

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1587

WHEREAS, Mississippi mourns the passing of Deputy Martin Luther Shields, Jr., a dedicated and decorated law enforcement officer who lost his life in the line of duty on February 23, 2025, at the age of 37, while honorably and courageously protecting and serving his community; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Shields was born on July 14, 1987, the son of Martin Luther Shields, Sr. and Marcie Levy, and graduated from Lanier High School in 2006. He attended Hinds Community College before pursuing his true passion in law enforcement at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers Training Academy, graduating in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Shields began his distinguished career in law enforcement at Jackson State University, before moving to the Jackson Police Department, and then the Ridgeland Police Department. He then moved to the Hinds County Sheriff's Office where he served faithfully until his untimely death; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Shields served with honor, courage and unwavering dedication to protecting and serving his community, which would ultimately lead to receiving numerous accolades, namely the "I am the City of Jackson Award," for administering Narcan to save someone's life; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Shields is survived by his wife, Kristian Stevens, and his daughter, Aubrey; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Shields was a devoted Christian and member of New Mount Olive Baptist Church who wholeheartedly loved protecting and serving Mississippi, and in the words of Governor Tate Reeves, he, like all "*our men and women of law enforcement represent the very best of Mississippi. All of Mississippi stands with them as we honor and mourn this hero who has been taken from us too soon.*"; and

WHEREAS, the outpouring of love and support following the tragic death of this fallen hero reflects the deep appreciation and gratitude of all Mississippians for Deputy Shields and the law enforcement community; and

WHEREAS, the prayers of the State are with Deputy Shields' wife and daughter; his parents; his maternal grandfather, Tyrone Lee; his paternal grandmother, Sarah Shields and maternal grandmother, Susanne Bolton; his nine siblings, Erica Tornes, Marquita Levy, Kristian Watkins, Freda Love, Tony Gorden, Jr., Reagan Levy, Amari Shields and Caleb Levy; God-Father, Audwin Fletcher; a host of other family members, friends, law enforcement officers and faith family members.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, and 4 USC § 7(m) do hereby proclaim a day of official mourning in the State of Mississippi in memory of Deputy Martin Luther Shields, Jr. and direct that all flags of the United States of America and the State of Mississippi be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds of the State of Mississippi and all areas under its jurisdiction beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset on Sunday, March 2, 2025, in memory of Deputy Shields. Mississippi will forever remember Deputy Shields' service, devotion and willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Though his watch has ended, his legacy of courage and selflessness will live on.

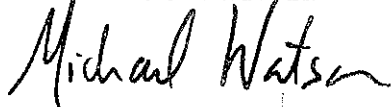
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Jackson, the 28th day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-ninth.


TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR



BY THE GOVERNOR:



MICHAEL WATSON
SECRETARY OF STATE