



Mississippi VA
SERVING OUR HEROES

State Benefits for Mississippi Veterans, Dependents, and Survivors

2019-2020



OUR MISSION

*To honor Mississippi
Veterans and their
dependents through
superior service,
care, & assistance.*



Mississippi VA
SERVING OUR HEROES

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MISSISSIPPI STATE *Veterans Affairs Board*

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OUTREACH**

Joseph Hemleben

**DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OPERATIONS**



A MESSAGE FROM THE *Executive Director* of MISSISSIPPI VETERANS AFFAIRS

For 95 years, Mississippi Veterans Affairs has continued the tradition of connecting our local veterans with the benefits they deserve. As Executive Director, it is an honor to serve alongside a great team who honor our Mississippi heroes through superior service, care, and assistance every day.

Mississippi Veterans Affairs was established to care for the nearly 196,000 veterans currently living in our state. Last year, our agency connected over 30,000 veterans statewide with service-related benefits.

We are working to grow and expand our digital services to help veterans gain better and faster access to information. We also continue to support our veteran business owners as they grow and prosper in their local communities.

The hallmark of our service in Mississippi remains our four state veterans nursing homes, where we currently serve over 600 veterans. I am proud to work with our nursing home staff who provide them with compassionate, specialized care.

Our veterans cemeteries, located in Newton and Kilmichael, are also points of pride. It is an honor for Mississippi Veterans Affairs to have provided over 1,000 veterans and their families a resting place of peace, dignity, and respect.

As a chaplain in the Mississippi Air National Guard, I am committed to providing our veterans and their families with the support they deserve. After 95 years of service, Mississippi Veterans Affairs aims to continue moving veteran care forward. And on behalf of the 600 men and women of the MSVA, we say thank you to all who served.

Stacey E. Pickering
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MISSISSIPPI VETERANS AFFAIRS

Address: 600 North Street Jackson, MS 39206	Postal: Post Office Box 5947 Pearl, MS 39288-5947	Phone: (601) 576-4850 Toll Free: (877) 203-5632 Fax: (601) 576-4868
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In 1924 the Mississippi Legislature recognized that World War I Veterans needed assistance to obtain Veterans’ benefits. This resulted in legislation which created and funded the office of State Service Commissioner. The duties and functions of the office were to aid all residents of Mississippi who served in the military forces of the United States during any war and their dependents and beneficiaries so that they would receive all benefits to which they were entitled under the laws of the United States.

The State Service Commissioner’s office was not adequately staffed to provide the level of case work assistance necessary for the five-fold increase in the population of Veterans brought on by World War II. In 1948, the Legislature changed the State Service Commission to the State Veterans Affairs Board (SVAB) to provide additional manpower and assistance for the increasing number of Veterans and dependents. In 2019, the agency’s name was formally changed to Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

Mississippi Veterans Affairs (MSVA) is charged with assisting former and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and their dependents in securing any benefits or privileges to which they are entitled. The agency operates the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery, the four Mississippi State Veterans Nursing Homes, approving programs and institutions of education and training under the GI Bill, and advises the governor and legislature on Veterans’ affairs.

MILITARY RECORDS

The MSVA stores copies of military discharge documents (DD214’s & DD215s) when received.

- ▶ Recently released military personnel must request that their discharge documents be sent to Mississippi by listing it on their military release.
- ▶ WWII draft cards are stored electronically, however the discharges are not. If the necessary information is located in the WWII Discharge Index, the MSVA may issue a MS State Certified Certificate.
- ▶ Korean War and Vietnam War records were received and stored electronically depending on personal information that was submitted at time of service.

The MSVA does not have access to all Military Records but will help to obtain records when possible.

STATE APPROVING AGENCY

Cathy M. Jones
Director

3466 Highway 80 • Pearl, MS 39208
Post Office Box 5947 • Pearl, MS 39288-5947
Phone: (601) 576-4867 • **Fax:** (601) 576-4870

The State Approving Agency inspects and approves new programs of education and training at Institutions of Higher Learning, Community and Junior Colleges, Vocational-Technical Schools, Flight Schools, On-the-Job Training and Apprenticeship programs for GI Bill education eligibility. If you have questions concerning a school or a training program being approved to teach Veterans, Reservists, and Dependents under the GI Bill, please contact the State Approving Agency.

*If you have questions concerning eligibility, please contact the Department of Veterans Affairs at **1-888-442-4551**.*

STATE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERIES

Marcus Lawson
Director

Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery
248 Honor Circle • Newton, MS 39345
Phone: (601) 683-2959 • **Fax:** (601) 683-2958

North Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery
2 Legion Road • Kilmichael, MS 39747
Phone: (662) 262-4232 • **Fax:** (662) 262-4241

Both Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemeteries are open for in-ground burials and accepts cremains for both in-ground or columbarium interment. The cemetery in Newton is located approximately three (3) miles east of Newton on Highway 80. The cemetery in Kilmichael is located on Highway 82 west. Veterans, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a Mississippi Veterans Memorial Cemetery at no cost unless the burial involves re-interment from another cemetery. The VA provides a free grave marker and perpetual care is provided at no cost. Contact your funeral director or the office of the cemetery of choice for information.

STATE VETERANS OUTREACH SERVICE OFFICERS

Mississippi Veterans Affairs has placed trained VSO's throughout the state to aid both Veterans, Veteran Service Officers, and Congressional Representatives.

Location	Officer & Organizations	Contact
Hernando	Jeshondra Lucas SVAB, AL	jluucas@msva.ms.gov (662) 449-2811
Starkville	Sharon Dollarhide SVAB, AL	sdollarhide@msva.ms.gov (662) 325-6867
Cleveland		
Meridian	Tommy Strickland SVAB, AL	tstrickland@msva.ms.gov (601) 484-0205
Long Beach	Glenn Robinson SVAB, AL	grobinsn@msva.ms.gov (228) 214-3362
Tupelo	Cathy Adams SVAB, AL	cadams@msva.ms.gov (662) 840-2480

STATE VETERANS CLAIMS DIVISION

Charles “Chuck” Holifield
Director

1600 East Woodrow Wilson, Room 116
Jackson, MS 39216
Post Office Box 55949 • Jackson, MS 39296
Phone: (601) 364-7180 • **Fax:** (601) 364-7226
Email: cholifield@msva.ms.gov

MSVA Claims Department employs Veterans Service Officers to provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents regarding VA claims, casework, hearings, appeals, and discharge upgrades. Claims Division employees with Mississippi Veterans Affairs hold accreditation from the following Veteran Organizations:

- › Ex-Prisoners of War
- › American Legion
- › American Red Cross
- › Fleet Reserve Association
- › Veterans of Foreign Wars

STATE VETERANS CLAIMS DIVISION SERVICE OFFICERS

Digits	Officer & Organizations	Contact
	Donna Sessums	dsessums@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7109
	Trae Smith	esmith@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7136
12-31	Laura McLain SVAB, AL	lmclain@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7163
8-11; 32-47	David Bolden SVAB, AL	dbolden@msva.ms.gov (601) 368-4909
48-63 and *00-15	Elizabeth Lancaster SVAB, AL, VFW, ARC	slancaster@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7174
4-7; 64-81 and *16-31	Brin Jones SVAB, AL, VFW, ARC	ljones@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7183
0-3; 82-99 and *32-47	Allen Thompson SVAB, AL, VFW, ARC	athompson@msva.ms.gov (601) 364-7190

VA HOSPITAL STATE VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

The MSVA Hospital Service Officers provide free advice and guidance to Veterans and dependents with VA claims, pertaining to VA medical care and treatment problems, hospitalization and nursing home placement issues. Our hospital service officers provide free representation to Veterans on issues of disagreement and at personal hearings held in the VA Hospitals in Biloxi, Jackson and Memphis.

Melinda Green
Biloxi VA Hospital

400 Veterans Avenue • Building 3, Room 146
Biloxi, MS 39351
Phone: (228) 523-5253
Email: mgreen@msva.ms.gov

Chris Ellis
Jackson VA Hospital

1500 E. Woodrow Wilson Drive • D-116, Module A
Jackson, MS 39216
Phone: (601) 364-1451
Email: cellis@msva.ms.gov

Jeshondra Lucas
Memphis VA South Clinic

1056 East Raines Road, Room 173
Memphis, TN 38116
Phone: (901) 523-8990 ext. 5126
Email: jlucas@msva.ms.gov

STATE VETERANS NURSING HOMES

Mississippi houses four State Veterans Nursing Homes (SVNH) containing 150 beds per home. Each SVNH employs skilled and dedicated professionals to provide care for eligible Veterans and spouses.

Eligibility for admission to the Homes requires each serviceman/woman:

- › Should be or have been a Mississippi resident.
- › Have qualifying military service.
- › Have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.
- › Be the spouse of a Veteran who resides in one of the State Veterans Nursing Homes.

Out of state Veterans may be admitted to the Homes if there are no Mississippi residents waiting to accept a bed. Out of state applicants must have a medical need for nursing home care and must be able to pay the applicable daily charge for care in the Home.

STATE VETERANS NURSING HOME SERVICE OFFICERS

Larry Banks
Veterans Home | Collins

3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428
Phone: (601) 765-0403
Email: lbanks@msva.ms.gov

Harvey Smith
Veterans Home | Jackson

4607 Lindbergh Drive • Jackson, MS 39209
Phone: (601) 353-6142
Email: hsmith@msva.ms.gov

Piccolar Johnson
Veterans Home | Kosciusko

310 Autumn Ridge Drive • Kosciusko, MS 39090
Phone: (662) 289-7044
Email: pjohnson@msva.ms.gov

Lee Bruton
Veterans Home | Oxford

120 Veterans Drive • Oxford, MS 38655
Phone: (662) 236-1218
Email: lbruton@msva.ms.gov

STATE VETERANS NURSING ADMINISTRATORS

Pam Thrash
Nursing Home Coordinator

3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428
Phone: (601) 765-0519
Email: pthrash@msva.ms.gov

Tommie Carr
Veterans Home | Collins

3261 Highway 49 • Collins, MS 39428
Phone: (601) 765-0519
Email: tcarr@msva.ms.gov

Gerald Reed
Veterans Home | Jackson

4607 Lindbergh Drive • Jackson, MS 39209
Phone: (601) 353-6142
Email: greed@msva.ms.gov

Jonathan Allen
Veterans Home | Kosciusko

310 Autumn Ridge Drive • Kosciusko, MS 39090
Phone: (662) 289-7044
Email: jallen@msva.ms.gov

Vacant
Veterans Home | Oxford

STATE VETERANS NURSING HOME DAILY CHARGE EXEMPTION

There shall be no State Veterans Nursing Home resident daily charge for those residents in need of nursing home care for a VA adjudicated service-connected disability; or who have a singular or combined service-connected rating of seventy percent (70%) or more based on one or more service connected disabilities or rating a total one hundred percent (100%) based on individual unemployability and are in need of nursing home care.

Miss. Code Ann., § 35-1-27

Indigent Veterans can request assistance with the expense of care in the facilities.

Applications for admission to the Veterans Homes can be obtained from any of our offices, from many hospital social work departments, or by visiting our website at www.msva.ms.gov.

MISSISSIPPI VETERANS HOME PURCHASE BOARD

Address:

3466 Highway 80
Pearl, MS 39208

Postal:

Post Office Box 54411
Pearl, MS 39288-4411

Phone: (601) 576-4800**Website:**

www.vhpb.state.ms.us

The Veterans Home Purchase Board provides low interest mortgage loans in amounts up to \$250,000.00 for eligible Veterans and unmarried surviving spouses to purchase an existing single family home or to construct a new home. Eligibility requires that the Veteran be a Mississippi resident prior to entering military service or be a resident for two (2) consecutive years prior to applying for the loan. The Veteran must have or obtain a Certificate of Eligibility for Home Loan Guaranty from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and be discharged from extended active duty under honorable conditions. Contact the Veterans Home Purchase Board for information and applications.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Address:

200 North State Street
Jackson, MS 39205

Phone:

(601) 576-6850

Website:

www.mdah.state.ms.us

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History maintains historical records and a reference library concerning Mississippi residents and units which served during the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

STATE PERSONNEL BOARD

Address: 210 East Capitol, Suite 800 Jackson, MS 39201	Phone: (601) 359-1406	Website: www.mspb.ms.gov
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Applications for state employment are processed by the State Personnel Board (SPB). The SPB's website lists state jobs which are currently on recruitment and for which they are accepting applications. The SPB website also provides job descriptions and minimum qualifications for the positions on recruitment.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Address: 1235 Echelon Parkway Jackson, MS 39213	Postal: Post Office Box 1699 Jackson, MS 39213-1699	Phone: (601) 321-6004 Website: www.mdes.state.ms.us
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Veterans seeking assistance regarding employment or unemployment insurance benefits should contact the Mississippi Department of Employment Security for assistance. MS Employment Security offices and WIN Centers are located in many areas of the state and may be listed in your local telephone book. Veterans may also obtain assistance through the MDES website at <http://mdes.ms.gov/win-job-centers/> or by calling the call center at **1-888-844-3577**.

MISSISSIPPI'S PLEDGE TO HIRE A HERO

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security Partners with businesses through its network of WIN Job Centers across the state. Center staff helps with free job postings and saves businesses time and money by providing recruitment, screening, and referral of only qualified candidates.

Information on Work Opportunities, Tax Credits, and On-The-Job Training is also available through the Centers. To find the nearest center and learn more about these programs, call **(888) 844-3577** or visit the website at www.mdes.ms.gov.

MISSISSIPPI MILITARY DEPARTMENT
(ARMY & AIR NATIONAL GUARD)

Address: 1410 Riverside Drive Jackson, MS 39202	Postal: Post Office Box 5027 Jackson, MS 39296-5027	Phone: (601) 313-6232 Website: www.ngms.state.ms.us
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The Mississippi Military Department maintains personnel and military discharge records for members of the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard. Contact the Mississippi Military Department to request copies of those records.

FUNERAL HONOR DETAIL REQUEST

Families of eligible Veterans should request funeral honors through their Funeral Director. The Funeral Director will contact the appropriate military service branch to arrange for the funeral honors detail. To initiate the request, the family must provide a discharge document showing dates of service and character of discharge to the Funeral Director. Although the Mississippi Veterans Affairs does not have cognizance over the funeral honors process, we are always available to assist in any way possible. Please contact Mississippi Veterans Affairs should you need assistance or help in obtaining discharge documents.

MISSISSIPPI LAWS CONCERNING VETERANS BENEFITS
COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS

Counties may employ a County Veterans Service Officer who shall be (a) honorably discharged or honorably released Veteran of any war or police action in which the Armed Forces of the United States have been, are or shall be committed for action; (b) the surviving spouse or child of any such deceased Veteran; or (c) any person employed as a County Veterans Service Officer in any county of the State of Mississippi on March 30, 1990.

County Veterans Service Officers must be certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs which requires that they (a) attend at least one (1) of the two (2) annual training programs provided each year and successfully complete a written examination each year on the duties and responsibilities of and assistance available to such officers and Veterans. No County Veterans Service Officer shall be entitled to any compensation for their service unless they are annually certified by Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-21

AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION

Any Veteran having a service-connected, total disability and who has been honorably discharged from military service shall be exempt from all Ad Valorem taxes on the assessed value of homestead property and to extend such exemption to un-remarried surviving spouses of such Veterans.

Miss. Code Ann., §27-33-75 and §27-33-67

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES

Veterans who have a total service-connected disability from the Veterans Administration are not required to purchase hunting or fishing license, but must have on their person proof of age, residency and disability status while engaged in hunting or fishing.

Miss. Code Ann., §49-7-5

PRIVILEGE TAX

Persons who are 65 or older, blind, deaf, dumb, or with loss of hand or foot, or loss of use of the hand or foot or who can provide documentation that they are 50% disabled to perform physical labor and whose annual gross income is \$900.00 or less are exempt from payment of privilege tax for specified businesses.

Miss. Code Ann., §27-15-227

STATE RETIREMENT

Members of the State Public Employees Retirement System who served in the Armed Forces of the United States or who served in Maritime Service during periods of hostility in WWII shall be entitled to up to four (4) years credit for active duty in the Armed Forces or in such Maritime Service, provided they entered State Service after discharge from the Armed Forces or after completion of such Maritime Service. Credit may be extended beyond four (4) years for those persons who can provide positive proof that they were retained in the Armed Forces or such Maritime Service during WWII by causes beyond his control and without opportunity for discharge.

Miss. Code Ann., §25-11-109

RECORDING AND RETRIEVING DOCUMENTATION

The Mississippi Dept. of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, without charge, copies of birth and death certificates when they are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability, or survivors benefits for any Veteran who is a legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants.

Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-9

The State Bureau of Vital Statistics is to furnish, at no expense, and immediately upon application a certified copy of birth certificates for any person volunteering for service in one of the Armed Forces of the United States.

Miss. Code Ann., §41-57- 25

Chancery and Circuit Clerks are to furnish, without charge, copies of marriage licenses, divorce decrees, adoption decrees and any and all other records when the same are needed to establish claims for dependency, disability or survivors benefits for any Veterans who are legal residents of the State of Mississippi or their claimants.

Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-11

Chancery Clerks shall record, without cost whatsoever to any person of the Armed Forces of the United States residing in the same county, all honorable discharges and all certificates of service of any and all members of the Armed Forces of the United States. Certified copies will be furnished free without cost to the soldier, sailor, marine, coast guardsman, or nurse.

Miss. Code Ann., §35-3-13

ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED COPIES OF DEATH CERTIFICATES

The Office of Vital Records Registration shall furnish up to five (5) certified copies of the death certificate of any deceased person who was an honorably discharged Veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States or who was killed or died while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, without charge, to any person or entity that is authorized to receive death certificates. The applicant for a copy of the death certificate must furnish such written evidence of the deceased person's service in the Armed Forces of the United States as required by the office. Copies of death certificates furnished under the authority under this section shall be in addition to any copies of death certificates furnished without charge under the authority of Section §35-3-9.

Miss. Code Ann., § 41-57-26

HONORARY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The school board of a local school district may award an honorary high school diploma in a form prescribed and supplied to school districts by the State Board of Education to Veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam Conflict who were unable to complete their education due to their military service. The honorary diploma is available to any honorably discharged Veterans residing in Mississippi who was (a) scheduled to graduate between 1941 and 1955 but was inducted into military service before completing the necessary graduation requirements, or (b) was scheduled to graduate between 1963 and 1973 but volunteered for military service and received the Vietnam Service Ribbon. Family members of deceased eligible Veterans may apply for the diploma to be awarded posthumously.

Miss. Code Ann., § 37-16-13

CONCEALED WEAPON TRAINING, STATE RESIDENCY EXEMPTION

Concealed-carry permit qualification requirements have been revised to authorize any member, honorably retired member or Veterans of any active or reserve component branch of the United States of America Armed Forces having completed law enforcement or combat training with pistols or other handguns as recognized by such branch after submitting an affidavit attesting to have read, understand and agree to comply with all provisions of the enhanced carry law.

Miss. Code Ann., § 97- 37- 7 Miss. Code Ann., § 45-9-101

CONCEALED WEAPON PERMIT FEE EXEMPTION FOR SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES

Any Veterans having a service-connected disability shall be exempted from concealed weapon permit fees and renewal fees. The Veteran must be a resident of the state for 12 months or longer immediately preceding the filing of the application. However, this residency requirement may be waived, provided the applicant possesses a valid permit from another state, is active military personnel stationed in Mississippi, or is a retired law enforcement officer establishing residency in the state.

Miss. Code Ann., §45-9-101

CONCEALED WEAPON PERMIT FEE EXEMPTION FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Active duty members of the Armed Forces of the United States shall be exempt from the payment of concealed weapon permit fees and renewal fees.

Miss. Code Ann., § 45-9-101

AUTHORIZATION OF IN-STATE TUITION FOR NONRESIDENT STUDENTS WHO ARE UNITED STATES VETERANS OR PERSONS ENTITLED FOR VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Any Veteran, as defined by Title 38 of the United States Code, or a person entitled to education benefits under Title 38 of the United States Code is authorized in-state tuition.

Miss. Code Ann., § 37-103-25

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Children of any member of the armed services whose official home of record and residence is within the State of Mississippi and who is officially reported as being either a prisoner of war or missing in action can receive an eight semester scholarship, without cost, exclusive of books, food, school supplies, materials and dues or fees for extracurricular activities at any state supported college or university within the State.

Miss. Code Ann., §37-108-1

The Adjutant General of Mississippi is authorized to pay the tuition for certain members of the active Mississippi National Guard who are enrolled within the State of Mississippi in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational education school or junior college.

Miss. Code Ann., §33-7-405 and §33-7-407

Military personnel stationed in Mississippi are classified as state residents for the purposes of payment of tuition at state colleges and universities.

Miss. Code Ann., §37-103-17

CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS THAT EMPLOY CERTAIN VETERANS

Any taxpayer that employs a person who is a new hire employed after January 1, 2015, who is an honorably discharged Veteran, as defined in Title 38 of the United States Code, who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, and who has been unemployed for six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to being employed by the taxpayer, shall be allowed an annual credit against the taxes imposed.

EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCE

The State Personnel Board designates the Veteran or disabled Veteran status of applicants on the lists of eligible applicants for job vacancies within state service. These lists are sent to the agencies seeking to fill vacancies.

In state layoffs, Veterans are granted preference and additional preference is given disabled Veterans.

Miss. Code Ann., §25-0-303

RE-EMPLOYMENT

Any person who is a member of any reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States who, in order to perform duties or receive training with the Armed Forces of the United States or of the State of Mississippi leaves a position, other than a temporary position, in the employ of any employer, and who shall give evidence of the Satisfactory completion of such duty or training, and who is still qualified to perform the duties of such position, shall be entitled to be restored to his previous or a similar position, in the same status, pay, and seniority. Such period of absence for military duty or training shall be construed as an absence with leave but may be without pay.

Miss. Code Ann., §33-1-19

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE RECIPROCITY

As passed by the Mississippi Legislature (2013 Regular Session) and Signed into law by the Governor: Senate Bill 2419 provides that Military and Military Spouses who are moving or have moved to Mississippi due to an active duty transfer may more quickly obtain licenses for many professions such as teaching, accounting, cosmetology, engineering and real estate brokerage. Licenses for physicians, nurses, dentists, dieticians, and other medical jobs are also included. The bill also provides that individuals with military training may (subject to guidelines set by licensing boards) count their experience toward requirements for various job licenses, certifications, and registrations. State licensing boards can grant either a permanent or temporary occupational license. People with temporary licenses can start working while applying for permanent ones.

To view the complete bill:

<http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2013/html/SB/2400-2499/SB2419PS.htm>

Licensing for specific professions is regulated by cognizant Boards/Agencies. Individuals must contact individual licensing boards for information and eligibility.

VETERANS DESIGNATION

The Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety is authorized to provide the new, renewal or duplicate license, temporary driving permit, intermediate license or commercial driver's license to any honorably discharged Veteran as defined by federal law and such license or permit shall exhibit the letters "Vet" or any other mark identifying the person as a Veteran. The Veteran requesting the "Vet" designation shall present his DD 214 or equivalent document that includes a notation from Mississippi Veterans Affairs that the applicant is a Veteran.

Miss. Code Ann., § 45-3-9, §63-1-35, and §45-35-3

Veterans must present a certified (stamped and sealed) copy of discharge document from the Mississippi Veterans Affairs to obtain "VET" designation.

At least two (2) weeks before applying to the MS Department of Public Safety (MS DPS) for Veteran ("VET") designation on his/her MS driver's license or identification card, the Veteran shall provide to Mississippi Veterans Affairs:

1. A copy of their discharge document (DD 214 or equivalent documentation); AND
2. A written request for verification of Veteran status.

The written request for verification/certification of Veteran status should include the following information:

1. Veteran's full name;
2. Veteran's current mailing address;
3. Veteran's phone number; and
4. Veteran's signature.

Veterans may submit their discharge document and request for verification/certification by:

1. **MAIL:** Mississippi Veterans Affairs (Vet Driver's License)
3466 Highway 80 East
P.O. Box 5947
Pearl, MS 39288
2. **FAX:** Mississippi Veterans Affairs (Vet Driver's License)
Fax Number: (601) 576-4870

Applicants must meet the definition of "Veteran" as outlined in Title 38 of the United States Code and be verified/certified by authorized Mississippi Veterans Affairs staff.

Once a Veteran status is verified/certified, the Mississippi Veterans Affairs staff will place an approved stamp (as coordinated with MS DPS) and seal on the copy of the Veteran's discharge document and return the copy to the Veteran.

For Assistance, Veterans may contact Mississippi Veterans Affairs.

MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES

Photos of Mississippi Veteran and military license plates can be viewed on the website for the Mississippi Department of Revenue www.dor.ms.gov.

Once you enter the Dept. of Revenue website click on Tag/Titles, then click on Special Plates and then click on Available License Plates. Color photos of available specialty plates will be displayed.

See inside back cover for additional Mississippi Military License Plates.



HONORING VETERANS

Any owner of a passenger vehicle, pickup truck or noncommercial motor vehicle can purchase the Honoring Veterans license plate. The plate costs an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00) over regular license plate fees and \$24.00 of that fee goes to support indigent Veterans residing the State Veterans Nursing Homes and the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.140**



VETERAN MOTOR VEHICLES

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are honorably discharged Veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motor vehicle license plates or tags for each motor vehicle registered in his name identifying his status as a Veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.12**



VETERAN MOTORCYCLES

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by Mississippians who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, any such person is privileged to obtain distinctive motorcycle license plates or tags for each motorcycle registered in his name identifying his status as a veteran. In addition, decals indicating branch and period of military service are to be affixed to the license tags. An additional annual tag fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be collected for such license plates for the benefit of indigent Veterans who are residents of the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.125**



GOLD STAR FAMILY

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi and a family member of a service member who has been killed in action or died in a combat zone while serving in the Armed Forces, and was a resident of Mississippi at the time of death, may purchase a Gold Star license tag for an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.162**



AFGHANISTAN VETERAN

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Afghanistan theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Afghanistan may purchase the Afghanistan Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.187**



IRAQ VETERAN

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and served in the Iraq theater of operations and was awarded either the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, for service in, or in support of operations in Iraq may obtain the Iraq Veteran license plate for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which will benefit the State Veterans Memorial Cemetery and the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.186**



VIETNAM VETERAN

In recognition of the patriotic service rendered by a legal resident of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged Veteran who served in the United State Armed Forces during the Vietnam Conflict and was awarded a Vietnam Service Ribbon, may obtain the Vietnam Veteran license plate or tag for an additional fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Home. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.85**



PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who is an honorably discharged former member of one of the Armed Forces of the United States and while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States was present during the attack on the island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, between the hours of 7:55 AM and 9:45 AM, Hawaii time, is privileged to obtain two distinctive motor vehicle license plate for an additional tag fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence.

Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19- 56.5



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERAN

Any legal Veteran resident of the State of Mississippi with a service-connected disability (100%) from the Veterans Administration and evaluated as permanent and total by the VA; or a rating of total (100%) based on individual unemployability and evaluated as permanent and total by the VA; and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is privileged to purchase annually one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger motor vehicle or pickup truck in his or her county of residence for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) in total cost. **Miss. Code Ann., §27- 19- 53**



PURPLE HEART

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who can provide written proof that while serving in the Armed Forces of the United State he or she was awarded the Purple Heart Medal is privileged to obtain one free distinctive license plate or tag for use on a private passenger vehicle (to include station wagons, recreational motor vehicles and pickup trucks) registered in the county of his or her legal residence.

The unmarried surviving spouse of a deceased person who was issued a Purple Heart Medal license plate or tag may apply for or retain one (1) such license plate or tag which shall be exempt from taxes and fees. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.5**



BRONZE STAR

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Bronze Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal. The applicant must pay an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00) tag fee, \$24.00 of which benefits indigent Veterans residing in the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.62**



DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS & AIR MEDAL

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross or Air Medal while in military service may purchase a special license plate recognizing that award. The applicant must present Satisfactory proof of award of the medal and pay an additional (\$30.00) tag fee. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.13**



SILVER STAR

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a Veteran and was awarded the Silver Star medal while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States may obtain special license plates recognizing that award. Applicants must present official written proof of the award of the medal. The Silver Star plate is exempt from all fees and taxes and may be retained by the un-remarried surviving spouse of the deceased Veteran recipient. Proof of marital status must be provided for the un-remarried spouse to obtain the Silver Star plate. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.284**



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person is privileged to obtain annually, one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger motor vehicle or pickup truck in the county of his residence. The CMH license plate or tag is exempt from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-54**



EX-PRISONER OF WAR

Any legal resident of the State of Mississippi who was a prisoner of war, and the unmarried surviving spouse of such person, is privileged to obtain annually one (1) motor vehicle license plate or tag for a private passenger vehicle or pickup truck in the county of his or her residence. The Ex-POW license plate or tag is exempt from all motor vehicle registration fees and privilege taxes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-54**



NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL

In recognition of the patriotic services rendered by a legal resident of the State of Mississippi who received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, any such Veteran may obtain a Navy and Marine Corps Medal license plate or tag for an additional thirty dollars (\$30.00), \$24.00 of which shall benefit indigent Veterans residing at the State Veterans Nursing Homes. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.199**



RESERVE, NATIONAL GUARD, MERCHANT MARINE, RETIRED

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who has completed an active duty career with the Armed Forces of the United States and active duty and retired members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, United States Reserves and those United States Merchant Marines in maritime service during the period from December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945, and their surviving spouses may be issued distinctive motor vehicle license plate or tag at no additional cost in the county of his or her legal residence. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-51**



COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE / COMBAT VETERAN

Any resident of the State of Mississippi who received the Combat Infantryman Badge or other equivalent Badges/Ribbons for the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marines from the United States Armed Forces may be issued a distinctive motor vehicle license plate for an annual additional fee. The portion retained of the additional fee will be deposited in the County general fund. **Miss. Code Ann. § 27-19-56.12**

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

The majority of counties in Mississippi employ a County Veteran Service Officer to assist county residents with VA claims. County Veteran Service Officers can answer questions and provide information, examples listed below:

- › Applying for VA Benefits
- › Completing forms
- › Checking on VA Claim Status
- › Providing advice to Veterans and their dependents

ADAMS COUNTY

Sonjagela Johnson 307 Market Street Natchez, MS 39120	Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–4pm Office: (601) 304-7800 Email: veterans@adamscountymiss.gov
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ALCORN COUNTY

Jill Clement Steve Wallace Edith Simpson Deborah Hardin (Asst.) Court House P.O. Box 158 Corinth, MS 38835	Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30am–4:30pm Office: (662) 286-7744 Cell: (901) 496-2475 Fax: (662) 284-4922 Email: jbascomb@co.alcorn.ms.us dhardin@co.alcorn.ms.us
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AMITE COUNTY

Jim Sterling 185 Irene Street P.O. Box 103 Liberty, MS 39645	Hours: Monday, 3–5pm Friday, 8am–12pm Office: (601) 657-4197 Email: amitevso@bellsouth.net
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ATTALA COUNTY

Mervin Foster Janie Wallace (Asst.) 715 Fairground Road P.O. Box 421 Kosciusko, MS 39090	Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–4pm Office: (662) 287-6045 Fax: (662) 289-0111 Email: attalavso@attalacounty.net verserofc@att.net
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BENTON COUNTY

Donald Jeffers Benton Courthouse P.O. Box 218 Ashland, MS 38603	Hours: Friday, 8am–4pm Office: (662) 224-6325 Fax: (662) 224-6303 Email: veterans@bentoncountymiss.gov
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COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

BOLIVAR COUNTY

Richard Coleman
113 South Davis Street
Highway 61 • P.O. Box 4067
Cleveland, MS 38732

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday, 8am–4pm
Office: (662) 843-2471
Fax: (662) 846-5898
Email: bcvso2013@yahoo.com

CALHOUN COUNTY

Robert Gosa
American Legion
496 Veterans Avenue
P.O. Box 534
Calhoun City, MS 38916

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10am until
Office: (662) 628-1933
Cell: (662) 983-9328
Fax: (662) 628-1933
Email: bobgosa@tds.net

CARROLL COUNTY

Johnny Marlow
Courthouse
Carrollton, MS • Vaiden, MS
P.O. Box 60
Carrollton, MS 38917

Hours: (Vaiden) First & Third Tuesday,
9am–3:30pm
Office: (662) 237-9274
Fax: (662) 237-9642

CHICKASAW COUNTY

Kenneth Nichols
665 North Jefferson Street
Houston, MS 38851
285 County Road 63
Woodland, MS 39776

Hours: By appointment only
Office: (662) 456-3652
Email: krnichols@bellsouth.net

Gilbert A. Wise, Jr.
793 Highway 245
South Okolona, MS 38860

Hours: By appointment only
Office: (662) 542-3575
Home: (662) 447-3116
Email: wisehouse53@gmail.com

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Michael Bell
583 West Main Street
P.O. Box 250
Ackerman, MS 39735

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9am–12pm
Cell: (662) 285-7719
Fax: (662) 285-3922 (Attn: Michael)
Email: choctawcountymsvets@gmail.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

CLAIBORNE COUNTY

James Jackson
1703 Bride Will Lane
Multipurpose Building
P.O. Box 689
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–4pm
Office: (601) 437-1105
Cell: (601) 400-3601
Fax: (601) 437-4431
Email: jjackson@ccmsgov.us

CLARKE COUNTY

Ronald “Ron” Holloway
100 East Church Street
P.O. Box 616
Quitman, MS 39355

Hours: By appointment only
Office: (601) 776-2461
Cell: (601) 686-1514
Home: (601) 776-2040
Fax: (601) 776-1013
Email: rnholloway@bellsouth.net

CLAY COUNTY

Charles Tolliver
218 West Broad Street
Justice Court Building
P.O. Box 1203
West Point, MS 39773

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–12pm (appt. only)
Office: (662) 494-1554
Fax: (662) 494-6141
Email: ctollivar@claycountymys.gov

COAHOMA COUNTY

Jerry D. Allhands
504 2nd Street • P.O. Box 1221
Clarksdale, MS 38614

Hours: By appointment only
Office: (662) 624-5201
Email: jerry_allhands2001@yahoo.com

COPIAH COUNTY

Ronald “Ron” Evans
122 South Lowe Street
Chancery Clerk Office
P.O. Box 507
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8am–12pm
Office: (601) 894-4101
Fax: (601) 894-4081

COVINGTON COUNTY

Bill Watson
502 South Arrington Ave
P.O. Box 1679
Collins, MS 39428

Hours: Monday–Friday, 7am–12:30pm
Office: (601) 765-4004
Fax: (601) 765-0283
Email: veterans@covingtoncountyma.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

DESOTO COUNTY

Michael Reed
Maxwell Bldg. • Suite B
6595 Hwy 305N
Olive Branch, MS 38654

Hours: Monday & Thursday, 8am–3pm
Friday, 8am–1:30pm
Office: (662) 404-6598
Email: mreed@desotocountyms.gov

FORREST COUNTY

Brad Scott
1200 Corinne Street
P.O. Box 550
Hattiesburg, MS 39403

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–4:30pm
Office: (601) 583-4521
Fax: (601) 582-4947
Email: bscott@co.forrest.ms.us

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Grady Fleming
38 Walnut Street
P.O. Box 294
Meadville, MS 39653

Hours: Wednesday, 9am–5pm
Office: (601) 384-2763
Cell: (601) 384-6931
Fax: (601) 384-2763
Email: franklincountyvso@gmail.com

GEORGE COUNTY

Jerry Hite
1st Floor Courthouse
355 Cox Street
Lucedale, MS 39452

Hours: Wednesday, 7am–1pm
Office: (601) 247-2117
Fax: (601) 947-8804
Email: veteranaffairs@georgecountyms.gov

GREENE COUNTY

Bill Harvison
313 Lafayette Avenue
P.O. Box 1244
Leakesville, MS 39451

Hours: Tuesday & Friday, 9am–4pm
Office: (601) 394-2442
Cell: (601) 770-5177
Email: billyharvisonsr@hughes.net

GRENADA COUNTY

Eric Williamson
Grenada County Courthouse
First Floor
2231 McSwine Road
Grenada, MS 38901

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday (appt. only)
Office: (662) 299-8410
Fax: (662) 227-2860
Email: ericso26@yahoo.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

HANCOCK COUNTY

Ken Yates
854 Highway 90, Suite A
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Appointments preferred
Office: (228) 467-2100
(228) 395-1560
Fax: (228) 467-2691
Email: ken.yates@co.hancock.ms.us

HARRISON COUNTY

Julia Encalade
Biloxi Office
730 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Courthouse 1st Floor
P.O. Box 413
Biloxi, MS 39533

Hours: Monday & Wednesday, 8am–5pm (appt. only)
Office: (228) 435-8271
Cell: (228) 236-7391
Fax: (228) 436-8649
Email: vetoff2@co.harrison.ms.us

Gulfport Office
1801 23RD Avenue
P.O. Drawer CC
Gulfport, MS 39502

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–5pm (appt. only)
Office: (228) 865-4027
Cell: (228) 236-7391

HINDS COUNTY

Mamie Pickett Brown
316 South President Street
Jackson, MS 39205

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (601) 968-5408
Email: mbrown@co.hinds.ms.us

HOLMES COUNTY

Andrew Carnegie, Jr.
2 Court Square
Lexington, MS 39095
P.O. Box 398
Tchula, MS 39169

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
8am–5pm (appt. only)
Office: (662) 834-2508
Home: (662) 235-0143
Fax: (662) 235-4633
Email: carnegie1958@yahoo.com

HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Diane Toy
Belzoni Courthouse
P.O. Box 234
Belzoni, MS 3903

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–12pm
Office: (662) 247-0143
Cell: (662) 836-8740
Fax: (662) 247-0101

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

ISSAQUENA COUNTY

Jessie Short

5490 Glen Allen Road
P.O. Box 343
Glen Allen, MS 38744

Hours: Monday–Friday, 12–4pm**Office:** (662) 403-0241

(662) 347-9410

Email: jessieshortjr@yahoo.com

ITAWAMBA COUNTY

Jason Baker

507 Legion Dr.
Mailing: 201 W Main Street
Fulton, MS 38843

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–4pm**Office:** (662) 862-2841**Fax:** (662) 862-2841**Email:** jbaker@itawambacomms.com**David Palmer (Asst.)****Hours:** Monday–Friday, 12–4pm**Office:** (662) 862-2841**Fax:** (662) 862-2841**Email:** dpalmer@itawambacomms.com

JACKSON COUNTY

Robert Whipple**Stephen R. Chambers (Asst.)**

4111 Amonett
P.O. Box 998
Pascagoula, MS 39568

Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:30am–4:30pm**Office:** (228) 769-3228

(228) 769-3075

Fax: (228) 696-6284**Email:** bob_whipple@co.jackson.ms.us
stephen_chambers@co.jackson.ms.us

JASPER COUNTY

Pat Baughman

37 E West 8th Ave.
P.O. Box 191
Bay Springs, MS 39422

Hours: Tuesday–Thursday, 8am–5pm**Office:** (601) 764-2871**Fax:** (601) 764-2035**Email:** pbaughman@co.jasper.ms.us

JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

Joe Bridges

Courthouse
P.O. Box 2121
Prentiss, MS 39474

Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 8am–5pm**Office:** (601) 792-5939**Cell:** (601) 517-6205**Email:** bridgesj7@aol.com

Wellness Center
Bassfield, MS

Hours: Wednesday, 8am–12pm

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Robert McDonald

1483 Main Street
P.O. Box 145
Fayette, MS 39069

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–12pm

Office: (601) 786-3021

Cell: (601) 786-7309

Fax: (601) 786-6009

Email: rmcdjcvso@bellsouth.net

JONES COUNTY

Connie Hoover**Kameye Smith (Asst.)**

515 North 5th Avenue
P.O. Box 4384
Laurel, MS 39441

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm (call for appt.)

Office: (601) 428-0467

Fax: (601) 399-4776

Email: choover@co.jones.ms.us
ksmith@co.jones.ms.us

KEMPER COUNTY

Marie Wilson

39 Bell Street
P.O. Box 252
DeKalb, MS 39328

Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 8am–5pm

Office: (601) 743-2247

Cell: (601) 803-3266

Email: kcvso@att.net

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Chester Starks**Leona Starks (Asst.)**

101 Veterans Drive
Oxford, MS 38655
Mailing: 722 M.L.K. Jr. Drive
Oxford, MS 38655

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 9am–2pm (appt. only)

Office: (662) 236-3111

Cell: (662) 419-1856

Email: veterans@lafayettecoms.com

LAMAR COUNTY

Jay Statham**Grant Hartfield (Asst.)**

12 Veterans Drive
Purvis, MS 39475

Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9am–3pm

Friday, 8am–12pm

Office: (601) 794-4218

Cell: (601) 436-0130

Fax: (601) 794-4218

Email: jstatham@lamarcountymys.gov

Suzanne Oddo (Admin)

Oak Grove Senior Center
5874 West 4th Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–2pm

Office: (601) 336-5019

Email: soddo@lamarcountymys.gov

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

Robert Robertson (Asst.)
19 Center Lane
Sumrall, MS 39482

Hours: Second & Fourth Monday, 9am–2pm
Office: (601) 758-0015
Fax: (601) 758-0015
Email: rrobertson@lamarcountymys.gov

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

Jeff Sibley
Brenda Ethridge (Asst.)
1827 23rd Avenue
Meridian, MS 39302

Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–4:30pm (appt. only)
Friday, 8–11am (appt. only)
Office: (601) 482-9811
Cell: (601) 482-9845
Email: jsibley@lauderdalecounty.org
bethridge@lauderdalecounty.org

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Mikell Sandifer
County Office Building
P.O. Box 1160
Monticello, MS 39654

Hours: Tuesday, 8:30am–4pm • Wednesday, 10am–4pm
Office: (601) 587-3006
Cell: (601) 455-3176
Fax: (601) 587-0750
Email: veterans@co.lawrence.ms.us

LEAKE COUNTY

Gary Thaggard
101 Court Square, Room 102
Carthage, MS 39051

Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 8am–5pm
Office: (601) 267-7200
Cell: (601) 486-3592
Fax: (601) 267-7200
Email: gthaggard@co.leake.ms.us

LEE COUNTY

Marilyn Reed
300 West Main Street
P.O. Box 1785
Tupelo, MS 38802

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (662) 432-2099
Fax: (662) 432-2098
Email: mreed@co.lee.ms.us

LEFLORE COUNTY

Michael Bland
310 West Market Street
P.O. Box 250
Greenwood, MS 38935

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (662) 453-3157
Fax: (662) 451-7324
Email: mbland@leflorecounty.net

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

LINCOLN COUNTY

Dwayne Gill
Courthouse • Room 202
301 South First Street
Brookhaven, MS 39601

Hours: Thursday, 9am–4pm
Office: (601) 835-3470
Fax: (601) 835-3455
Email: vsolincoln@co.lincoln.ms.us

LOWNDES COUNTY

James Richardson
Annie Hines (Asst.)
308 Legion Drive
American Legion Building
P.O. Box 9446
Columbus, MS 39705

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 7:30am–4:30pm
Thursday, 7:30am–4pm
Friday, 7:30am–11:30am
Office: (662) 327-2005
(662) 329-5777
Fax: (662) 328-5430
Email: lcvso@hotmail.com

MADISON COUNTY

Mendel G. Kemp
Gina Kelley (Asst.)
125 W. North St.
Madison, MS 39110
P.O. Box 608
Canton, MS 39046

Hours: (VSO) Monday & Tuesday, 8:30am–4pm
(Asst.) Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (601) 855-5518
Fax: (601) 859-5875
Email: mendal.kemp@madison-co.com
gina.kelley@madison-co.com

MARION COUNTY

Dewey L. Blansett, Jr.
124 McGeehee Dr.
Columbia, MS 39429

Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–4pm
Friday, 8am–12pm
Office: (601) 736-0740
Fax: (601) 736-0750
Email: dblansett@marioncountymys.com

MARSHALL COUNTY

Celestine Tucker
136 Alderson Street
P.O. Box 219
Holly Springs, MS 38635

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–4:30pm (appt. only)
Office: (662) 252-5508
Fax: (662) 252-5508
Email: c_tucker.cvsommarshall@yahoo.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

MONROE COUNTY

Jason Sullivan American Legion Building 523 Highway 145 North P.O. Box 813 Aberdeen, MS 39730	Hours: Wednesday–Friday, 8am–3pm Office: (662) 269-4651 Cell: (662) 436-9191 Fax: (662) 369-4651 Email: jscott@monroems.com
Dee Prisock (Asst.) Government Complex Bldg. P.O. Box 1076 Amory, MS 38821	Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8am–3pm Office: (662) 256-3841 Fax: (662) 305-3207 Email: dprisock@monroems.com
Keith Crosby 1619 Highway 25 North Amory, MS 38821	Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8:30am–3pm Office: (662) 256-3841 (662) 304-0082 Fax: (662) 305-3207 Email: kcrosby@monroems.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Joseph Heath 618 Summit Street Courthouse P.O. Box 401 Winona, MS 38967	Hours: Thursday & Friday, 8am–3pm Office: (662) 283-1618 Cell: (254) 291-6363 Fax: (662) 283-2333 Email: mcvso@yahoo.com
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NESHOPA COUNTY

Ken Edwards 11901 Highway 15 North Philadelphia, MS 39350	Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm Office: (601) 656-4531 Cell: (601) 562-0549 Fax: (601) 656-5042 Email: kedwards@neshobacounty.net
Sammie Wilson Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (Choctaw Reservation) P.O. Box 6010 124 Industrial Road Choctaw, MS 39350	Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–4:30 Office: (601) 650-1737 Fax: (601) 389-5866 Email: sammie.wilson@choctaw.org

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

NEWTON COUNTY

Johnny Reeves
14712 Highway 15
P.O. Box 665
Decatur, MS 39327

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 9am–4pm
Office: (601) 635-2178
Fax: (601) 635-4014
Email: johnnyr1965@yahoo.com

NOXUBEE COUNTY

Sarah Wells
158 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
P.O. Box 348
Macon, MS 39341

Hours: 8am–4pm
Office: (662) 726-5423
Fax: (662) 726-5423

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

Patricia Hopson
Main Courthouse 2nd Floor
101 East Main Street
Starkville, MS 39759

Hours: Monday–Friday, 9am–1pm
Office: (662) 323-6155
Email: phopson@gtpdd.com

PANOLA COUNTY

Daniel Brown
929 Central Academy Road
Batesville, MS 38606

Hours: Tuesday, 8am–5pm
Office: (662) 487-3508
Cell: (662) 292-4262
Email: daniel.brown77@yahoo.com

PEARL RIVER COUNTY

Cindy Smith
153 Savannah Millard Road
P.O. Box 569
Poplarville, MS 39470

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (601) 403-2558
Fax: (601) 403-2567
Email: cindys@pearlrivercounty.net

PERRY COUNTY

Jack Cooley
103 South Main Street
Perry County Courthouse
New Augusta, MS 39462

Hours: Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (601) 964-8214
Fax: (601) 964-8214
Email: cooleyja6@ftcweb.net

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

PIKE COUNTY

Jim Coleman
Martha Bailey (Asst.)
1002 Warren Krout Road
P.O. Box 1111
McComb, MS 39649

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 12–5pm
Office: (601) 684-9966
Fax: (601) 684-9966
(601) 684-1810
Email: jim_coleman@bellsouth.net

PONTOTOC COUNTY

John (Mack) Huey
11 East Washington Street
Pontotoc Courthouse, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 262
Pontotoc, MS 38863

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8–4:30pm
Office: (662) 489-3907
Email: mackhuey@pontotoccoms.com

PRENTISS COUNTY

Terry M. Green
816 West Chambers Drive
Booneville, MS 38829

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8–2pm
Office: (662) 728-5532
(662) 728-4610

QUITMAN (TUNICA) COUNTY

Robert Jamison
1054 Charlie Pride Highway
Marks, MS 38646
P.O. Box 326
Lambert, MS 38643

Hours: Tuesday–Thursday
By appointment only
Office: (662) 326-8800
Cell: (662) 444-3818
Email: rjamison6154@gmail.com

RANKIN COUNTY

Fredrick “Fred” W. Davis
211 East Government St., Suite A
Brandon, MS 39042

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, 8:30am–4:30pm
Office: (601) 824-2652
Cell: (601) 497-8208
Fax: (601) 825-9205
Email: fdavis@rankincounty.org

SCOTT COUNTY

Gary Risher
521 Airport Road
Forest, MS 39074

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:30am–3:30pm
Office: (601) 469-4477
Email: garvrisherscottcounty@ms.gov

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

SHARKEY COUNTY

Lauretta Warren
301 East China Street
P.O. Box 218
Rolling Fork, MS 39159

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10am–12pm
Appointments preferred
Office: (662) 873-6141
(662) 873-2755
Email: warrenlauretta0@yahoo.com

SIMPSON COUNTY

Raybon “Leo” Windham
2nd Floor Old Courthouse
113 Traci Drive
Mendenhall, MS 39114

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 1–5pm
Office: (601) 847-1354
Cell: (601) 408-0812
Email: leowindhamdav@gmail.com

SMITH COUNTY

Jerry Glenn
County Office Building
P.O. Box 252
Raleigh, MS 39153

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8am–3pm
Office: (601) 782-922
Cell: (601) 452-0025
Fax: (601) 782-9488
Email: jrglenn1@bellsouth.net

STONE COUNTY

William H. Breland
214 North Critz Street
Wiggins, MS 39577

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9am–3pm
Office: (601) 928-7509
Fax: (601) 928-5122
Email: whbreland@hotmail.com

SUNFLOWER COUNTY

John C. Skelton, Jr.
Courthouse 1st Floor
302 Camellia Lane
Indianola, MS 38751

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10am–12pm
Cell: (662) 347-4506
Fax: (662) 887-7077
Email: jcskelton@bellsouth.net

Ola C. Kirk (Asst.)
12 Christian Road
Cleveland, MS 38732

Cell: (662) 299-9205
Fax: (662) 846-1799
Email: oproutreach@att.net

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

TALLAHATCHIE COUNTY

Anthony Hawkins

137 Main Street
P.O. Box 137
Glendora, MS 38928

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9am–2pm
Email: anthonyhawkins1987@gmail.com

Robert W. Richards

301 North Market Street
Charleston, MS 38921

Hours: Wednesday & Thursday, 9am–12pm
Office: (662) 647-5305
Cell: (662) 501-6071
Home: (662) 647-5305
Fax: (662) 647-3702

TATE COUNTY

Perry “Tommy” Campbell

1 French Alley
MS State Extension Office
107 Court St
Senatobia, MS 38668

Hours: Tuesday, 8am–12pm
Other days by appointment only
Office: (662) 301-8364
Fax: (662) 301-2200
Email: perrycampbell99@yahoo.com

TIPPAH COUNTY

James McAlister

107 North Main Street
Ripley, MS 38663

Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 9am–4pm
Wednesday, 9am–12pm
Office: (662) 837-9214
Fax: (662) 512-0193

TISHOMINGO COUNTY

Richard Pharr

1008 Battleground Drive
Room 211
Iuka, MS 38852

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, & Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (662) 423-7053
Cell: (662) 279-0690
Email: rpharr@co.tishomingo.ms.us

TUNICA (QUITMAN) COUNTY

Robert Jamison

Highway 61 South
P.O. Box 639
Tunica, MS 38676

Hours: Wednesday (appt. only)
Office: (662) 357-1471
Cell: (662) 444-3818
Email: rjamison6154@gmail.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

UNION COUNTY

Mike Bennett
116 East Bankhead Street
Courthouse
P.O. Box 547
New Albany, MS 38652

Hours: Monday–Wednesday, 8am–3pm
Office: (662) 534-1982
Cell: (662) 317-0216
Fax: (662) 534-9244
Email: mbennet@unioncoms.com

WALTHALL COUNTY

Winston Fortenberry
08 Scout Road
Tylertown, MS 39667

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–5pm
Cell: (601) 303-0160
Email: winston_fortenberry@yahoo.com

WARREN COUNTY

Patricia D. Toole
1009 Cherry Street
P.O. Box 351
Vicksburg, MS 39181

Hours: Tuesday–Thursday (appt. only)
Office: (601) 636-1627
Cell: (601) 262-8029
Fax: (601) 636-1628
Email: patriciat@co.warren.ms.us

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Terry J. Gales, Sr.
240 South Theobald Street
Greenville, MS 38702

Hours: Monday–Friday, 8am–5pm
Office: (662) 335-6196 • (662) 378-0319
Cell: (662) 907-9954
Fax: (662) 332-8275
Email: tgales@co.washington.ms.us

WAYNE COUNTY

Pam Cleary
609 Azalea Drive
Waynesboro, MS 39367

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday, 8am–5pm
Thursday, 8am–12pm
Office: (601) 735-4258
Fax: (601) 671-3761
Email: pcleary@waynecountymys.gov

WEBSTER COUNTY

David Ellison
1842 Veterans Memorial Blvd.
1234 MS Highway 182
Eupora, MS 39744

Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 8am–4pm
Office: (662) 258-3051
Cell: (662) 552-1304
Fax: (662) 258-3093
Email: dellison42748@gmail.com

COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS (CONT.)

WILKINSON COUNTY

Wyvonna Kettley

P.O. Box 1619
Woodville, MS 39669

Hours: First and Third Fridays, 8am–4pm
Office: (601) 888-4387
Cell: (601) 660-7453
Office: wkettleyvso.wilkinsonco@yahoo.com

WINSTON COUNTY

Larry Veazey

5595 Old Robinson Road
Louisville, MS 39339

Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–4pm
Office: (662) 773-9555
Fax: (662) 773-9557
Email: lveazey@winstoncounty.org

YALOBUSHA COUNTY

Joseph Black

306 Railroad Street
Water Valley, MS 38965

Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8am–5pm
Friday, 8am–4:30pm (call for appt.)
Office: (662) 934-8145
Email: jb7993@gmail.com

YAZOO COUNTY

Vacant

212 East Broadway
P.O. Box 1631
Yazoo City, MS 39194

Hours: Wednesday, 9am–4:30pm
Office: (662) 746-1008
Fax: (662) 746-2023

MISSISSIPPI MILITARY LICENSE PLATES

See pages 19-23 for more information.



Active Reserve



Afghanistan Veteran



Air Medal



Bronze Star



Bronze Star (Disabled)



Combat Veteran



Disabled American Veteran



Distinguished Flying Cross Air Medal



Ex-Prisoner of War



Gold Star Family



Honoring Veterans



Iraq Veteran



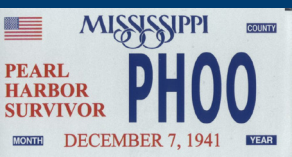
Medal of Honor



National Guard



Navy and Marine Corps Medal



Pearl Harbor Survivor



Purple Heart



Retired Armed Forces Air Force



Retired Armed Forces Army



Retired Armed Forces Coast Guard



Retired Armed Forces Marine Corps



Retired Armed Forces Merchant Marine



Retired Armed Forces National Guard



Retired Armed Forces Navy



Retired Reserve Armed Forces



Silver Star



Surviving Spouse of Killed in Action



Veteran of the US Armed Forces



Vietnam Veteran



Motorcycle Pearl Harbor



Motorcycle Purple Heart



Motorcycle Veteran



Visit our website for the latest up-to-date information on benefits, service officers, and veterans' resources.

msva.ms.gov

Mississippi VA (Main Office) **601.576.4850**
1.877.203.5632

Veterans Home | Collins **601.765.0519**
Veterans Home | Jackson **601.353.6142**
Veterans Home | Kosciusko **662.289.7809**
Veterans Home | Oxford **662.236.1218**

