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JOHN H. MERRILL
SECRETARY OF STATE

December 11, 2020

The Honorable Gentry Lee
Chairman, Russell County Commission
Post Office Box 969
Phenix City, Alabama 36868

Dear Chairman Lee:

The Alabama Secretary of State's Office received your county's application for the final round of Election Expenses Funding Related to COVID-19. As you know, this last round of funding served as an opportunity for your county to request reimbursement for any eligible and reasonable expenses that were unplanned or were not previously requested in your prior two reimbursement requests related to the July 14 Runoff Election and November 3 General Election.

In our review of all the counties' applications, we applied reasonableness in approving or disapproving respective county funding requests.

Therefore, upon review of your last application for COVID-19 election expenses funding, as well as your county's certification that all applicable purchasing requirements were followed, your county is awarded \$761.78 in COVID-19 election expenses funding. Along with the check, we have attached your application which clearly indicates what was approved and what was not. You are instructed to only expend this award on the items listed in your application which denote "Approved." Conversely, you are disallowed from expending any of the award on items listed in the application which are denoted "Denied" or not listed at all.

As a reminder, the funds being awarded are federal funds which must be spent according to the approved application submitted to our office and are subject to state and federal audit. The Secretary of State's Office will be reporting to the United States Election Assistance Commission how the funding was allocated and expended in Alabama. Furthermore, we will update the webpage, on the Secretary of State's website, indicating each county's respective application and the total amount awarded to be completely transparent to the public regarding this federal funding assistance.

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact my Chief of Staff, David Brewer, at david.brewer@sos.alabama.gov or (334) 242-7207.

Thank you for all you do for your county and the State of Alabama. You are appreciated!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John H. Merrill".

John H. Merrill
Secretary of State

Enclosures