STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1346

WHEREAS, open and competitive bidding on state contracts ensures that state agencies and Mississippi taxpayers receive the best value for goods and services purchased, and that all providers enjoy equal access and opportunity to provide these goods and services;

WHEREAS, the former Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Corrections has been indicted in federal court for receiving money in exchange for directing contracts to certain providers;

WHEREAS, Governor Bryant has directed the interim Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Corrections to rebid any contract involving a provider identified in the federal indictment, or otherwise entered into in contravention of state procurement laws or good public policy;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of the Mississippi Department of Corrections' contracting and procurement process may help safeguard public funds and identify potential improvements;

WHEREAS, the Office of the Governor is committed to fiscal responsibility and accountability in state government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order and direct as follows:

(1) The Task Force on Contracting and Procurement in the Mississippi Department of Corrections (the "Task Force") is established. The Task Force shall consist of five individuals appointed by the Governor, two of which shall be designated co-chairs.

(2) The Task Force shall meet to:

(a) Evaluate the Mississippi Department of Corrections' review of existing personal and professional services contracts;

(b) Provide oversight and feedback on the Mississippi Department of Corrections' process for entering into new personal and professional services contracts; and

(c) Such other tasks as the Governor may deem necessary;

(3) The Office of State Auditor and the Mississippi State Personnel Board shall provide appropriate staff and administrative support to assist the Task Force in carrying out its duties.

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

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 7th day of November, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

C. DELBERT HOSEMANN, JR.
SECRETARY OF STATE