Secretary Merrill Presents Two NASS Awards

Secretary Merrill Participates in Montgomery & DC Conferences

Quarterly Accomplishments

Alabama Secretary of State John H. Merrill

2022 Primary & Runoff Election Results
The State of Alabama held its statewide Primary Election on May 24, 2022, and as always, voters were able to cast their ballots at their assigned polling locations from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. The Secretary of State’s Office ran its online Election Night Reporting system that provided real-time updates on the number of votes that each candidate received. All 67 counties reported their results by 10:00 pm on the night of the election. As a result, Governor Kay Ivey received 357,069 of the Republican vote (54.4%) and did not have to participate in the state’s Runoff Election on June 21, 2022. She will run against the Democratic gubernatorial candidate Yolanda Flowers (56,991 votes in the Primary and 32,529 votes in the Runoff) in the November 8, 2022 General Election.

State Auditor Jim Zeigler and Alabama Representative Wes Allen went head-to-head for the Secretary of State seat with Auditor Zeigler receiving 237,482 votes (42.6%) against Representative Allen’s 220,880 votes (39.7%). Since neither candidate received more than 50% of the state’s vote, they had to participate in the June 21st Runoff. After the Runoff Election, Representative Allen won with 248,132 votes (65.3%) compared to Auditor Zeigler’s 131,413 votes (34.6%). Since there is only one Democratic candidate running for Secretary of State (Pamela Laffitte), Ms. Laffitte was not present on the Primary and Runoff Democratic ballots. She and Representative Allen will face off for the Secretary of State seat on November 8th.

Alabamians also voted for their candidates of choice for the next Attorney General, Auditor, and a few congressional seats, as well as offices on the municipal level in some areas. A complete listing of the certified elections results for both races can be found on the Alabama Secretary of State’s website at AlabamaVotes.Gov under the “Election Information” section. For questions or concerns involving these or previous elections, please contact the Elections Division at 334-242-7210.

If you or someone you know suspects that voter fraud occurred, please submit a thorough report at StopVoterFraudNow.com, and the Secretary of State’s legal team will contact you for more information. All reports are taken very seriously and could lead to an investigation and possibly prosecution.
Secretary Merrill awarded his second National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) John Lewis Youth Leadership Award on May 3, 2022 to Tuscaloosa Academy student Brilyn Hollyhand during the school’s Honors Day program. Brilyn founded The Truth Gazette in 2017 at the young age of 11 years old and continues to run the online platform as the Editor in Chief. Throughout the years, Brilyn has featured and interviewed a number of the country’s top political officials, such as Dr. Ben Carson, Ted Cruz, Mike Huckabee, Sarah Palin, Donald Trump, Jr., and many others. In 2018, he received a personal invitation from President Donald Trump to tour the White House. Secretary Merrill can award one last John Lewis Award to an influential youth before his term ends in January 2023.

On May 25, 2022, Secretary Merrill awarded his last NASS Medallion Award for the 2021-2022 award cycle to Mr. Jason Isbell for his service to the State of Alabama. A former member and Vice Chairman of the Secretary of State’s Fair Ballot Commission for two years, Mr. Isbell serves as the Senior Vice President of State Government Affairs and Economic Development at Regions Bank. He formerly worked as a fiscal analyst for the Alabama Legislative Fiscal Office, Chief Legal Counsel for the Office of the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, Vice President of Legal and Governmental Affairs for the Alabama Bankers Association, Inc., and an attorney for Maynard Cooper & Gale.
The Secretary of State’s Office assisted the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) with their southeastern conference in Alabama, which took place from May 5th through the 7th. Throughout the three-day event, attendees participated in various meetings, discussions, and workshops concerning ways to improve election administration across the nation, cybersecurity protocols, and restoring the public’s confidence in elections procedures. Secretary Merrill also served as the moderator of one panel called “Reliable Elections: What States Already Do,” where he shared some information on Alabama’s current elections practices (above, left-hand photo). Delegates from Florida, Louisiana, and South Carolina also shared some insight about their own respective states’ election procedures. In between the meetings, the conference participants had the opportunity to visit a few historic Alabama sites, such as the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama (above, center photo), the Archives and History Museum, and the Alabama State Capitol building. For more information about the NCSL, visit their website at https://www.ncsl.org.

Secretary Merrill participated in the United States Global Leadership Coalition’s 2022 forum in Washington, D.C. from June 12th through June 14th. The forum focused on a wide array of topics that concern the world as a whole, such as famine, food insecurity, the coronavirus pandemic, various community issues, and election integrity. On June 14th, each state’s group of delegates visited Capitol Hill to discuss possible solutions to these issues with the members of Congress. Secretary Merrill and the three other Alabama delegates met with Congressman Robert Aderholt, Congressman Mike Rogers, Congresswoman Terri Sewell, Congressman Gary Palmer, Congressman Barry Moore, and Senator Richard Shelby.

“I really appreciate our members of Congress for taking the time to speak with me and the other Alabama delegates about election integrity issues, foreign and domestic defense programs, the international affairs budget, and more,” Secretary Merrill stated. “It’s imperative that we as elected officials take the initiative to voice and discuss the needs of the people in order to find solutions to today’s most prominent and troublesome circumstances. It was an honor to participate in this year’s Global Leadership Coalition forum.”

For more information about the United States Global Leadership Coalition, visit https://forum.usglc.org.
Quarterly Accomplishments

- On April 1, 2022, Secretary Merrill was a panelist for the 16th annual Election Law Symposium hosted by the William and Mary Election Law Society in Williamsburg, Virginia.

- On April 21, 2022, the Secretary of State’s Office announced that it will be the first state agency to implement a new email retention policy, known as Capstone, under the authorization provided by the State Records Commission. First implemented at the federal level by the National Archives and Records Administration in 2016, Capstone seeks to address problems inherent to managing email as a record format. Rather than requiring every staff member with an email account to sort large numbers of records according to retention requirements, the Capstone approach identifies key accounts within an agency for permanent retention.

- On May 20, 2022, the Secretary of State’s Office released the list of non-compliant political committees that had not reported their campaign finance activities.

- As of June 30, 2022, 2,083,733 people have registered to vote since Secretary Merrill took office on January 19, 2015, which sets the total to a record-breaking 3,654,977 registered voters.

- On July 19, 2022, the Secretary of State’s Office in conjunction with the Alabama Ethics Commission released the updated Political Action Committee guidelines to clarify the rules governing federal PACs.

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### Alabama State Capitol
600 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36130

**Executive**
State Capitol  
Suite S-105  
334-242-7200

**Elections**
State Capitol  
Second Floor  
334-242-7210

**Finance**
State Capitol  
Second Floor  
334-353-2022

### Alabama State House
11 South Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

**Government Support / Authentications & Trademarks**
State House  
Rooms 224 & 226  
334-242-7224 / 334-242-5325

### RSA Plaza
770 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36104

**Business Entities**
RSA Plaza  
Suite 580  
334-242-5324

**UCC**
RSA Plaza  
Suite 580  
334-242-5970

**Information Systems**
RSA Plaza  
Suite 580  
334-242-7222

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