Mississippi's Top 50 Most Influential in 2017, 2022, and 2023; selected as Outstanding Woman Lawyer of 2012 and a Woman Trailblazer by the Mississippi Bar Association; and honored with the prestigious Susie Blue Buchanan award by the Mississippi Bar Association's Women in the Profession Committee. General Fitch was also named a Mississippi Business Journal Leader in Finance in 2016 and Leader in Law in 2010, as well as a 2015 Honoree of the Women in Government Leadership Program by Governing Magazine.

Attorney General Fitch has also been active in her community, serving as a member of the boards of several charitable organizations including First Responders of Mississippi, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Goodwill Industries, and the American Red Cross.

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STATE AUDITOR Shad White

Shad White, Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), grew up in Sandersville, Mississippi - population 731 - in a blue-collar family. His father and grandfather were oilfield pumpers, and his mother and grandmother were teachers. On the weekends, his father was music minister at their small country church, and his mother played the organ. Shad went on to earn degrees from the University of Mississippi, the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and Harvard Law School.

Shad was appointed 42nd State Auditor of Mississippi in July 2018 and won election to the office after establishing a tough, no-nonsense reputation during his first year on the job. In his time as State Auditor, White's team has stopped the largest public fraud in state history, made the largest civil recovery after an auditor's investigation in the history of the office, and concluded cases that, collectively, led to hundreds of years of prison sentences for fraudsters.

Prior to becoming Auditor, Shad served as a special prosecutor, won ethics cases against politicians who broke the law, and earned a certificate in forensic accounting (the use of accounting to discover fraud) from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He also serves in the military as an officer in the Mississippi National Guard.

Shad was elected as State Auditor with no opposition to a full four-year term in 2019 and was re-elected to his second term in 2023.

Today Shad, his wife Rina and their daughters live in Rankin County and are faithful members at St. Richard Church.

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STATE TREASURER
David McRae

David McRae is a fourth-generation Mississippian. His great-grandfather, Sam McRae, grew up on a farm in Rankin County and opened

his first S.P. McRae department store in Jackson at the turn of the century. Dedicated to customer service, the store remained one of the premier department store chains in the southeast for more than 100 years. That same customer-service mindset is at the center of what McRae is working to accomplish as State Treasurer.

His primary responsibility is to manage the cash flow that keeps state agencies operating on a daily basis, but the job also comes with a seat on 17 different boards and commissions.

McRae has prioritized the distribution of Unclaimed Money, returning more than \$65 million to Mississippians since taking office. McRae has also protected the state's strong credit ratings, resulting more than \$100 million of savings for taxpayers through debt refinancing deals. Additionally, he oversees College Savings Mississippi, helping lift the financial burden of a college education for thousands of young people.

During his tenure as Treasurer, McRae has been selected by his peers to serve on the Board of Directors for both the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) and the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT). Governor Tate Reeves also appointed McRae to the Balanced Budget Interstate Compact.

Prior to serving as State Treasurer, McRae was involved in the family business, serving as Managing Partner of McRae Investments. He is active in civic and community organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Friends of Children's Hospital, and the American Heart Association.

McRae earned his law degree from Mississippi College, during which time he served as Chief Justice of the Honor Court. He is an active member of the Mississippi Bar Association. He lives in Ridgeland with his wife, Katherine, and their three children.

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**COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
AND COMMERCE**
Andy Gipson

J. Andrew (“Andy”) Gipson serves as Mississippi’s eighth Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce. He was elected in 2019 following an appointment by Governor Phil Bryant in March 2018 and was re-elected to his second term in 2023. As Commissioner, Gipson has visited each of the state’s 82 counties on a Mississippi Farm Tour to listen to the issues, challenges and opportunities facing Mississippi farmers. He launched the Genuine MS® branding initiative to increase public awareness of Mississippi’s farm, food, crafted and fabricated products to increase sales and market opportunity for Mississippi producers. Gipson established a “County Correspondents” program in every county to provide local farmers with information from MDAC and to hear directly from them on local issues. He launched the Agricultural Workforce Development initiative, which includes internships through the department, to connect future leaders to careers in agriculture.

Gipson is leading the way on truth in labeling laws for meat products to prevent consumer confusion from the entry of plant-based and cell-cultured foods. He has introduced regulatory reforms to increase opportunities for small farmers, mobile vendors and roadside produce stands. And, Gipson created an office within MDAC to promote forestry and timber and to expand those markets domestically and internationally.

Gipson is a member of the Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association and the Simpson County Development Foundation. He served as Past President of the Southern United States

Trade Association and Past President of the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture. He is an active member of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

Prior to his service as Commissioner, Gipson served in the Mississippi House of Representative for ten years (District 77: Simpson and Rankin counties), first elected to public service in 2007. Gipson chaired the House Judiciary B Committee from 2012-2018 and the Ethics Committee from 2016-2018. He also served as a member on the House Agriculture, Appropriations, Ways and Means, County Affairs, Insurance, Municipalities, and Transportation committees. Gipson was Treasurer for the Mississippi Legislative Conservation Coalition from 2010-2017 and Treasurer for the Mississippi House Republican Conference from 2012-2016.

The Mississippi Legislative Conservative Coalition selected Gipson as the 2018 Conservative Legislator of the Year. Mothers Against Drunk Driving named him Legislator of the Year in 2014, 2015 and 2016. In 2014, Pro-Life Mississippi named him Pro-Life Legislator of the Year. The National Rifle Association bestowed its Defender of Freedom Award on Gipson in 2013. That same year, the Central Mississippi Friends of NRA selected him for the Kirk Fordice Freedom Award, named after the former governor.

Gipson received a bachelor of arts in political science in 1999 from Mississippi College and a juris doctorate from Mississippi College School of Law in 2002. He has been in private law practice since 2002. Gipson is an ordained Baptist minister, having served as a pastor and evangelist. He and his wife, Leslie, have four children — Joseph, Benjamin, Abigail, and Sarah. They reside on their small working cattle and tree farm in Simpson County.

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COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE Mike Chaney

Mike Chaney, Mississippi's 11th Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal, is currently serving his fifth term in office. First elected in 2007, Chaney brought extensive business knowledge and experience to the office combined with 15 years of service in the Mississippi House and Senate.

His priorities throughout his terms in office remain steadfastly committed to consumer protection and application of technology for efficiency of the department to serve the state and consumers. He is leading the department in making strides in healthcare reform; disaster recovery from flood, tornado and hurricane events; bail bond industry reform; and reductions in state fire deaths.

An active member of the NAIC, Chaney serves on numerous committees, task forces and working groups. Among the issues he is involved in addressing are examination oversight, accounting practices, producer licensing, health insurance and managed care, senior issues, catastrophe and property and casualty insurance.

As Commissioner, he was inducted into the Insurance Hall of Fame at his alma mater, Mississippi State University. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Mississippi Risk Management and Insurance program and its Professional Society. He has been named one of the top insurance professionals by Insurance Business America Magazine, and was named a Healthcare Hero by the Mississippi Business Journal.

Commissioner Chaney has served on numerous community development entities and corporate boards. He is also a Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow. He is a veteran of the United States Army, serving in Vietnam. Chaney and his wife, Mary have three children and eight grandchildren.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER – NORTHERN DISTRICT Chris Brown

Chris R. Brown was elected Public Service Commissioner for the Northern District in 2023. Before running for the Public Service Commission, Brown served Mississippians in the State House from 2012 to 2023, where he developed a reputation of working to effectively streamline and limit government.

In 2016, Brown's Republican colleagues named him the Vice Chairman of the House Republican Caucus. He served as Chairman of Medicaid, as well as holding positions on the Appropriations, Banking and Financial Services, Conservation and Water Resources, Ways and Means, Constitution, Management and Public Health and Human Services committees.

The American Conservative Union Foundation recognized Brown several times with the Award for Conservative Excellence. He has also been named a 2024 Fellow with Club for Growth.

Brown is a lifelong Mississippian who graduated from Walnut High School in Tippah County. He is a proud father of five children and three grandchildren and is an active member of Ripley Primitive Baptist Church, where he has been active in overseas missions in both Africa and Asia. Brown is a proven job creator and

has founded several businesses. In his limited spare time, he likes to hunt, camp, and enjoy the outdoors with his family.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER -
CENTRAL DISTRICT
De'Keither A. Stamps**

De'Keither Stamps was elected to serve his first term as Public Service Commissioner for the Central District of Mississippi beginning in January 2024.

Commissioner Stamps is a figure whose life reads like a testament to service, resilience, and leadership. As a Learned, Mississippi native, his roots run deep through the community's schools, from McLeod to Timberlawn, Siwell to Forest Hill, where his early life in public education set the foundation for his formidable character.

Following high school, Commissioner Stamps sought to serve his country and joined the United States Marine Corps, a decision that would lead him on an extraordinary journey, including three years in the esteemed role of Presidential Security for Presidents Bill Clinton and George Bush. His dedication to service didn't stop there; Commissioner Stamps then took his commitment overseas, working with the State Department in various capacities across Africa, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

With a relentless spirit, he re-enlisted, this time with the Army in 2005, driven by a desire to be on the ground in Iraq. There, he joined the ranks of the 82nd Airborne Division, enduring back-to-back deployments, a testament to his endurance and commitment to the cause of freedom.

Commissioner Stamps' world experience is vast—not just geographically, but in the breadth of humanity he has encountered. He has engaged in global dialogue, trained with fellow servicemen and women, fought on battlefields, and faced life's toughest challenges head-on.

Back home in Jackson, Commissioner Stamps transitioned his service from global to local. He served as City Councilman for Ward 4, where he advocated for the community that raised him. As the Mississippi State Representative for District 66, he continued to champion the needs and aspirations of his constituents.

Now, with his role of Public Service Commissioner for the Central Mississippi District, Commissioner Stamps aims to leverage his depth of experience in public service to ensure a brighter, more efficient future for his home state.

Family is the cornerstone of his life. He is a devoted son, husband, and father. His greatest pride is his family who inspires him every day to build a legacy of service and integrity.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER –
SOUTHERN DISTRICT**
Wayne Carr

Nelson Wayne Carr embarked on his inaugural term as the Mississippi Public Service Commissioner for the Southern District in January 2024, marking the latest chapter in his extensive career spanning over four decades in the construction industry across South Mississippi.

A graduate of Gulfport High School in 1977, Wayne initiated his career as an electrical apprentice, swiftly obtaining his electrical license by the mid-1980s and establishing his own electrical company. Subsequently, he broadened his expertise by securing a State of Mississippi Board of Contractors Electrical and Builders Licenses, laying the foundation for his ventures into general contracting and property development.

Throughout his tenure as a developer, Wayne undertook a diverse array of projects encompassing residential, industrial, and complex commercial facilities. Each endeavor demanded meticulous attention to detail, navigating intricate utility specifications and adherence to stringent local, state, and federal guidelines. Collaborating closely with utility companies, engineers, municipal authorities, and governmental agencies became integral to ensuring the seamless installation of utilities tailored to both present requirements and future community needs.

A native of Gulfport, Wayne has remained deeply rooted in his hometown, residing in Harrison County on the picturesque Mississippi Gulf Coast for his entire life. For 43 years, Wayne has been happily married to Vicky Carr. Together, they have raised three

children—David, Rebecca, and Katherine—and are blessed with two grandchildren. Together, they call the Orange Grove community home.

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**TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER –
NORTHERN DISTRICT**
John Caldwell

Born the seventh of nine children to Elizabeth and Joe Caldwell, John Caldwell lives in Nesbit just a few miles from land once farmed by his family. John is married to Lee Perkins Caldwell. The couple has four children and eight grandchildren.

John is a Marine combat veteran of Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit, among other awards. He retired from the Marine Corps Reserves as a Colonel with extensive operational and logistical experience over land, air, and sea.

As a small business owner in Southaven, John was elected to consecutive terms as a Desoto County Supervisor serving from 1996 through 2003. After that, he served 14 years as the Transportation Director for the largest school district in Mississippi managing a fleet of over 350 buses, drivers, mechanics, and staff. While director, 20,000 students were transported each day safely logging over two million miles annually. He worked in the transportation industry in the months that followed gaining

experience in heavy truck and bus dealership operations, railroad operations, heavy truck and off-road vehicle maintenance, GPS/ELD/DOT compliance, and more.

Commissioner Caldwell has accumulated multiple decades of experience in leadership, transportation, fleet management, and logistics. He has a Bachelor of Science from Arkansas State University and an MBA in Public Administration from Columbia Southern University.

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TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER –
CENTRAL DISTRICT

Willie Simmons

Commissioner Willie Simmons is in his second term as Central District Transportation Commissioner. In his first term, Simmons saw several critical projects come to completion, including the massive \$253 million, 7.5 mile reconstruction of US 49 from Florence to Richland and \$42 million on I-20 eastbound bridge replacements. Commissioner Simmons' accomplishments also included a \$24 million design-build project on I-59 and I-20 in Meridian, a \$137 million construction for the 4-lane Highway 82 Bypass in Washington County, millions of dollars to construct a 4-lane on Highway 19 in Neshoba County, and allocating approximately \$1 billion to paving, capacity, bridges, and emergency repairs in the Central District.

Simmons served as a Mississippi State Senator for more than 26 years. For the last eight years as a senator, he served as Chairman of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee. Under his leadership in the Senate, over \$5 billion was spent throughout the state on the construction and upgrade of federal and state roads, county and municipal streets and bridges; also, millions of dollars on public transit, ports, railroads, airports, and other infrastructure support systems. He played an integral role on projects such as the repair of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Jackson; the upgrade and repair of Highway 8 in Cleveland; and the Highway 82 Bypass in Leland, among many others. He also served as Chairman of the Corrections Committee and Vice Chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

Simmons served as Deputy Commissioner of Corrections prior to joining the Mississippi Senate. Before that time, he served as a combat veteran of the Vietnam War. He is a graduate of Alcorn State University and received his M. S. degree and Ed.S. degree from Delta State University. He is married to Rose Sibley Simmons and they have four children, 10 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

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TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER –
SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Charles Busby

Charles Busby is entering his first term as Southern District Transportation Commissioner, covering 27 counties and approximately one million people. He previously served three terms in the Mississippi House of Representatives beginning in 2012. He served as Chairman of the House Transportation Committee since 2016. He also served on many other committees in the House including Appropriations, Education, Energy, Gaming, Insurance, Interstate Cooperation, Marine Resource and Ports, Harbors and Airports.

Busby began his career as a project engineer for Brown & Root. He also worked for Chevron and the Herzog-Hart Corporation. From 2001-2023, he served as the President of Orion Engineering.

Busby is no stranger to South Mississippi, as he was born in Laurel and raised in Pascagoula. He earned his Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from the University of South Alabama in 1991. He is a member of the Pascagoula Rotary Club, Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, Jackson County Economic Development Foundation, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Council of Engineering Companies, and the NRA.

He is married to the former Felicia Hillman, and they reside in Pascagoula.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION DISTRICTS

