

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

CARTER CARROLL and  
KIM BRADLEY

**FILED**

**FEB 23 2015**

PLAINTIFFS

VS.

CAUSE NO. CI14-0212

JOHNNY L. DUPREE, *in his official*  
*Capacity as Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg*

*Forrest County Clerk*  
FORREST COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

DEFENDANT

**NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF NOMINEES**

COMES NOW Defendant, Johnny L. DuPree, and file this Notice of Submission of Nominees and would show unto the court the following to-wit:

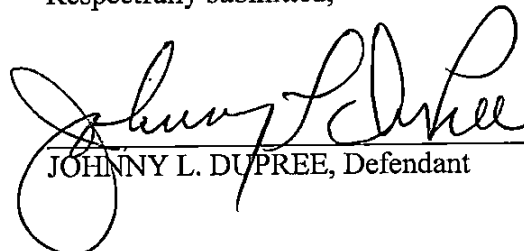
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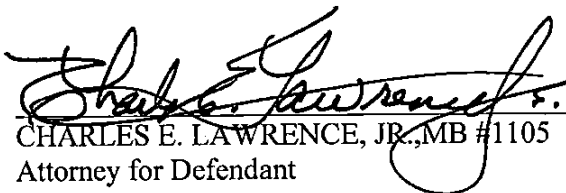
In accordance with the order of this Court entered on February 6, 2015 the names of the following individuals have been submitted to the Clerk of the Council for placement on the agenda of the Hattiesburg City Council for consideration of approval for appointment as follows:

Verlena Underwood – City Clerk  
Attorney Carol Jones Russell – Municipal Judge Pro Tem  
Attorney Ramel L. Cotton – City Attorney  
Attorney Shakita L. Taylor – Public Defender  
Jimmie Gardner - Chief of Police

The resume of each of the above listed individuals setting forth their qualifications is attached hereto and made a part hereof as if completely copied in words and figures as Exhibit “A”.

Respectfully submitted,

  
JOHNNY L. DUPREE, Defendant

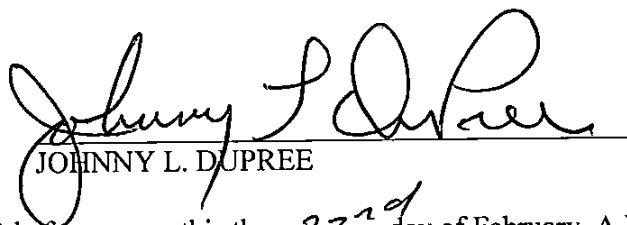
  
CHARLES E. LAWRENCE, JR., MB #1105  
Attorney for Defendant

P. O. Box 1624  
Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1624  
Telephone (601) 582-4157  
Facsimile (601) 582-4140  
Email [celawjr@hotmail.com](mailto:celawjr@hotmail.com)

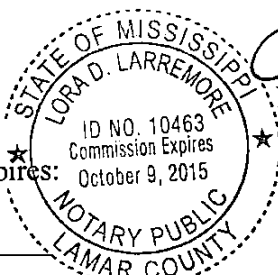
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

COUNTY OF FORREST

PERSONALLY CAME AND APPEARED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Johnny L. DuPree, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg, personally known to me or proven to me by sufficient photo identification, who after being duly sworn and placed under oath do hereby state that the facts and matters set forth in the above and foregoing Notice of Submission of Nominees are true and correct as therein stated.

  
JOHNNY L. DUPREE

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, A.D., 2015.

  
My Commission Expires: 10/9/2015  
NOTARY PUBLIC

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, CHARLES E. LAWRENCE, JR., Attorney for Defendant, Johnny L. DuPree, do hereby certify that I have this day filed this Certificate of Compliance with the Clerk of this Court and have served a copy of the same by facsimile or mailing a true and correct copy to:

Honorable Robert D. Gholson  
Attorney at Law  
Post Office Box 1289  
Laurel, MS 39441-1289

*Hand Delivered*  
(served via facsimile (601) 649-4441)

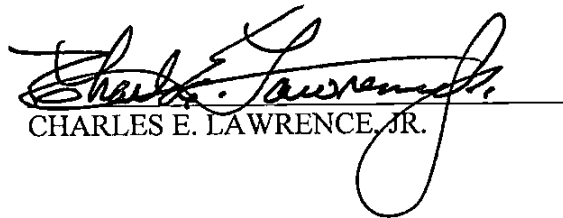
Honorable Katherine B. Sumrall  
Attorney at Law  
Post Office Box 1289  
Laurel, MS 39441-1289

(served via facsimile (601) 649-4441)

Shawn O'Hara  
P. O. Box 15275  
Hattiesburg, MS 39404

Elisha Jackson  
P. O. Box 1542  
Hattiesburg, MS 39403

THIS the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2015.

  
CHARLES E. LAWRENCE, JR.

**Verlina Underwood**  
**106 Capitol Street**  
**Hattiesburg, MS 39401**  
**Mobile: 601-620-6282**  
**Day Phone: 601-545-4510**  
**Email: uverlina@yahoo.com**

**OBJECTIVE:**

**To obtain a position that is challenging and will in courage me to always aim high**

**WORK HISTORY:**

**City of Hattiesburg, Purchasing Manager-3/2008-Present**

Supervise the operations of the purchasing division to ensure that the goods and services needed to operate the city were obtained in a timely and legal manner. Negotiate prices with vendors for goods and services. Review requisitions to ensure adequacy and completeness prior to initiation of Purchase Orders. Process the daily request through JDE for goods and services needed for the city operation. Assist Department heads with understanding procurement laws both federal and state. Attend City Council meeting and answered council members procurement inquiries. Prepare and issue solicitation documents for City Council approval and newspaper advertisement for non-professional services over \$25,000. Perform detail analysis of proposals received and evaluated the submitted proposal to the solicitation. Conduct cost analysis on contract proposed prices. Conduct bid opening sessions weekly. Review bids submitted by vendors and select the lowest and best bid to meet the city's specification. Inspect new vehicles and other rolling stock items upon arrival to ensure compliance with solicitation. Complete and submit division's operating budget annually.

**City of Hattiesburg, Purchasing Assistant-3/2007- 2/2008 (Part Time)**

Reviewed requisitions to ensure adequacy and completeness prior to initiation of purchase orders for goods and services needed to operation the city by: 1) ensuring that the requests meet federal/state and local government procurement laws, rules and regulation; 2) verifying available funds for purchases; and 3) approving the requested purchases for issuance of purchase orders. Assist various departments with developing bid specification for non-professionals purchases over \$25,000.00. Communicate with vendors on price verification, and invoice accuracy.

**City of Hattiesburg, Purchasing Manager-8/2004 - 1/2007 (Retired)**

Supervised the operations of the purchasing division to ensure that the goods and services needed to operate the city were obtained in a timely and legal manner. Negotiates prices with vendors for goods and services. Reviewed and when needed processed the daily request through JDE for goods and services needed for the city operation. Assisted Department heads with understanding procurement laws both federal and state. Attended City Council meeting and answered council members inquiries of a procurement nature. Prepared and issued solicitation documents for City Council approval and newspaper advertisement for non-professional services over \$25,000.

Performed detail analysis of proposals received evaluated the submitted proposal to the solicitation. Conducted cost analysis on contractor's proposals prices/budget. Conducted bid opening sessions weekly. Reviewed bids submitted by vendors and selected the lowest and best bid to meet the city's specification. Inspected new vehicles and other rolling stock items upon arrival to ensure compliance with solicitation. Complied and submitted division's operating budget annually.

**Ms Development Authority-Energy Division, Supervisor,-Grant Management-7/2000 - 8/2004**

Managed the Federal Rebuild Mississippi Program by: 1)Preparing and issues solicitation documents; 2)performing detailed analysis of proposal received to the solicitation issued; 3)Evaluating the proposal budget to ensure fair and reasonable price of budget items listed; 4) Negotiating and awarding contracts for energy smart projects; 5)Performing contract and grant administration by monitored assigned grants and contracts performance, completing necessary contract modifications, processing invoices or payments submitted by grantees and/or contractors in accordance with the terms of the grant/contract, performing contract closeouts once performance was successfully completed and all regulations and legal requirements were in compliance; 6) Providing grantees and contractors with technical assistants and corrective suggestions and methods; and by 7) compiling and submitting quarterly status reports to the US Department of Energy. Supervised program staff by: 1) Assigning programs and projects for staff management; 2)Providing necessary assistant with projects; 3) Monitoring staff performance and providing feedback to each member; and 4) completing staff evaluations annually .

**Ms Development Authority-Energy Division - Associate Manager, Contract Management-6/1988-6/2000**

Developed and monitored assigned contracts and grants to ensure compliance with federal and state guidelines. Assisted grantees/contractors with the successful completion of their projects. Process invoices submitted for payment on project activities. Compiled information to submit to US Department of Energy (USDOE) in response to federal grant solicitations. Performed desk top reviews of semi and annual reports submitted by contractor and compiled annual reports for submission to USDOE.

**Ms Development Authority- Accounting Clerk Trainee 7/1980-6/1988**

Processed invoices for payment and requests for travel. Obtained necessary quotes and bids for purchases over a specified amount. Monitored purchasing procedures as required by federal and state law. Assisted state contract vendors daily with inquiries about outstanding invoices. Provided monthly expenditure reports to agency's department heads. Assisted the Payroll Clerk when needed with completing monthly payroll for the agency. Assist employees with questions of a purchasing and or accounting nature.

**EDUCATION:**

**University of Southern Mississippi--Hattiesburg, MS**

Inpatient/Outpatient Medical Coding and Billing

Graduated: February 23, 2012

**Jackson State University--Jackson, Ms**

Major: Business Administration

Bachelor's Degree - 5/1997

**Utica Junior College(Hinds Community College)--Utica, MS**

Major: Clerical Science

Associate in Applied Science Degree-5/1979

**Ms State Personnel Board--Jackson, MS**

Certified Public Manager

Graduated: June 2006

**Ms State Personnel Board--Jackson, MS**

Certified in Supervisory Management

Graduated: December 2003

***\*References upon request***

**CAROL JONES RUSSELL**  
713 Ronie Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
601-583-9401 • 601-606-3777  
cjones08@hotmail.com

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### EDUCATION

**The University of Mississippi School of Law**  
Juris Doctorate, *Cum Laude Distinction*

Oxford, MS  
May 2008

Honors: Alternate Dispute Resolutions Outstanding Student Award, 2007ABA Representative for  
Regional Mediation Competition  
Activities: Dean's Leadership Counsel, Child Advocacy Clinic, Black Law Students Association,  
American Constitution Society

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
Bachelor of Science, Finance - *Highest Honors*

Hattiesburg, MS  
August 2003

Honors: Vice-Presidential Scholar, Wall Street Journal Outstanding Student Award, President's List,  
Political Science Award, Dean's List  
Activities: SGA Judicial Board, Campus Ambassador, Financial Management Association, Student  
Investment Management Fund

**King's College**  
Course work in: International Finance and Economics

London, U.K.  
June 2002 – August 2002

**Hattiesburg High School**  
Diploma, *Special Honors*

Hattiesburg, MS  
May 1999

### LEGAL EXPERIENCE

**The Carol Jones Russell Law Firm, PLLC**  
*Owner/Attorney, October 1, 2013 – Current*

Hattiesburg, MS

Lead Attorney in multifaceted practice with expertise in following areas of litigation, including but not limited to: domestic relations, criminal defense, personal injury, estates, and civil rights litigation. Represent and manage over 100 clients in all cases. Manage and supervise office personnel including two paralegals, receptionist, file clerk, and billing officer.

**Gambrell Law Firm, PLLC**  
*Owner/Attorney, August 3, 2009 – October 1, 2013*

Hattiesburg, MS

Lead Attorney in multifaceted practice with expertise in following areas of litigation, including but not limited to: domestic relations, criminal defense, personal injury, estates, and civil rights litigation. Represent and manage over 100 clients in all cases. Manage and supervise office personnel including two paralegals, receptionist, file clerk, and billing officer.

**City of Hattiesburg Municipal Court**  
*Municipal Court Judge – Pro Tem, October 2012 – Current*

Hattiesburg, MS

Preside over cases involving traffic offenses, civil disputes, and misdemeanor criminal offenses. Preside over felony bond hearings and felony preliminary hearings. Handle trials and hearings fairly pursuant to the laws of the State of Mississippi and the United States.

**Forrest County Youth Court**

Hattiesburg, MS

*Parent Attorney Representative, October 2012 ~ Current*

Represent and manage approximately cases involving parents whose children have been placed with the Department of Human Services. Work with parents to reunite them with their children by helping them achieve the goals set out in a Service Agreement plan with the Department.

**Forrest County Public Defender's Office**

Hattiesburg, MS

*Attorney, July 2010 ~ October 2012*

Represent and manage over 250 clients in felony criminal cases in the Forrest County Judicial District. Representation begins at the initial appearance after arrest and ends either by trial or pre-trial resolution. Responsible for covering all preliminary hearings, bond reduction hearings and lunacy hearings.

**Mississippi Supreme Court**

Jackson, MS

*Judicial Clerk, August 1, 2008 ~ July 31, 2009*

Drafted proposed memoranda and opinions for Mississippi Court of Appeals Judge. Researched, analyzed, and presented legal issues relevant to assigned cases. Reviewed court records and parties' briefs. Reviewed, analyzed, and reported on legal research and analysis contained in opinions circulated for voting.

**Phelps Dunbar LLP**

Jackson, MS

*Summer Associate, July 9, 2007 ~ August 16, 2007*

Researched and analyzed legal issues in the areas of labor and employment law, business and finance, environmental law, securities, and governmental relations. Drafted memoranda for firm partners.

**Watkins and Eager PLLC**

Jackson, MS

*Summer Associate, May 14, 2007 ~ June 22, 2007*

Researched and analyzed legal issues in the areas of government law, commercial litigation, tort and general litigation, family law, and alternate dispute resolution. Drafted memoranda for firm partners.

**Gambrell Law Firm, PLLC**

Hattiesburg, MS

*Summer Associate, May 2006 ~ August, 2006*

Conducted legal research, drafted pleadings, interviewed potential witnesses, standard office management.

**Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens, & Cannada, PLLC**

Jackson, MS

*Paralegal, March 2004 ~ July 2005*

Prepared discovery materials, contacted potential witnesses and discovery sources, drafted correspondence with potential experts and discovery witnesses, outlined management strategies for various case projects.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Licensed to Practice law in the State of Mississippi, Southern District Federal Court of Mississippi, Northern District Federal Court of Mississippi, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Mississippi Bar Association
- Magnolia Bar Association
- Mississippi Public Defender's Association
- Hattiesburg Area Young Lawyer's Association

**CIVIC & RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS**

- Pineview Presbyterian Church
- Area Development Partnership ~ PineBelt Leaders Class of 2011
- The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association



## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Ramel L. Cotton**  
**Post Office Box 694**  
**Jackson, Mississippi 39201**  
**(769)230-3852**  
**(601)500-5755 (fax)**  
**ramel@rcottonlaw.com**

### **EDUCATION**

**University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2000 Juris Doctorate**  
Trial Practice Book Award  
Trial Team Final Four

**University of Montpellier Facultie de Droit, Montpellier, France, 1998**

**Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS      B.S. in Political Science, 1997**  
*Magna Cum laude*  
Most Outstanding Graduate

### **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES**

**Mississippi Bar, 2001**  
**Florida Bar, 2000**

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

**The Cotton Law Firm, PLLC 2010 - present**  
Owner

**Morgan & Morgan, P.A., 2008 - 2010**  
Attorney

**Smith Rushing Cotton & Robinson, PLLC, 2004-2008**  
Owner

**Pro Access Consulting, 2004-2008**  
Government Relations

**Byrd & Associates, PLLC, 2001-2004**  
Associate Attorney

**Mississippi Court of Appeals, 2000-2001**  
Law Clerk - Hon. Tyree Irving

**Gainesville, Florida Public Defender's Office, 2000**  
Asst. Public Defender

**Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, 1999**  
Institutions of Higher Learning Legal Department, Legal Intern  
**Honorable Isadore Patrick, Ninth Judicial District, 1998**  
Law clerk

**U.S. Congressman Bennie G. Thompson, Washington, D.C., 1995**

Congressional Intern

**ASSOCIATIONS/APPOINTMENTS**

Mississippi Bar Association

Florida Bar Association

Magnolia Bar Association, Past Legislative Affairs Director

Mississippi Association for Justice, Executive Committee

American Association for Justice, MS Minority Caucus Representative

Alcorn State University Alumni Association, Past Legislative Affairs Director

University of Florida Alumni Association

Mississippi Supreme Court Jury Instruction Commission

Mississippi Public Defenders Task Force Subcommittee

Mississippi Commission on Civil Rights Advisory Committee

Warren County Special Public Defender Appointee

New Jerusalem Church Legal Ministry

Voice of Calvary Ministries, Board of Servants

Downtown Jackson Neighborhood Association, Secretary

Farish Street/Main Street Project, Board of Directors

Downtown Jackson Partners

# SHAKITA L TAYLOR

PO Box 15783 · Hattiesburg, MS 39404 · Phone (601) 336-5723 · Email: [shakita.taylorlaw@gmail.com](mailto:shakita.taylorlaw@gmail.com)

## BAR AFFILIATION

Mississippi, 2010  
American Bar Association  
Magnolia Bar Association

Licensed to practice in all Courts in the State of Mississippi

## EDUCATION

**Mississippi College School of Law, Jackson, MS**

Juris Doctor, May 2009

Public Interest Service Award; Treasurer and Public Relations Director, Public Interest Law Group;  
Secretary and Fundraising Committee Chair, Black Law Students Association; Member, Women Student  
Bar Association

**Rust College, Holly Springs, MS**

Bachelors of Arts in English, May 2006

*Summa Cum Laude*

Honor Track Scholar; President, Sigma Tau Delta National English Fraternity; Captain, Debate Team

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

***Solo Practitioner, Law Firm of Shakita L. Taylor, Hattiesburg, MS***

May 2013 – Present

Represent clients in family law matters involving custody, support, adoption and domestic abuse issues.  
Represent clients on DUI cases, Expungements, Bankruptcy, and general estate planning.  
Negotiate resolution of divorce cases. Draft complaints and briefs, and conduct case analysis. Litigate a  
variety of domestic cases in civil court trials and at family law and motion hearings.

***Guardian Ad Litem, Hattiesburg, MS***

August 2009 – Present

***Associate Attorney, Channel Control Merchandise, LLC, Hattiesburg, MS***

October 2012 – April 2013

Represent clients in family law matters involving custody, support, adoption and domestic abuse issues.  
Negotiate resolution of divorce cases. Draft complaints and briefs, and conduct case analysis. Litigate a  
variety of domestic cases in civil court trials and at family law and motion hearings.

***Staff Attorney, MS Department of Human Services, Hattiesburg, MS***

October 2010–September 2012

Advise custodial and non-custodial parents regarding legal issues involved in prospective civil paternity  
and/or support actions. Interpret and apply laws; Prepare legal pleadings required for hearings, trials, and  
varied legal proceedings; draft and prepare related reports and correspondence; and maintain accurate case  
records. Litigate a variety of paternity and support cases in civil court trials and at family law and motion  
hearings.

***Staff Attorney, Young Williams, PC, Ridgeland, MS***

October 2009–September 2010

Promoted from Legal Administrator to staff attorney in April 2010; Ensure proper legal representation in  
all child support matters related to paternity and support order establishment and enforcement; Draft  
pleadings; Negotiate with opposing counsel, attend hearings, and perform other related activities

***Extern, American Civil Liberties Union, Jackson, MS***

January 2009– May 2009

Researched legal issues using Westlaw and Lexis Nexus legal databases; drafted pleadings and  
memoranda, assisted in trial preparation, and attended hearings

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

West Point Baptist Church Small Group Leader; Habitat for Humanity; Founder of Raising the Bar mentoring  
program; Oak Grove Youth Sports Cheerleading Coach

# Jimmie Gardner

Gardner5@hotmail.com · 855 Wildwood Avenue Mobile, AL 36609 · 251-366-7756

## Objectives

A Twenty year veteran possesses a well-rounded experience in all aspects of criminal investigation, community policing, operations, administration, internal investigations, and labor relations.

## Education

- Miles College - Birmingham, Alabama □ Bachelor Pre Law, Political Science Degree - 1984
- University of Alabama – Birmingham, Alabama □ Military Science - 1982

## Experience

Chief of Police, City of Prichard, 2009-2013

- Provide leadership, direction, and vision for modern day policing, □
- Implement the goals and strategic plan for crime prevention, organization development, □ and staff support, □
- Responsibilities included; but not limited to: operations, supervision, budget, payroll, □ equipment purchasing, leasing, scheduling, allocation, evaluation, and commendations □ of personnel, short and long term planning, □
- Develop and implement a comprehensive plan that focuses on training, cross training, □ and training the trainers; this will develop officers to have dual role capabilities for dealing with multi task responsibilities, therefore eliminating the need for additional officers on a scene. □
- Implemented a program to manage grant funds utilization directed toward a comprehensive focus plan to assist in enhancing the eradication of targeted crime area. □

Assistant Chief of Police, City of Prichard, 2007-2009 □

- Serve as chief of police during the absent of the chief, □
- Responsible for overseeing the police administrator's and the day to day operation of □ the police department, □

Chief of Investigation, City of Prichard, 2005-2007 ☐

- Responsible for all internal investigation both criminal and administrative for the police department; particularly the informal and formal internal discipline interview for all employees of the city and provided the finding to the Mayor and the Chief of Police.

Mobile County Sheriff Deputy, Mobile County Sheriff Department, 1990-2005

- Patrol Deputy,
  - Training Instructor, ☐
  - Special Operations (R.E.A.C.T), ☐
  - Civil Deputy, ☐
  - Investigator, ☐
  - Major Crime, ☐

Awards & Recognition

- 2009 - Black Achievers Award ☐
- 2008 - Law Enforcement Medal of Distinction ☐
- 2008 - NAACP Medgar Evers Award ☐
- 2004 - Law Enforcement Man of the Year ☐
- 2002 - MCSO Deputy of the Year ☐
- 2000 - NAACP Lifetime Member ☐

Certification & Training ☐

- APOST Certification ☐
- Chiefs of Police Executive Certification ☐
- U. S. Department of Justice F.B.I. training: Interview and Interrogation, Crime Scene ☐ Investigation, Criminal Investigation Techniques, Crisis Negotiation ☐
- U.S. Army Commission Officer ☐

- Infantry Officers – Basic course, Advance, course ☐
- Special Forces/Special Operation Courses ☐
- University partnership of Alabama – Media Relation ☐
- Attorney General Summit -School Violence: Equipping Law Enforcement for crises on ☐campuses ☐
- Public Agency Training Council - National Criminal Justice Hiring& background ☐Investigation

#### ☐Associations & Membership ☐

- Alabama Chiefs of Police Association☐● Mobile County Association of Chiefs of Police
- International Chiefs of Police Association☐● National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. ☐
- Cedar Park Missionary Baptist Church Board of Trustees ☐
- Commissioners of Planning for City Government

#### ☐References ☐

- Ron Davis, former Mayor for the City of Prichard: 251-331-4552, ☐
- Ossie Edwards, Councilwoman for the City of Prichard (President): 251-457-2036 (home), ☐251-421-7294 (cell), ☐
- Gary Spraggin, Business Owner, 251-457-6416, ☐
- Severia Morris-Campbell, Councilwoman for the City of Prichard: 251-457-8208, ☐
- Dr. Art Rocker, 850-450-1892 ☐
- Latesha Edwards, Property Management, 251-725-1835, 229-8964, ☐
- Rev. Patrick Munnerlyn, 251-391-1620 ☐