



Michael Watson
SECRETARY OF STATE

April 10, 2020

Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Harrington:

The purpose of this letter is to certify that the state of Mississippi will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement # MS20101CARES, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number (formerly DUNS) is 154411755 and the signed Certifications are enclosed.

We are requesting \$4,728,037.00. We will use the funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. To address the effects of the coronavirus on the election, we intend to work with our local jurisdictions to ensure our polling places and the election process is safe for both the poll managers and our voters. Mississippi is a bottom up state with regard to conducting elections, meaning we rely on our county election officials to conduct the election. We have 82 counties, with 1776 precincts total, staffed with a minimum of three (3) poll managers. We anticipate additional expenses in providing personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, eye shields, etc.) to election officials and sanitizing products for both human use and voting machines as the majority of Mississippi counties still utilize touchscreen voting machines. The funds may also be used to pay for additional poll managers hired to help with sanitizing the voting process and assisting with crowd spacing.

Funds may also be used to pay for additional postage as we anticipate an uptick in mailed absentee ballots, printing cost for additional absentee ballots, possible upgrades to scanners for paper ballots, and upgrades to our online ballot delivery system for military and overseas voters as mailed ballots may not be an option.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact me, Hawley Robertson, at (601)359-6360 or Hawley.Robertson@sos.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

Hawley R. Robertson
Assistant Secretary of State, Elections Division

Cc.
Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager