

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1595

WHEREAS, Mississippi mourns the passing of Michael “Mike” Leroy Jimerson, a dedicated law enforcement officer who lost his life in the line of duty on April 2, 2026, at the age of 61, while doing what he believed in-protecting others; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jimerson was born on May 12, 1964, in Mobile, Alabama, the son of Clarence and Ann Jimerson. He was a graduate of St. Martin High School and spent 31 years working for Sparklight. Sixteen years ago, he began faithfully serving his community with the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department as a volunteer, four years later becoming a deputy; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jimerson was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He shared 42 years of marriage with his high school sweetheart, Sheila, and the couple had two children, Michael and Paige; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jimerson will be remembered for the way he lived his life- with a servant’s heart, unwavering loyalty and a deep love for his family and community. He was the kind of man who showed up, no matter the circumstance. Deputy Jimerson always led by example, instilling in his children the values of hard work, compassion and service to others. His impact is evident not only in his family, but in the countless lives he touched throughout his many years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Jimerson had the rare ability to make people feel protected, valued and cared for, both in and out of uniform. To both his family and the community, he was a steady presence and someone they could depend on. In the words of Governor Reeves: *“Deputy Jimerson, like all of our men and women of law enforcement, represent the very best of Mississippi. All of Mississippi stands with them as we honor and mourn this hero who has been taken from us too soon.”*; and

WHEREAS, the outpouring of love and support following the tragic death of this fallen hero reflects the deep appreciation and gratitude of all Mississippians for Deputy Jimerson and the law enforcement community; and

WHEREAS, the prayers of the State are with Deputy Jimerson’s wife; his children Michael (Stephanie) Jimerson and Paige (Justin) Powell; his mother, Ann Jimerson; his grandchildren Kaela Jimerson, Jordynn Jimerson, Joey Rocha, and Clayton Powell; his siblings, Missy (Randel) Miller, Mitchell (Karee) Jimerson, and Lisa Jimerson; his beloved dogs, Daisy Mae and Annabelle; and a host of other family members, friends, and the law enforcement community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, and 4 USC § 7(m) do hereby proclaim a day of official mourning in the State of Mississippi in memory of Jackson County Deputy Michael “Mike” Leroy Jimerson and direct that all flags of the United States of America and the State of Mississippi be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds of the State of Mississippi and all areas under its jurisdiction beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset on Friday, April 10, 2026, in memory of Deputy Jimerson. Mississippi will forever remember Deputy Jimerson for his selflessness, love and quiet strength, and though his watch has ended, his legacy will live on through his family and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol in the City of Jackson, the 8th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fiftieth.


TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR



BY THE GOVERNOR:



MICHAEL WATSON
SECRETARY OF STATE