

# Quarterly Report

## July 2018



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### Alabama's 2018 Primary Election



Secretary Merrill wants to hear from you! Send him an email at [John.Merrill@sos.alabama.gov](mailto:John.Merrill@sos.alabama.gov).

**Mailing Address:**  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Alabama State Capitol  
P.O. Box 5616  
Montgomery, AL 36103-5616



Secretary Merrill Honors Fifteen SOS Employees for Their Years of Service to the State

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Secretary Merrill Honors Four Employees with the NASS Medallion Award

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Take a Look at Secretary Merrill's Travels Across the State

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# Alabama's 2018 Primary Election

The Primary Election was held on June 5, 2018, and all polling locations throughout Alabama's 67 counties remained open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. As a result, the state saw a 26.57% voter turnout, which equates to approximately 897,496 total participants. The Runoff Election is scheduled for July 17, 2018, and the General Election will follow on November 6, 2018.

## Crossover Voting Law Reminder

Due to the implementation of the crossover voting law in 2017, those who voted within the Republican or Democratic parties in the June 5<sup>th</sup> Primary will be required to vote for that same party in the July 17<sup>th</sup> Runoff, if they decide to participate. Those who *did not vote* in the Primary may vote for the party of their choice in the Runoff. However, all voters, regardless of their participation or lack thereof in the Primary and Runoff Elections, are free to vote for any party in the November General Election.

## Poll Books

26 out of 67 counties used the electronic poll books during the Primary Election, which allows poll workers to process voters at a much faster and more accurate rate. Mobile County reported that 600 voters were processed each hour. Secretary Merrill's goal is to have electronic poll books in all 67 counties by 2022.

## New "I Voted" Stickers??

The Secretary of State's Office has produced a new design for the "I Voted" stickers that voters receive at their polling place each election. The stickers were available in some counties on June 3<sup>rd</sup> but will be available in all 67 counties on the July 17<sup>th</sup> Runoff Election.

Alabama's Constitutional Officers Remaining Candidates	
Position:	Primary Election Results
<b>Governor:</b> 1. Kay Ivey (REP) 2. Walt Maddox (DEM)	330,743 votes (56.10% of REP vote) 154,559 votes (54.60% of DEM vote)
<b>Lieutenant Governor:</b> 3. Will Ainsworth (REP)* 4. Twinkle Cavanaugh (REP)* 5. Will Boyd (DEM)	204,465 votes (37.12% of REP vote) 238,333 votes (43.27% of REP vote) Unopposed in Primary Election
<b>Attorney General:</b> 6. Steve Marshall (REP)* 7. Troy King (REP)* 8. Joseph Siegelman (DEM)	154,219 votes (28.36% of REP vote) 151,364 votes (27.84% of REP vote) 147,601 votes (54.16% of DEM vote)
<b>Secretary of State:</b> 9. John H. Merrill (REP) 10. Heather Milam (DEM)	334,922 votes (71.64% of REP vote) 160,738 votes (63.67% of DEM vote)
<b>State Auditor:</b> 11. Jim Zeigler (REP) 12. Miranda Joseph (DEM)	261,418 votes (55.62% of REP vote) Unopposed in Primary Election
<b>State Treasurer:</b> 13. John McMillan (REP)	273,374 votes (61.18% of REP vote)
<b>State Commissioner of Agriculture:</b> 14. Gerald Dial (REP)* 15. Rick Pate (REP)*	134,511 votes (29.98% of REP vote) 181,098 votes (40.37% of REP vote)



**Note:** An "\*" indicates the candidates who will run in the Runoff Election on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The winners will then run against the candidates not marked with an "\*" in the November 6<sup>th</sup> General Election. The top two candidates who receive *less than 50% + 1* of their party's vote in the Primary must participate in the Runoff.

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# Secretary Merrill Honors Fifteen **SOS** Employees for Their Years of Service to the State

**O**n April 2, 2018, 15 employees were commended for their many years of service to the Secretary of State's Office during a ceremony in the State Capitol's Old Archives Room. Each person received a congratulatory certificate and a lapel pin indicating the number of years he or she has served with the SOS. As a result, Secretary Merrill is pleased to congratulate the following employees:



**Beth Hall**  
**5 Years of Service**  
UCC Division



**Clay Helms**  
**5 Years of Service**  
Elections Division



**Judy Pickler**  
**5 Years of Service**  
Authentications Division



**Shemekwa Farrow**  
**10 Years of Service**  
Gov. Support Division



**MeMe Mulcahy**  
**10 Years of Service**  
Business Division



**Karie Wilkerson**  
**10 Years of Service**  
Authentications Division



**Adam Alexander**  
**15 Years of Service**  
IT Division



**Lovetta Churchill**  
**15 Years of Service**  
Business Division



**Tamara Cofield**  
**15 Years of Service**  
Finance Division



**Tamara Moore**  
**15 Years of Service**  
Business Division



**Anthony Powell**  
**15 Years of Service**  
IT Division



**Elaine Swearengin**  
**15 Years of Service**  
Business Division



**Ed Packard**  
**20 Years of Service**  
Elections Division



**Jim Brasher**  
**25 Years of Service**  
Business Division



**Alfreda Watts**  
**25 Years of Service**  
UCC Division

# Secretary Merrill Honors Four SOS Employees with the NASS Medallion Award

On April 30, 2018, Secretary Merrill honored four Secretary of State Office employees with the National Association of Secretaries of State Medallion Award for their service to Alabama. The ceremony included family and SOS staff and was held in the Old Archives Room of the State Capitol building.

## Brent Beal



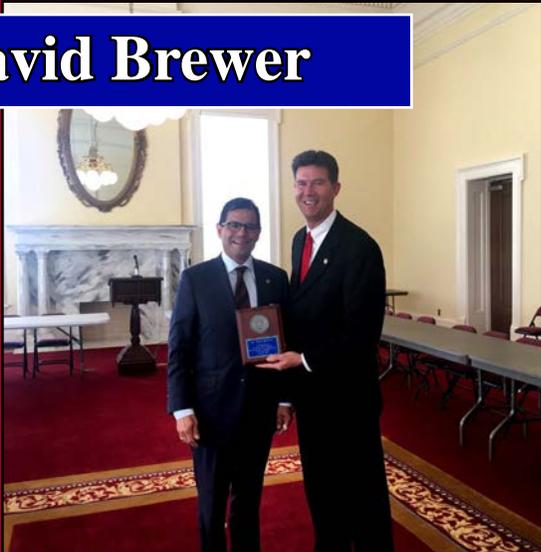
**Title:** Deputy Attorney General  
**Duties:** Oversees the passage of bills sent to the Legislature through the SOS Office and reviews and investigates all voter fraud reports, etc.

## John Bennett



**Title:** Deputy Chief of Staff/Press Secretary  
**Duties:** Oversees the operations of the SOS IT Division, designed and implemented Alabama's first online voter registration system, handles all media correspondence, manages the counties' usage of the electronic poll books, etc.

## David Brewer



**Title:** Chief of Staff  
**Duties:** Manages the daily operations of the SOS Office and its staff members, etc.

## Brittany Hamilton



**Title:** Elections Analyst  
**Duties:** Writes and mails all Resolutions from the SOS Office, produces and sends out all Quarterly & Annual Reports, assists Spanish-speaking constituents, oversees the internship application process, creator of the Elections Cat resources for children, etc.

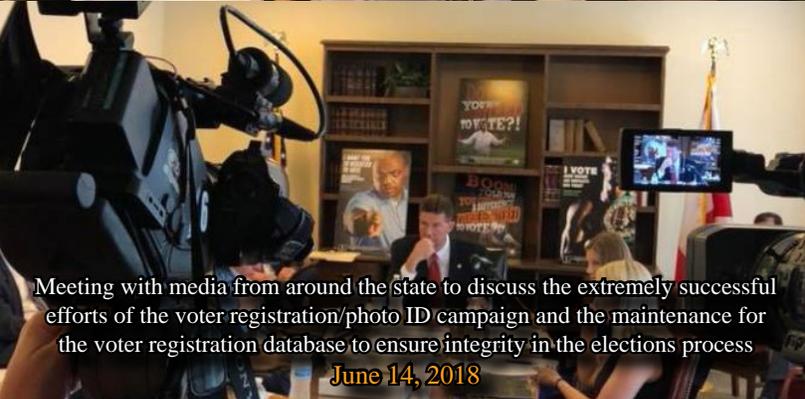
# Secretary Merrill Visits Alabamians Across the State

**A**s a means to increase transparency and extend the services of the Secretary of State's Office to all Alabamians, Secretary Merrill's annual goal is to travel to each of Alabama's 67 counties at least once a year to speak to various groups of all ages, which includes but is not limited to fourth grade classes, graduation ceremonies, dinners, award presentations, and more.

The following list contains a select few of Secretary Merrill's visits from around the state for the **April through June 2018** quarter.



**Meeting with the Senior International Officers enrolled in the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base during their visit to the Capitol**  
June 1, 2018



**Meeting with media from around the state to discuss the extremely successful efforts of the voter registration/photo ID campaign and the maintenance for the voter registration database to ensure integrity in the elections process**  
June 14, 2018



**30th Annual Tomato Festival parade in Slocomb**  
June 16, 2018



**United States Global Leadership Coalition 2018 State Leaders Summit in Washington at the State Leaders Breakfast**  
June 18, 2018

- Presented several SOS Employees with lapel pins and Resolutions for their 5-25 years of service to the SOS Office. April 2, 2018 (\*See pg. 2)
- Spoke to the Calhoun County Republican Executive Committee at the Saks Community Center. April 2, 2018
- Met with the members of the Facebook Government and Politics team in Washington D.C. to discuss various issues related to the 2017 U.S. Senate Election, as well as the recent revelations about their efforts to help secure elections. April 16, 2018
- Visited with Congressman Gary Palmer and his Chief of Staff William Smith in Washington D.C. to update them on the meeting with Facebook concerning the elections in Alabama and their interest in ensuring election integrity and communications through social media. April 17, 2018
- Interviewed by Reshad Hudson of CBS 42 at the SOS Office to discuss the trip to Washington D.C. and the meeting with Facebook officials from the Government and Politics team. April 17, 2018
- Attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Induction Ceremony of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in Birmingham. April 29, 2018
- Awarded four NASS Medallion Awards to four employees of the SOS Office. April 30, 2018 (\*See pg. 3)
- Spoke to the Alabama Association of Board of Registrars at the University of Montevallo in Shelby County. May 4, 2018
- Met with the students of the Marshall County Public Safety Education program at the State Capitol. May 4, 2018
- Spoke to the Republican Women of East Alabama at the Saugahatchee Country Club in Opelika. May 8, 2018
- Served as the keynote speaker for the Spring Commencement Exercises for Wallace Community College at the Dothan Civic Center in Houston County. May 9, 2018
- Spoke to more than 150 people at the Asbury Volunteer Fire Department in Marshall County. May 19, 2018
- Attended the annual Polk Salad Festival in Arab. May 19, 2018
- Attended the Catfish Festival in Scottsboro. May 19, 2018
- Attended the National Association of Secretaries of State New Voter Forum in Washington D.C. May 21, 2018
- Involved in the certification of the May 15<sup>th</sup> election to make Senator David Burkette the newest member of the Alabama State Senate representing District 26. May 30, 2018
- Spoke to the Senior International Officers enrolled in the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base during their visit to the Capitol. June 1, 2018
- Spoke at the Alabama Probate Judge's Association 2018 Summer Conference in Orange Beach to discuss the June 5<sup>th</sup> election, the use of Electronic Poll Books, and the electronic business filings. June 11, 2018
- Met with members of the media from around the state at the State Capitol to discuss the extremely successful efforts of the voter registration/photo ID campaign and the maintenance for the voter registration database to ensure integrity in the elections process. June 14, 2018
- Served as the Grand Marshal of the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Tomato Festival parade in Slocomb. June 16, 2018
- Interviewed by WDHN ABC TV of Dothan at the Tomato Festival in Slocomb to discuss the need to have local festivals and why statewide elected officials should support them. June 16, 2018
- Attended the 99<sup>th</sup> annual American Legion Convention in Montgomery. June 16, 2018
- Participated in the United States Global Leadership Coalition 2018 State Leaders Summit in Washington at the State Leaders Breakfast to discuss the impact of political leadership, economic development activities, and moral leadership on the world. June 18, 2018
- Attended the unveiling ceremony for "Hands of Gold" at the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. June 23, 2018

# Quarterly Accomplishments

- As of **June 25, 2018**, there are **3,392,652** registered voters in the State of Alabama. **1,010,415** Alabamians have registered to vote since Secretary Merrill took office in **January 2015**.
- The SOS Office provided monetary donations to the **State Combined Campaign**, which assists charitable organizations with funding. As a result, the SOS Office **achieved 152.28% of its goal**.
- **One bill** sponsored by the SOS Office was passed during the **2018 Legislative Session**.
- More information was added to the **Acts of Alabama database** to denote 2018 Legislative Act authors and joint sponsors.
- The process to inform citizens of when their **trademark/trade name and service mark expires** was revised. The SOS Office no longer mails expiration notices by letter. Instead, they are **sent by postcard** to reduce costs to the state.
- On **June 22, 2018**, all **business corporations filings** have been **filed on the same day** they are received by the office (and no later than the next business day) for **two consecutive years** (104 weeks).

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# Office Contact Info.

**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**

**Business Entities**

State House  
Suite 119  
334-242-5324

**UCC**

State House  
Room 220  
334-242-5970

**Information Systems**

State House  
Room 125  
334-242-7222

**Government Support / Authentications & Trademarks**

State House  
Rooms 224 & 226  
334-242-7224 / 334-242-5325

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**Coming **October 2018!****