



Alabama Secretary of State John H. Merrill

# Quarterly Report July 2016

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April, May, & June 2016

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## Inside:



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# Legislative Session 2016



Governor Bentley signing SB 186 on June 28, 2016.

## **SB 200 Senator McClendon and Representative Davis**

Relating to Electronic Poll Books, authorizing the Secretary of State to institute a voluntary program available to all counties and municipalities for the use of electronic poll books.

## **SB 186 Senator Coleman-Madison and Representative England**

Relating to Restoration of Voting Rights, streamlining the process for citizens who have lost the right to vote due to a felony conviction involving moral turpitude to have their right to vote restored.

## **SB 73 Senator Holley and Representative Clouse**

Relating to Boards of Registrars, daily salary of members salary increased from \$60.00 a day to \$80.00.

## **HB 204 Representatives Wood and Senator Marsh**

Relating to elections, changing the order of offices and candidates' names on the ballot, amending Ala. Code § 17-6-25.

## **HB 51 Representatives Fridy and Senator Ward**

Relating to reducing the number of copies of the Code of Alabama distributed to certain departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and other entities of the state, amending Ala. Code § 41-21-1.

## **SB 317 Senator Allen and Representative Williams**

Relating to the Athlete Agents Commission, repealing the current code sections and adopting a revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act.

## **HB 312 Representatives Fridy**

Relating to Shelby County, proposing an amendment to Amendment 804 of the Constitution of Alabama of 190, now appearing as Local Amendments, Shelby County, Section 4.10, of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, specifying that when a vacancy in the office of circuit or district judge in Shelby County is filled by an appointment, the term of office of the appointed judge would be the same as for judicial vacancies generally.

## **HB 476 Representatives Davis**

Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to Amendment 660 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 as amended by Amendment 780, now appearing as Local Amendments, Baldwin County, Section 6, of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, specifying that when a vacancy in the office of circuit or district judge in Baldwin County is filled by an appointment, the term of office of the appointed judge would be the same as for judicial vacancies generally.

## **HB 490 Representative Pettus**

Relating to Lauderdale County, proposing an amendment to Amendment 660 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 as amended by Amendment 819, now appearing as Local Amendments, Lauderdale County, Section 4.01, of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, specifying that when a vacancy in the office of circuit or district judge in Lauderdale County is filled by an appointment, the term of office of the appointed judge would be the same as for judicial vacancies generally.

## **HB 472 Representative Whorton**

Relating to Madison County, proposing an amendment to Amendment 334 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 as amended by Amendment 607, now appearing as Local Amendments, Madison County, Section 8, of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, specifying that when a vacancy in the office of circuit or district judge in Madison County is filled by an appointment, the term of office of the appointed judge would be the same as for judicial vacancies generally.

## Business Pre-Filings

If a county is not participating in the electronic filing processing program (Online Business Filings) authorized by Act No. 2015-479, the Secretary of State allows pre-filing of the required information online to improve the efficiency of business filings and to encourage the growth of business in Alabama.

Originally, domestic LLCs (limited liability companies) were only accepted in the new, online method upon its launch at the beginning of 2016, but as of July 11, 2016, pre-filing will be available for the following:

- domestic limited partnership (LP)
- domestic limited liability partnership (LLP)
- domestic limited liability limited partnership (LLLP)
- domestic corporation
- domestic non-profit corporation



Judge England receiving the NASS Gold Medallion Award.

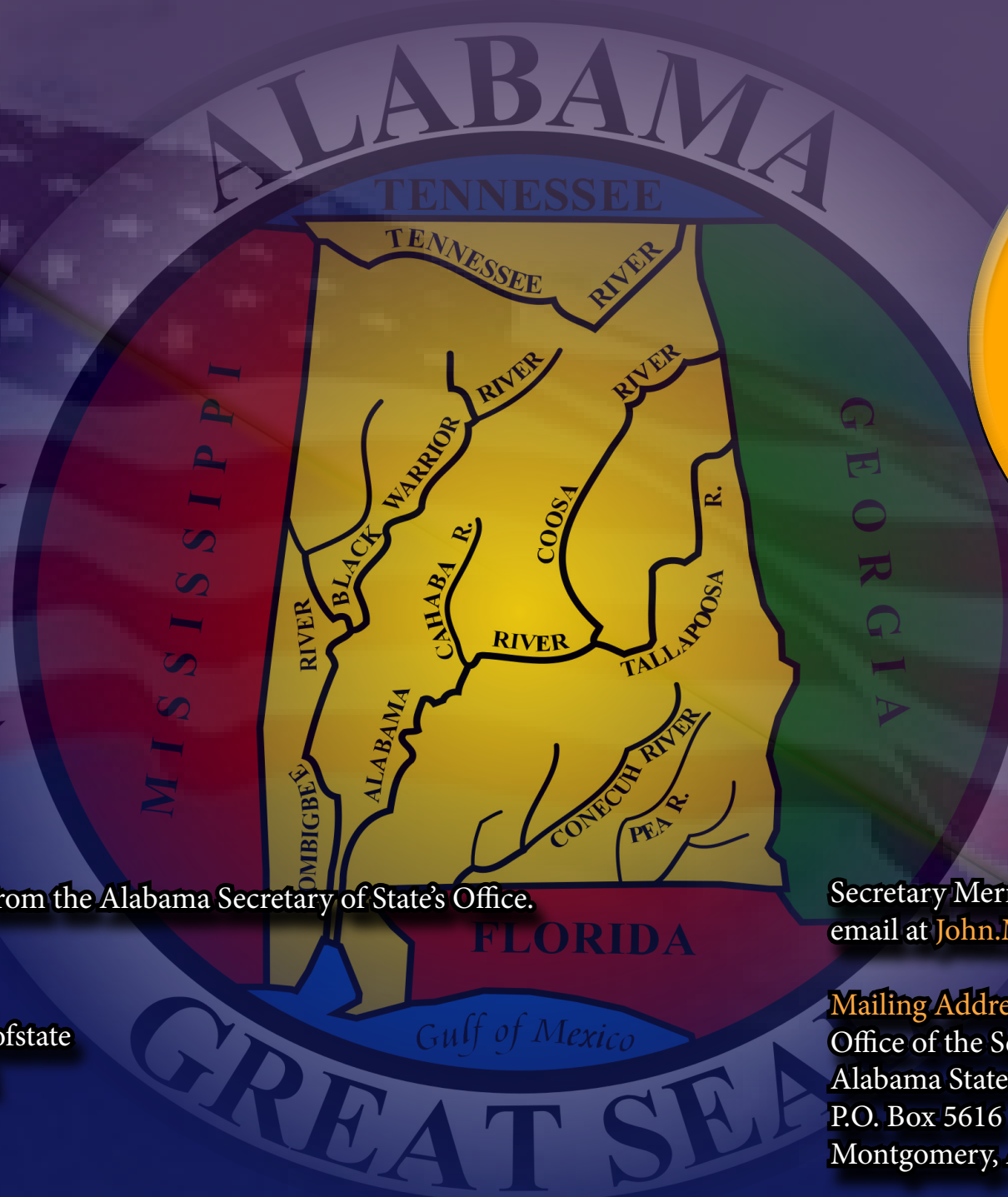


Election Assistance Commission Meeting in California

## Quarterly Accomplishments

- Secretary Merrill awarded the NASS Gold Medallion Award to the following recipients: Mr. Othni Lathram on April 7, 2016, Dr. Wayne Flynt on May 6, 2016, and Judge John England, Jr. on June 24, 2016. (\*See previous pg. for photo.)
- Secretary Merrill attended the Election Assistance Commission Meeting in California on April 14, 2016. (\*See previous pg. for photo.)
- The “Vote for Alabama” app was officially released on May 19, 2016 and is available for download through the Apple App and Google Play stores.
- Specific rules regarding the Alabama Homeowners’ Association Act became effective on April 18, 2016, which requires all Homeowners’ Associations formed on or after January 1, 2016, to file organizational documents as a nonprofit corporation.
- On May 27, 2016, a new system was launched via the SOS website that allows members of the general public, as well as state and local officials, to continue to review the existing Acts of Alabama electronically yet much more efficiently than before by defining the searches and requests.
- Members of the Legislature, as well as all the Probate Judges, were asked to provide three separate and specific days of the week, times, and venues in their areas where the Secretary of State’s office may hold a drive for voter registration and photo I.D. issuance, in order to ensure that all eligible Alabamians have the opportunity to register to vote. From March through July 2016, 24 voter registration drives were held in Baldwin, Bullock, Butler, Chambers, Cherokee, Choctaw, Coosa, Covington, Dallas, DeKalb, Elmore, Greene, Hale, Houston, Jackson, Jefferson, Macon, Marion, Russell, Shelby, and Winston counties.

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## Next Issue:

*~Student Mock Election Convention*

*~Highlights from the Democratic & Republican Convention in Cleveland & Philadelphia*

**Don't miss Volume 2 Issue 3,  
coming October 2016!**

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