Secretary Merrill Visits with President Donald Trump

Secretary Merrill Presents C.J. Pearson with the John Lewis Youth Leadership Award

Secretary Merrill Tours the Alabama Supercomputer Authority

Quarterly Accomplishments
The Secretary of State’s Office is pleased to announce that the 45th President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, has agreed to assist with the office’s 2022 photo voter I.D. and voter registration efforts. In late November of 2021, Secretary Merrill and two office staff members met with former President Trump at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida to film the recording of the 2022 ad, which will be released in Spring 2022. He is also featured on a poster that will be distributed across the state in 2022, as well. The office is currently working on additional features that will be released in 2022.

Secretary Merrill Presented his first John Lewis Youth Leadership Award, which is the National Association of Secretaries of State’s newest honor. Coreco Ja’Quan Pearson, known as “C.J.,” received the John Lewis Award on October 15, 2021 for his amazing accomplishments. Although he is only 19 years old, C.J. has harnessed years of impressive experience in political and social justice that began at the young age of eight. A native of Augusta, Georgia and student at The University of Alabama, he is the youngest person in history to serve as an elector for Georgia’s 2020 Electoral College meeting at the mere age of 18. At the age of 17, he raised more than $160,000 for black-owned businesses that were damaged and destroyed during the George Floyd protests and riots in 2020. He was also recently elected to serve as a Student Senator for The University of Alabama’s Student Government Association, and he is the founder and leader of The Free Thinker Project organization, which seeks to bolster civic awareness throughout the country, among many other noteworthy achievements.

Secretary Merrill will present his second and last John Lewis Youth Leadership Award to another exceptional youth in 2022.
Secretary Merrill visited the Alabama Supercomputer Authority in Huntsville, Alabama on December 16, 2021. The Alabama Supercomputer Authority (ASA) is a state-funded corporation that was founded in 1989 for the purpose of planning, acquiring, developing, administering, and operating a statewide supercomputer and related telecommunication systems.

“This technological advancement serves our entire state in a very unique way!” Secretary Merrill stated. “Many of our educational facilities benefit from the contributions provided by the Supercomputer.”
Quarterly Accomplishments

- As of December 31, 2021, 1,967,001 people have registered to vote since Secretary Merrill took office on January 19, 2015, which sets the total to a record-breaking 3,618,172 registered voters.

- Secretary Merrill traveled to all 67 of Alabama’s counties for the ninth year in a row and the tenth time.

- For the seventh consecutive year, the Photo Voter I.D. and Registration Mobile Unit has visited each county.

- On December 14, 2021, the Heritage Foundation released its Election Integrity Scorecard, where Alabama was ranked among the best states in the union for election integrity.

- Secretary Merrill appointed 11 members to the Board of Registrars’ Advisory Council, which will meet quarterly.

- The Secretary of State’s Office revised the Records Disposition Authority, which is a guide that outlines how government agencies determine the length of time that records will be kept and maintained.

- The Secretary of State’s Office launched its redistricting maps portal in November 2021. The portal can be accessed here.

- The SOS Office launched its online business amendment tool in October 2021.
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