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**From:** Jennifer Knight <[Jennifer.Knight@madison-co.com](mailto:Jennifer.Knight@madison-co.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 12:13:01 PM

**To:** Heather Freeman <[hfreeman@mema.ms.gov](mailto:hfreeman@mema.ms.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: List

[EMAIL FROM EXTERNAL SOURCE]

Thank you ma'am. I appreciate you. G498 and G318.. could those be open to general public, meaning more so industry folks in our LEPC?

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**From:** Heather Freeman <[hfreeman@mema.ms.gov](mailto:hfreeman@mema.ms.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:11 AM

**To:** Jennifer Knight <[Jennifer.Knight@madison-co.com](mailto:Jennifer.Knight@madison-co.com)>

**Subject:** Re: List

***CAUTION! External Content. Please use caution when opening attachments and links. Do not provide your username and password if requested.***

Hey Jennifer, sorry I am late getting back to you, I'm on the road doing an exercise. For the next 6 months you have:

March 2: G557 Rapid Needs Assessment

March 29-30: G272 Warning Coordination

April 13: G489 Management of Spontaneous Volunteers in Disasters

April 25-27: G300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

May 10-11: G400 Advanced ICS for Command & General Staff

June 1-2: G205 Recovery from Disaster

June 28-29: G318 Local Mitigation Planning

When I get back to the office I can look further than 6 months out and will let you know.

**Heather Freeman**

Preparedness Officer – Central Region

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

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THOMSON REUTERS

# WESTLAW Mississippi Attorney General Opinions

Honorable Phil Bryant

Office of the Attorney General  
July 30, 1999

1999 WL 791737 (Miss.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of Mississippi

\*I

Opinion No. 1999-0380

\*I July 30, 1999

## Re: Refreshments/Meals at Meetings

\*1 Honorable Phil Bryant

\*1 State Auditor

\*1 P. O. Box 956

\*1 Jackson, MS 39211

Dear Mr. Bryant:

\*1 Attorney General Mike Moore has received your request and has asked me to research and respond. You ask the following questions regarding expenditures by school districts:

\*1 1. At board/business meetings, would meals be permissible for members and community leaders when such meetings span the normal meal hour and breaking for a meal would be disruptive of the meeting agenda?

\*1 In response, Section 37-6-13 of the Mississippi Code provides for compensation for school board members. It provides for per diem or, by choice of the member, an annual salary and also provides that each member "shall be reimbursed for the necessary expenses and mileage in attending meetings of the school board." The statute goes on to provide for reimbursement of expenses incurred when required to travel or to attend mandatory training sessions. Therefore, a meal may be provided in lieu of reimbursement in order to avoid disruption of business, if the board determines that such is a necessary and reasonable expense of the meeting.

\*1 2. At seminars, workshops, staff meetings, or similar events, would breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner meals be permissible to avoid interruption of the school day or to not be disruptive of the meeting agenda?

\*1 In response to your second question, it is our opinion that our previous opinion to Ray Mabus dated March 4, 1985, stating that the purchase of coffee and soft drinks to be consumed by participants in meetings, seminars, workshops, or similar events would be permissible under certain facts, may also extend to the provision of food or meals, provided the board determines, consistent with facts, that same is reasonably related to the goals or functions of the District.

\*1 3. At athletic and other student or teacher recognition banquets, would meals be permissible for students, parents, and employees of the district?

\*1 With regard to athletic or student recognition banquets, it is our opinion that such expenditures would be permissible under Section 37-7-301(s) which allows for the expenditure of "activity funds". According to this statute, activity funds may be expended for necessary expenses or travel costs incurred by students and their chaperons in attending any in-state or out-of-state "school-related programs, conventions or seminars and/or any commodities, equipment, travel expenses, purchased services or school supplies which the local school governing board, in its discretion, shall be beneficial to the official or extra curricular programs of the district. . . ." We can find no authority to expend public funds for teacher recognition banquets.

\*1 4. Would refreshments that are permissible under the circumstances cited in your opinion of March 4, 1985, to a previous State Auditor include eatable items and other non-alcoholic beverages beyond those noted in that opinion?

\*2 In the March 4, 1985, opinion to Ray Mabus we stated that state agencies and school districts, in an effort to achieve a particular goal or perform a particular function which has been imposed upon them by legislative enactment, may lawfully purchase coffee, coffee supplies, and soft drinks to be consumed by the participants in a meeting, seminar, workshop, or similar event provided the proper responsible officer or governing entity makes the determination, consistent with the facts, that the activity in question is reasonably related and incident to said goal or function. It is our opinion that this statement need not be limited to coffee, coffee supplies and soft drinks and may, depending on the facts, extend to include eatable items and other non-alcoholic beverages.

Very truly yours,

\*2 Mike Moore

\*2 Attorney General

\*2 By: Mike Lanford

\*2 Deputy Attorney General

1999 WL 791737 (Miss.A.G.)