



DELBERT HOSEMANN
Secretary of State

September 7, 2018

The Honorable Anita E. Wray
Madison County Circuit Clerk
PO Box 1626
Canton, MS 39046

Re: Distribution of HAVA Grant Monies

Dear Honorable Wray:

As you know, the State of Mississippi has received approximately \$4.5 Million Dollars through the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2018. As discussed by our previous correspondence, the State will appropriate the majority of these funds to the counties relative to its voting age population. **Your county's allocation of these funds is approximately \$138,715.15.**

Since Federal law prohibits a direct payment of the allocated funds to your county, the allocated funds are only available through an application submitted to the Secretary of State's office for approval.

First, determine your election needs. Because these monies are an additional distribution from HAVA, the expenditure of this grant federal money is limited to those items and activities which may improve our elections, including the improvements of our polling places to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 23-15-281, Miss. Code Ann., as amended. Permitted expenditures of this money also may include, but are not limited to, the enhancement of election technology, such as through the purchase of new voting machines or voting equipment, training for post-election procedures and the improvement of election security, such as through the performance of cybersecurity audits or the enhancement of your county's own network and election-related technology.

Second, submit your application. A copy of this Application is enclosed herein for your convenience.

Third, once you receive our written approval of your HAVA-related expenditure, your county will bear the initial burden of spending the money necessary to purchase your approved HAVA-related expenditure. Obviously, we will not reimburse any amount which exceeds your

allocation or which has not been approved by our office in advance. Upon proof of payment to our office, we will reimburse your county for that amount spent in purchasing HAVA-approved equipment or making HAVA-related improvements.

In connection with the availability of these grant monies, the Secretary of State will also require the county election officials to inspect and again complete an updated ADA Accessibility Survey for each county polling place and submit the same to our office. This updated survey was previously circulated to each county and, upon request, we will certainly forward such additional copies as may be necessary for you to complete this audit. We strongly encourage each county ensure every polling place is ADA compliant and satisfies the recent Mississippi statutory amendment which requires polling places to be structurally sound and capable of providing air conditioning and heating by May 1, 2019.

If you should have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Kim at (601) 359-5137 or by email to kim.turner@sos.ms.gov. We look forward to working with you in the improvement of Mississippi's elections. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to this process.

Sincerely,



Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of State

CDH/rbs

cc: Board of Supervisors
cc via email only: County Election Commissioners