

SOUTHERN[®] UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

BATON ROUGE • NEW ORLEANS • SHREVEPORT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

February 27, 2026

SU Board Room

2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

9:00 a.m.



February Board Meeting
Southern University System
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
2026-02-27 09:00 - 12:00 CST

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I. Adjournment



Office of the Chancellor

J.S. Clark Administration Building
Post Office Box 9820
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813
Office: 225 771-2360

January 27, 2026

Dr. Orlando McMeans, Interim President
Southern University System
4th Floor, J S Clark Administration Building
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

Re: Conferring of Posthumous Degree to Caleb Wilson and Kavon Barnhill

Dear Dr. McMeans,

I am requesting that an agenda item be placed on the February 27, 2026 Southern University Board of Supervisors agenda to confer posthumous degrees to Caleb Wilson and Kavon Barnhill at the May 15, 2026 undergraduate commencement exercise for Southern University and A&M College. Caleb Wilson was a junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering at the time of his tragic death in February 2025. He was due to graduate in May 2026.

Kavon Barnhill was a senior majoring in Therapeutic Recreation and Leisure Studies in the College of Nursing and Allied Health at the time of his tragic death in December 2025. He was scheduled to graduate in May 2026.

Both of these young men were outstanding scholars. Our hearts and prayers go out to the families of Caleb Wilson and Kavon Barnhill. I recommend that requests for posthumous degrees be presented for approval by the Southern University System Board of Supervisors at its February 27, 2026 meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'John K. Pierre'.

John K. Pierre, Chancellor
and Vanue B. Lacour Endowed Law Professor

Approved

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Orlando McMeans'.

Orlando McMeans, Interim President

Southern University System
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026
Executive Summary

Attached is a summary of the Southern University System fiscal year 2025-2026 general operating budget financial activities for the month ending January 31, 2026. The Southern University System is reporting a \$5,303,108 increase in self-generated revenue as compared to the approved budget. The expenditure for the campuses has been adjusted to offset the increase for the fiscal year.

Southern University Board and System Administration

The System Office is funded from state appropriations and there is no projected shortfall in revenues.

Southern University Baton Rouge Campus

The Baton Rouge Campus has a \$4,409,767 increase in self-generated revenue as compared to the approved budget. The Baton Rouge Campus has increased personal services, operating services, supplies, other charges, and scholarships to balance the operating budget for the fiscal year.

Southern University Law Center

The Law Center has a \$893,341 increase in self-generated revenue as compared to the approved budget. The Law Center has increased operating services, professional services, and acquisitions to balance the operating budget for the fiscal year.

Southern University News Orleans Campus

The New Orleans Campus is funded from state appropriations and self-generated revenue and there is no projected shortfall in revenues.

Southern University Shreveport Campus

The Shreveport Campus is funded from state appropriations and self-generated revenue and there is no projected shortfall in revenues.

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center

The Agricultural Research and Extension Center is funded from state appropriations and federal funds and there is no projected shortfall in revenues.

Summary

Based on the information above, the campuses have made the appropriate adjustments to maintain a balance budget as of January 31, 2026. Revenues and expenditures will be monitored to ensure a balanced operating budget for fiscal year 2025-2026.

Southern University System
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 66,924,019	\$ 44,314,165	\$ 22,609,854	\$ 66,924,019	\$ -	66.2%
Statutory Dedicated	4,611,400	2,099,772	2,511,628	4,611,400	-	45.5%
Federal	3,654,209	2,219,761	1,434,448	3,654,209	-	60.7%
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	34,597,353	38,091,366	-	38,091,366	3,494,013	110.1%
Tuition - Spring 2026	31,072,732	34,712,674	(1,784,473)	32,928,201	1,855,469	111.7%
Tuition - Summer	6,707,865	2,275,316	4,146,749	6,422,065	(285,800)	33.9%
Out-of-State Fees	19,702,948	21,452,707	(132,307)	21,320,400	1,617,452	108.9%
Other	20,208,148	14,336,827	4,493,296	18,830,123	(1,378,025)	70.9%
Interagency Transfer	4,476,791	2,558,312	1,918,479	4,476,791	-	57.1%
Total Revenues	\$ 191,955,465	\$ 162,060,899	\$ 35,197,674	\$ 197,258,573	\$ 5,303,108	84.4%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 94,890,052	\$ 56,494,544	\$ 38,063,809	\$ 94,558,353	\$ (331,699)	59.5%
Other Compensation	334,904	219,458	115,446	334,904	-	65.5%
Related Benefits	36,843,198	21,410,690	14,805,502	36,216,192	(627,006)	58.1%
Total Personal Services	\$ 132,068,154	\$ 78,124,691	\$ 52,984,758	\$ 131,109,449	\$ (958,705)	59.2%
Travel	1,231,019	517,207	723,812	1,241,019	10,000	42.0%
Operating Services	18,592,147	10,814,653	9,667,142	20,481,795	1,889,648	58.2%
Supplies	2,039,515	938,654	1,289,122	2,227,776	188,261	46.0%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 21,862,681	\$ 12,270,514	\$ 11,680,076	\$ 23,950,590	\$ 2,087,909	56.1%
Professional Services	2,187,801	829,038	1,674,748	2,503,786	315,985	37.9%
Other Charges	9,175,415	1,564,606	8,111,205	9,675,811	500,396	17.1%
Debt Services						
Interagency Transfers	7,639,707	5,241,595	2,752,662	7,994,257	354,550	68.6%
Total Other Charges	\$ 19,002,923	\$ 7,635,239	\$ 12,538,615	\$ 20,173,853	\$ 1,170,930	40.2%
General Acquisitions	452,532	130,984	321,548	452,532	-	28.9%
Library Acquisitions	437,649	413,585	216,383	629,968	192,319	94.5%
Major Repairs	1,072,000	253,821	964,707	1,218,528	146,528	23.7%
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ 1,962,181	\$ 798,390	\$ 1,502,638	\$ 2,301,028	\$ 338,847	40.7%
Scholarships	17,059,526	17,081,474	2,642,179	19,723,653	2,664,127	100.1%
Total Expenditures	\$ 191,955,465	\$ 115,910,308	\$ 81,348,265	\$ 197,258,573	\$ 5,303,108	60.4%

Southern University Board and System Administration
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 4,065,380	\$ 2,794,950	\$ 1,270,430	\$ 4,065,380	\$ -	68.8%
Statutory Dedicated	-	-	-			
Federal		-	-			
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025		-	-			
Tuition - Spring 2026		-	-			
Tuition - Summer		-	-			
Out-of-State Fees		-	-			
Other		-	-			
Interagency Transfer		-	-			
Total Revenues	\$ 4,065,380	\$ 2,794,950	\$ 1,270,430	\$ 4,065,380	\$ -	68.8%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 1,897,962	\$ 1,135,980	\$ 761,982	\$ 1,897,962	\$ -	59.9%
Other Compensation	52,000	22,998	29,002	52,000	-	44.2%
Related Benefits	681,429	320,577	360,852	681,429	-	47.0%
Total Personal Services	\$ 2,631,391	\$ 1,479,555	\$ 1,151,836	\$ 2,631,391	\$ -	56.2%
Travel	260,000	49,453	210,547	260,000	-	19.0%
Operating Services	301,700	86,381	215,319	301,700	-	28.6%
Supplies	113,000	34,135	78,865	113,000	-	30.2%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 674,700	\$ 169,969	\$ 504,731	\$ 674,700	\$ -	25.2%
Professional Services	127,000	1,050	125,950	127,000	-	0.8%
Other Charges	502,534	-	502,534	502,534	-	0.0%
Debt Services		-	-	-		
Interagency Transfers	64,255	-	64,255	64,255	-	0.0%
Total Other Charges	\$ 693,789	\$ 1,050	\$ 692,739	\$ 693,789	\$ -	0.2%
General Acquisitions	65,500	5,871	59,629	65,500	-	9.0%
Library Acquisitions		-	-			
Major Repairs		-	-			
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ 65,500	\$ 5,871	\$ 59,629	\$ 65,500	\$ -	9.0%
Scholarships		-	-			
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,065,380	\$ 1,656,444	\$ 2,408,936	\$ 4,065,380	\$ -	40.7%

Southern University Baton Rouge Campus
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 25,730,701	\$ 17,689,856	\$ 8,040,845	\$ 25,730,701	\$ -	68.7%
Statutory Dedicated	1,847,009	964,590	882,419	1,847,009	-	52.2%
Federal	-	-	-	-	-	
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	23,284,500	25,574,728	-	25,574,728	2,290,228	109.8%
Tuition - Spring 2026	20,396,500	23,378,004	(1,991,600)	21,386,404	989,904	114.6%
Tuition - Summer	4,321,800	1,314,190	2,721,810	4,036,000	(285,800)	30.4%
Out-of-State Fees	13,543,623	15,510,309	(551,250)	14,959,059	1,415,436	114.5%
Other	11,997,443	8,807,812	3,189,631	11,997,443	-	73.4%
Interagency Transfer	4,476,791	2,558,312	1,918,479	4,476,791	-	57.1%
Total Revenues	\$ 105,598,367	\$ 95,797,800	\$ 14,210,334	\$ 110,008,134	\$ 4,409,767	90.7%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 50,211,313	\$ 31,318,837	\$ 19,189,045	\$ 50,507,882	\$ 296,569	62.4%
Other Compensation	201,377	167,293	34,084	201,377	-	83.1%
Related Benefits	20,288,885	12,938,590	7,449,151	20,387,741	98,856	63.8%
Total Personal Services	\$ 70,701,575	\$ 44,424,720	\$ 26,672,280	\$ 71,097,000	\$ 395,425	62.8%
Travel	337,570	148,663	188,907	337,570	-	44.0%
Operating Services	8,341,651	5,772,696	4,068,955	9,841,651	1,500,000	69.2%
Supplies	835,411	445,853	568,150	1,014,003	178,592	53.4%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 9,514,632	\$ 6,367,212	\$ 4,826,012	\$ 11,193,224	\$ 1,678,592	66.9%
Professional Services	1,101,480	452,203	649,277	1,101,480	-	41.1%
Other Charges	4,018,829	387,195	4,341,252	4,728,446	709,617	9.6%
Debt Services		-	-			
Interagency Transfers	4,990,644	2,948,807	2,041,837	4,990,644	-	59.1%
Total Other Charges	\$ 10,110,953	\$ 3,788,205	\$ 7,032,365	\$ 10,820,570	\$ 709,617	37.5%
General Acquisitions	62,032	52,224	9,808	62,032	-	84.2%
Library Acquisitions	137,649	132,225	5,424	137,649	-	96.1%
Major Repairs	62,000	28,948	33,053	62,000	-	46.7%
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ 261,681	\$ 213,397	\$ 48,284	\$ 261,681	\$ -	81.5%
Scholarships	15,009,526	14,554,133	2,081,526	16,635,659	\$ 1,626,133	97.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 105,598,367	\$ 69,347,667	\$ 40,660,468	\$ 110,008,134	\$ 4,409,767	65.7%

Southern University Law Center
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 7,472,825	\$ 4,670,517	\$ 2,802,308	\$ 7,472,825	\$ -	62.5%
Statutory Dedicated	199,674	81,533	118,141	199,674	-	40.8%
Federal	-	-	-	-	-	
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	4,151,832	4,490,455	-	4,490,455	338,623	108.2%
Tuition - Spring 2026	3,903,986	4,250,413	-	4,250,413	346,427	108.9%
Tuition - Summer	887,966	243,376	644,590	887,966	-	27.4%
Out-of-State Fees	4,927,500	4,670,550	380,700	5,051,250	123,750	94.8%
Other	3,709,045	3,545,275	248,311	3,793,586	84,541	95.6%
Interagency Transfer	-	-	-	-		
Total Revenues	\$ 25,252,828	\$ 21,952,120	\$ 4,194,049	\$ 26,146,169	\$ 893,341	86.9%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 13,498,499	\$ 7,953,679	\$ 5,544,820	\$ 13,498,499	\$ -	58.9%
Other Compensation	-	-	-	-	-	
Related Benefits	4,764,583	2,312,785	2,451,798	4,764,583	-	48.5%
Total Personal Services	\$ 18,263,082	\$ 10,266,464	\$ 7,996,618	\$ 18,263,082	\$ -	56.2%
Travel	400,000	180,722	219,278	400,000	-	45.2%
Operating Services	2,696,479	573,121	2,513,006	3,086,127	389,648	21.3%
Supplies	257,165	144,621	112,544	257,165	-	56.2%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 3,353,644	\$ 898,464	\$ 2,844,828	\$ 3,743,292	\$ 389,648	26.8%
Professional Services	500,000	206,222	458,623	664,845	164,845	41.2%
Other Charges	894,465	347,609	540,775	888,384	(6,081)	38.9%
Debt Services		-	-	-	-	
Interagency Transfers	306,637	312,719		312,719	6,082	102.0%
Total Other Charges	\$ 1,701,102	\$ 866,550	\$ 999,398	\$ 1,865,948	\$ 164,846	50.9%
General Acquisitions	25,000	4,987	20,013	25,000	-	19.9%
Library Acquisitions	300,000	281,360	210,959	492,319	192,319	93.8%
Major Repairs	10,000	-	156,528	156,528	146,528	0.0%
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ 335,000	\$ 286,347	\$ 387,500	\$ 673,847	\$ 338,847	85.5%
Scholarships	1,600,000	1,465,661	134,339	1,600,000	-	91.6%
Total Expenditures	\$ 25,252,828	\$ 13,783,487	\$ 12,362,682	\$ 26,146,169	\$ 893,341	54.6%

Southern University New Orleans Campus
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 12,616,982	\$ 7,885,613	\$ 4,731,369	\$ 12,616,982	\$ -	62.5%
Statutory Dedicated	572,798	415,139	157,659	572,798	-	72.5%
Federal	-	-	-	-	-	
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	3,706,057	4,038,559	-	4,038,559	332,502	109.0%
Tuition - Spring 2026	3,493,225	4,012,363	-	4,012,363	519,138	114.9%
Tuition - Summer	685,157	215,484	469,673	685,157	-	31.5%
Out-of-State Fees	850,000	928,266	-	928,266	78,266	109.2%
Other	3,146,462	1,820,322	396,234	2,216,556	(929,906)	57.9%
Interagency Transfer		-	-			
Total Revenues	\$ 25,070,681	\$ 19,315,746	\$ 5,754,935	\$ 25,070,681	\$ -	77.0%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 12,665,807	\$ 7,091,192	\$ 5,264,615	\$ 12,355,807	\$ (310,000)	56.0%
Other Compensation	-	-	-	-	-	
Related Benefits	4,672,403	2,683,859	1,797,953	4,481,812	(190,591)	57.4%
Total Personal Services	\$ 17,338,210	\$ 9,775,051	\$ 7,062,568	\$ 16,837,619	\$ (500,591)	56.4%
Travel	30,000	10,127	29,873	40,000	10,000	33.8%
Operating Services	4,544,799	2,549,590	1,995,209	4,544,799	-	56.1%
Supplies	176,000	16,244	159,756	176,000	-	9.2%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 4,750,799	\$ 2,575,961	\$ 2,184,838	\$ 4,760,799	\$ 10,000	54.2%
Professional Services	34,916	18,660	16,256	34,916	-	
Other Charges	1,313,095	35,929	767,166	803,095	(510,000)	2.7%
Debt Services		-	-	-		
Interagency Transfers	1,283,661	978,940	646,570	1,625,510	341,849	76.3%
Total Other Charges	\$ 2,631,672	\$ 1,033,529	\$ 1,429,992	\$ 2,463,521	\$ (168,151)	39.3%
General Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Library Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Major Repairs	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Scholarships	350,000	782,427	226,315	1,008,742	658,742	223.6%
Total Expenditures	\$ 25,070,681	\$ 14,166,968	\$ 10,903,713	\$ 25,070,681	\$ -	56.5%

Southern University Shreveport Campus
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 7,047,725	\$ 4,404,829	\$ 2,642,896	\$ 7,047,725	\$ -	62.5%
Statutory Dedicated	187,112	78,541	108,571	187,112	-	42.0%
Federal		-	-			
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	3,454,964	3,987,624	-	3,987,624	532,660	115.4%
Tuition - Spring 2026	3,279,021	3,071,894	207,127	3,279,021	-	93.7%
Tuition - Summer	812,942	502,266	310,676	812,942	-	61.8%
Out-of-State Fees	381,825	343,582	38,243	381,825	-	90.0%
Other	1,355,198	163,418	659,120	822,538	(532,660)	12.1%
Interagency Transfer		-	-			
Total Revenues	\$ 16,518,787	\$ 12,552,154	\$ 3,966,633	\$ 16,518,787	\$ -	76.0%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 8,984,562	\$ 4,725,874	\$ 3,940,420	\$ 8,666,294	\$ (318,268)	52.6%
Other Compensation	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Related Benefits	3,878,248	1,775,070	1,567,907	3,342,977	(535,271)	45.8%
Total Personal Services	\$ 12,862,810	\$ 6,500,944	\$ 5,508,327	\$ 12,009,271	\$ (853,539)	50.5%
Travel	45,000	7,900	37,100	45,000	-	17.6%
Operating Services	2,262,518	1,464,549	797,969	2,262,518	-	64.7%
Supplies	185,500	115,169	80,000	195,169	9,669	62.1%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 2,493,018	\$ 1,587,618	\$ 915,069	\$ 2,502,687	\$ 9,669	63.7%
Professional Services	40,000	96,140	95,000	191,140	151,140	
Other Charges	225,000	386,472	150,000	536,472	311,472	171.8%
Debt Services		-	-			
Interagency Transfers	797,959	810,465	-	810,465	12,506	101.6%
Total Other Charges	\$ 1,062,959	\$ 1,293,077	\$ 245,000	\$ 1,538,077	\$ 475,118	121.6%
General Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Library Acquisitions	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Major Repairs	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%
Scholarships	100,000	268,752	200,000	468,752	368,752	268.8%
Total Expenditures	\$ 16,518,787	\$ 9,650,391	\$ 6,868,396	\$ 16,518,787	\$ -	58.4%

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center
General Operating Budget Interim Financial Statement
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026
As of January 31, 2026

	FY26 Budget	Actual	Projected	Total FY26	Over/(Under) Budget	% Actual to Budget
Revenues						
General Fund Direct	\$ 9,990,406	\$ 6,868,400	\$ 3,122,006	\$ 9,990,406	\$ -	68.7%
Statutory Dedicated	1,804,807	559,969	1,244,838	1,804,807	-	31.0%
Federal	3,654,209	2,219,761	1,434,448	3,654,209	-	60.7%
Self Generated						
Tuition - Fall 2025	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuition - Spring 2026	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuition - Summer	-	-	-	-	-	-
Out-of-State Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interagency Transfer	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	\$ 15,449,422	\$ 9,648,129	\$ 5,801,293	\$ 15,449,422	\$ -	62.4%
Expenditures						
Salaries	\$ 7,631,909	\$ 4,268,982	\$ 3,362,927	\$ 7,631,909	\$ -	55.9%
Other Compensation	81,527	29,167	52,360	81,527	-	35.8%
Related Benefits	2,557,650	1,379,809	1,177,841	2,557,650	-	53.9%
Total Personal Services	\$ 10,271,086	\$ 5,677,957	\$ 4,593,129	\$ 10,271,086	\$ -	55.3%
Travel	158,449	120,342	38,107	158,449	-	76.0%
Operating Services	445,000	368,316	76,684	445,000	-	82.8%
Supplies	472,439	182,632	289,807	472,439	-	38.7%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,075,888	\$ 671,291	\$ 404,597	\$ 1,075,888	\$ -	62.4%
Professional Services	384,405	54,763	329,642	384,405	-	14.2%
Other Charges	2,221,492	407,401	1,809,478	2,216,879	(4,613)	18.3%
Debt Services		-	-	-		
Interagency Transfers	196,551	190,664	-	190,664	(5,887)	97.0%
Total Other Charges	\$ 2,802,448	\$ 652,828	\$ 2,139,120	\$ 2,791,948	\$ (10,500)	23.3%
General Acquisitions	300,000	67,902	232,098	300,000	-	22.6%
Library Acquisitions	-	-	-	-		
Major Repairs	1,000,000	224,873	775,127	1,000,000	-	22.5%
Total Acquisitions/Major Repairs	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 292,775	\$ 1,007,225	\$ 1,300,000	\$ -	22.5%
Scholarships	-	10,500	-	10,500	10,500	
Total Expenditures	\$ 15,449,422	\$ 7,305,351	\$ 8,144,071	\$ 15,449,422	\$ -	47.3%



POLICY TITLE

Data Governance, Management & Oversight Policy

POLICY NUMBER

SUS 8-011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. What is the purpose/rationale for this policy?

The purpose of this Data Governance & Oversight policy is to establish a unified, system-wide framework that ensures responsible, ethical, secure, and strategically aligned management of data across the Southern University System (SUS). This policy strengthens institutional accountability, protects sensitive information, enhances decision-making through reliable data, and ensures compliance with federal, state, and accrediting bodies' requirements regardless to where University data is used, stored or maintained.

Data governance serves as a foundational pillar supporting the University's broader digital transformation efforts, including artificial intelligence (AI) usage, digital literacy, online education, analytics, and accessibility initiatives. Clear governance standards—paired with oversight and shared accountability—ensure that the University's data lifecycle (collection, storage, access, use, sharing, retention, and disposal) is consistent, compliant and secure.

By treating data as a high-value institutional asset, the Southern University System acknowledges that both structured and unstructured data must be managed intentionally and systematically. This ensures data-informed decision making and fosters trust in institutional information.

2. What is the fiscal impact of this policy?

The fiscal impact of this policy is expected to be minimal to moderate, depending on the campus-level infrastructures and maturity of existing data management processes. Required expenditures may include:

- System-wide or campus-level data governance tools (inventories, classification systems, compliance tracking)
- Periodic training for faculty, staff and administrators in the development of courses
- Strengthened cybersecurity, access-control systems and data-protection platforms.
- Support for compliance monitoring, internal audits, and secure storage systems.

Long-term benefits such as reduced data breaches, fewer compliance violations, improved efficiency, improved retention and reporting accuracy—are expected to outweigh any possible initial implementation costs.

3. Was this policy developed based on best practices and in alignment with similar universities /colleges, policy organizations such as Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), Louisiana Board of Regents, etc. Briefly discuss and provide an example.

This policy is aligned with nationally recognized best practices and frameworks established by:

- **Louisiana Board of Regents (BoR)** – Guidance on the Responsible and Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence, Data & Information Governance requirements, statewide cybersecurity mandates, and digital risk mitigation expectations.
- **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)** – Standards related to institutional effectiveness, data accuracy, privacy, student records, information security, academic integrity, and compliance oversight.
- **Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)** – Best practices for board governance of technology, enterprise risk management (ERM), and oversight of digital and data strategy.
- **Federal Cybersecurity and Intelligence Frameworks (FBI, CIA)** – Sector guidance on cyber threats, intelligence-informed risk assessments, counterintelligence protection, digital forensics, data-protection expectations, and national security-aligned protocols for safeguarding sensitive information and preventing system vulnerabilities.
- **National and International Standards Organizations** – Including **EDUCAUSE**, **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)**, **Cybersecurity Framework**, and **ISO/IEC** standards for data governance, information security, privacy, and digital accessibility.
- **Peer higher-education institutions** – Such as Louisiana State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Tulane University, Prairie View A&M University, and other regional HBCUs and public systems that maintain mature data governance, AI oversight, and cybersecurity programs.
- **Other University System Information Technology and Data Governance policies**

Example of Alignment with Best Practices

For example, LSU and Tulane University both utilize data governance models that include:

- Centralized oversight committees
- Clearly defined data steward and data owner roles
- Formal classification levels
- Risk-based access controls
- Regular compliance audits

The Southern University System’s policy mirrors this structure by establishing a unified Data Governance and Oversight Program, assigning formal roles and responsibilities, and integrating NIST-aligned cybersecurity practices—strengthening protections against data misuse, breaches, and operational risk.

By implementing a systemwide governance model supported by federal intelligence standards, state regulations, national best practices, and HBCU peer benchmarking, the Southern University System positions itself as a leader in ethical data stewardship, AI oversight, cybersecurity, and digital accountability.

4. If this is a policy revision or update, please provide a summary of the proposed revisions and reason(s) for the revisions.

This document represents a comprehensive update and revision of the university's previous data governance policy. The revisions were necessary to modernize the policy, clarify roles across the System, and align the university with state, federal, and national best practices in data governance, privacy, and data stewardship. Key updates include:

1. **Expanded Data Governance Framework**

The policy now establishes a more robust, system-wide governance structure—including the Data Governance, Management and Oversight Committee—to ensure consistent oversight, accountability, and cross-campus coordination.

2. **Integration of Data Classification and Security Standards**

The updated policy incorporates a formal data classification model and aligns security, privacy, and access requirements with recognized standards and regulatory expectations.

3. **Clear Definition of Roles and Responsibilities**

Roles such as Data Trustees, Data Stewards, Data Custodians, and Data Users have been more clearly defined to ensure transparency, accountability, and shared responsibility for data quality, protection, and appropriate use.

4. **Alignment With Best Practices and System Priorities**

Revisions integrate current best practices in higher-education data management and draw from peer university models. The policy also aligns with the Southern University System's strategic priorities and compliance expectations set by federal regulations, SACSCOC, and the Louisiana Board of Regents.

5. **Updated Procedures for Data Lifecycle Management**

The revised policy incorporates guidelines for data creation, storage, sharing, archival, and destruction to ensure data integrity, reduce duplication, and support System-wide decision-making.

6. **Integration With Related Policies (AI, Security, Web Accessibility)**

The revised version ensures seamless alignment with the university's AI Umbrella Policy, Information Security Policy, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1) Web Accessibility requirements, and other technology-related policies.

The rapid evolution of data environments increased regulatory expectations, and the need for System-level consistency necessitated a comprehensive update. The revised policy strengthens governance, enhances security, standardizes data practices across campuses, and ensures that the university remains compliant, data-informed, and strategically positioned to support student success and institutional effectiveness.



POLICY TITLE

Data Governance, Management, and Oversight Policy

POLICY NUMBER

SUS-8-011

Responsible Unit(s): System Division of Information Technology, System Office for Compliance, System Office of Human Resources, and each Campus's Division of Academic Affairs, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Registrar, and Division of Enrollment Management	Effective Date: <i>01/24/2026</i>
Responsible Official(s): System Chief Information Officer, System Director for Compliance, Chief Human Resources Officer, and each Campus's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Senior Official for Institutional Effectiveness, Registrar, and Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management	Last Reviewed Date: <i>01/24/2026</i>
Policy Classification: Information Technology	Origination Date: <i>01/24/2026</i>

I. POLICY STATEMENT AND RATIONALE

The Southern University System is committed to safeguarding data as a strategic institutional asset. All System data—regardless of form, location, or system of origin—must be collected, accessed, used, stored, shared, and disposed of responsibly, ethically, securely, and in accordance with federal, state, system-wide, and campus-level requirements.

The rationale for this policy is to ensure:

- Protection of sensitive and confidential information
- Establish system-wide standards for data quality, classification, retention, privacy, and security.
- Maintain a system-wide data inventory and data custodian registry.
- Approve data-access levels and define institutional data-sharing protocols.
- Oversee data-risk assessments, compliance audits, reporting accuracy and remediation
- Collaborate with the AI Advisory Committee on data use for AI models and tools.

- Collaborate with the Digital Accessibility Committee to provide equitable access to information technology and digital content for all members of the community.
- Review and recommend updates to the data-governance framework annually.
- Ensure campus policies align with system-wide requirements.

II. POLICY SCOPE AND AUDIENCE

This policy applies to:

- All campuses within the Southern University System.
- All faculty, staff, administrators, contractors, vendors, and affiliates who access or use System data.
- All information systems, learning technologies, analytic tools, AI systems, cloud-based platforms, student information systems, financial systems, and digital repositories.
- All data types, including student records, HR data, financial data, research data, health information, and operational data.

Audience includes Academic Affairs, Information Technology, Institutional Research, Institutional Effectiveness, Registrar Office, Enrollment Management, Finance & Administration, Human Resources, Research & Sponsored Programs, Student Services, Compliance, and all data-handling units.

III. POLICY COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with the policy may result in:

- Suspension or revocation of access to System data resources
- Disciplinary action up to and including termination for employees, contractors, or consultants. Dismissal for interns and volunteers.
- Suspension or expulsion for students.
- Civil or criminal prosecution, as applicable.

Non-compliance with this policy includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:

- **Unauthorized access, sharing, or use of System data** — including accessing data without a legitimate business or academic need, or sharing protected information with individuals who do not have appropriate permission.
- **Failure to follow data handling and storage requirements** — such as saving restricted or confidential data on unapproved devices, personal cloud services, or unencrypted media.
- **Circumventing security controls** — including bypassing authentication requirements, disabling encryption, or attempting to override system safeguards.

- **Improper disposal of System data** — discarding printed or electronic records without following approved retention and destruction procedures.
- **Using AI tools, software, or third-party applications without required approvals** — particularly when tools involve processing System data, student information, or sensitive content.
- **Submitting false, misleading, or incomplete information** during data collection, reporting, auditing, or compliance reviews.
- **Failure to report data incidents, breaches, or suspected misuse** within 5 days or less to the appropriate System authority.
- **Installing unapproved applications, plugins, or integrations** on System systems that could compromise data security or integrity.
- **Using System data for personal gain, unauthorized research, or non-System purposes.**
- **Neglecting required trainings, refusing to participate in compliance activities,** or ignoring official directives from authorized governance committees.

IV. POLICY DEFINITIONS

Data Governance: The system-wide framework for managing data throughout its lifecycle to ensure quality, security, accessibility, and ethical usage.

Data Governance Committee: A group of System leaders responsible for setting data policies and ensuring adherence.

Data Custodian: Division of Information Technology (DoIT) is the data custodian. Responsible for providing a secure infrastructure in support of the data, including, but not limited to, providing physical security, backup and recovery processes, granting access privileges to system users as authorized.

Data Stewards: Representatives of the System who are assigned the responsibility to serve as a steward of System data in a particular area. They are responsible for developing procedures for creating, maintaining, and using System data, based on System policy and applicable state and federal laws.

Data Trustee: is a senior institutional leader who has executive-level responsibility and authority over a major data domain of the System. Data Trustees ensure that data within their area of oversight is managed ethically, securely, and in accordance with institutional policies, state and federal regulations, accreditation requirements, and best practices.

Data Classification Levels:

- **Public**-Information that may be freely shared with the public without risk of harm to the System, its students, employees, operations or reputation.
- **Internal**-Information intended for internal use within the Southern University System and not approved for public release.
- **Confidential**-Information protected by laws, regulations, contracts, or System policy. Unauthorized access, disclosure, alteration or destruction could cause significant harm to individuals or the institution.
- **Restricted**-The highest level of sensitive information. Unauthorized disclosure, access, or loss could cause severe legal, financial, reputational, operational, or safety related harm to the System or individuals.

Data Certification Levels: represent the degree of validation, accuracy, completeness, governance compliance, or institutional approval assigned to a dataset before it can be used for reporting, analytics, decision-making, or external submission. Ensure that data is trustworthy, traceable, and aligned with institutional, state, federal, and accreditation requirements.

Data User: Individuals who need and use System data as part of their assigned duties or in fulfillment of assigned roles or functions within the System community. E.g. Faculty, staff, students who use System data for analysis, reporting or decision-making.

Data Producers: Individuals responsible for entering, formatting, and maintaining data.

Data Inventory: A comprehensive listing of institutional data assets, systems, and owners.

Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Data that can identify an individual, such as name, SSN, or ID number.

Protected Data: Data protected under FERPA, HIPAA, or other regulations.

Data Lifecycle: The stages of data—from creation and collection to storage, access, use, sharing, and disposal.

Data Breach: Unauthorized access, disclosure, loss, or misuse of institutional data.

Security measures: Processes, software, and hardware used by system and network administrators to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the information technology resources and data owned by the System and its authorized users. Security measures may include reviewing files for potential or actual policy violations and for investigating security-related issues.

System: The Southern University System and its institutions.

V. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

A. System-wide Data Governance Committee (DGC)

1. Provides oversight and accountability to ensure consistent practices across all campuses
 - Enforce campus compliance with system-wide data policies and procedures
 - Establish system-wide standards for data quality, classification, retention, privacy, and security
 - Maintain a system-wide data inventory and data custodian registry.
 - Approve data access levels and define institutional data-sharing protocols
 - Oversee data-risk assessments, compliance audits, reporting accuracy, and remediation.
 - Collaborate with the AI advisory committee and the Digital Accessibility committee
 - Coordinate data governance with DoIT security, institutional research, and academic affairs
 - Review and recommend updates to the data-governance framework annually.
 - Ensure campus policies align with system-wide requirements.
 2. Policy Oversight & Alignment
 - Recommend updates to the Data Governance Policy.
-

- Ensure alignment with federal law, state mandates, and Louisiana Board of Regents' Data governance policies
- 3. Risk Management & Incident Response
 - Evaluate and document non-compliance of data incidents, breaches, misuse, or accessibility failures
 - Recommend mitigation strategies and corrective actions
 - Work collaboratively with DoIT Security
- 4. Training & Competency Development
 - Support the development of campus-wide data training programs
 - Support unit-level data stewards with training and resources
 - Ensure faculty, staff, and students understand responsible data handling.
 - Promote awareness of accessibility requirements.
- 5. Monitoring & Reporting
 - Conduct annual reviews of data systems for compliance, accessibility, and performance
 - Manage campus data assets, inventories, access permissions, and data-quality procedures
 - Provide quarterly/annual data governance reports to the Chancellor/President and Board. Reporting data governance risks and mitigation strategies to the System senior leadership.
- 6. Vendor/Contractor Data Oversight
 - Evaluate vendor compliance with data residency, data ownership, deletion procedures, and ethical practices

Membership Requirements

- A. The Data Governance Chair shall be the System Chief Information Officer (or equivalent).
 - Membership on the committee shall be role based, drawn from major data domains and supporting units—including institutional research/effectiveness, registrar, HR, finance, IT, sponsored programs, enrollment management, academic affairs, legal counsel, compliance, etc. and approved by the President. These roles are based on primary data domains of the institution as well as roles from additional areas of the institution that have a vested interest in data governance.
 - Members shall participate in ongoing professional development to maintain competence in emerging technologies, accessibility practices, and data governance regulations.
 - Terms of membership; committee members shall serve three-year terms with the option of one-year extensions.

- Meetings shall be held at least monthly. A meeting may be called at any time by the Chair when sensitive items arise or cancelled if no agenda exists.

The DGC acts as an advisory capacity to the System's senior leadership and works in coordination with executive governance bodies and other oversight councils.

B. Data Stewards:

- Maintain, classify, and monitor the data within their assigned domain
- Ensure data integrity, accuracy, and policy compliance
- Approve or deny access requests for specific data sets
- Address data quality issues and coordinate remediation

C. Data Users:

- Researchers must document AI use in methods sections where applicable, including model type, prompts, and limitations, echoing the System's emphasis on disclosure and accountability in graduate research.
- Research involving AI must comply with IRB, data-use agreements, and sponsor requirements.
- Training data and output must be managed in accordance with data governance, privacy, and intellectual property policies.

D. The System will maintain a data governance program. Core elements include:

A cross-functional data governance committee responsible for: data classification and standards, AI and analytics data requirements, data access policies and role-based permissions, data quality, and lifecycle management

1. Data Classification and Use

- Institutional data will be classified by sensitivity (e.g. restricted, confidential, internal, public) and protected accordingly.
- AI tools may only access data consistent with classes and with minimum-necessary use principles.

2. Data Retention and Deletion

- AI generated content, logs, models, and input datasets must adhere to institutional record-retention schedules.
- Documented disposal of archiving of AI models and associated data must occur at end of life or when superseded.

3. Vendor/Third Party Data Governance

- Vendor contracts must address data ownership, data residency, data access, deletion/return of data upon contract termination, confidentiality, audit rights.

- Vendors must commit to accessibility, bias mitigation, and security controls, aligned with institutional standards.
4. Audit and Incident Response
 - Periodic audits of AI systems for data governance compliance
 - AI-related data incidents will follow established incident response protocols, including required notifications and corrective actions.
 - Document findings, remediation actions, and maintain a register of AI systems in use (inventory).
 5. Training and Awareness
 - Data Users (faculty, staff, and approved student employees) will complete periodic training on data-handling responsibilities, AI-related data risks, privacy, and security controls.
 6. Continuous Improvement
 - Where third-party platforms are not compliant, the System will provide alternate access methods and work with vendors using tools such as VPATs (Voluntary Product Accessibility Templates) to improve accessibility over time.

VI. POLICY RELATED INFORMATION

This policy is supported by and should read alongside:

- Southern University Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources
<https://www.subr.edu/assets/subr/WirelessNetwork/acceptusetechology.pdf>
- Southern University and A & M College System Data Classification Policy
<https://www.subr.edu/assets/subr/DoIT/IT-DataClassification-Approved.pdf>
- Southern University and A& M College System Information Security Policy Plan
https://www.sus.edu/assets/sus/DoIT/Information-Security-Policy-Plan_Sept21.pdf
- Southern University and A&M College System Cyber Security Policy
www.sus.edu/assets/sus/DoIT/Cybersecurity-Policy_Sept21.pdf
- Southern University System Comprehensive Artificial Intelligence Use Policy
<https://www.sus.edu/assets/sus/systempolicies/System-Policies/01/1-004.pdf>
- Louisiana Board of Regents Policy on Responsible, Ethical, and Secure Use of AI
<https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/ots/policies-and-forms/artificial-intelligence-acceptable-use-policy/>

- Louisiana State Government PPM -74 Web Accessibility Compliance
<https://www.doa.la.gov/media/2tsfafxj/ppm-74-amendment-web-accessibility-compliance.pdf>
- State of Louisiana AI Acceptable Use Policy (OTS)
https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/ots/policies-and-forms/artificial-intelligence-acceptable-use-policy/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- Southern University System, Louisiana State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, LSUE, Southeastern and SUSLA web accessibility statements and resources
<https://www.sus.edu/page/accessibility-statement>
https://louisiana.edu/web-accessibility/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- Institutional Data Governance and Data Management Policies
https://www.lsu.edu/data/datagov/data_governance.php?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Southern University Smart Glasses and Wearable Technology policy-*in development*

VII. POLICY HISTORY AND REVIEW CYCLE

This is a new policy. The Data Governance & Oversight Policy establishes the system's first comprehensive framework for managing institutional data as a strategic asset. This new policy defines roles and responsibilities, classification and certification levels. It has been developed to align with state and federal regulations, Louisiana Board of Regents requirements and best practices in higher education data governance.

VIII. POLICY URL

www.sus.edu/page/policy-search

IX. POLICY APPROVAL

Orlando F. McMeans, Ph.D.
Interim President, Southern University and A&M
College System

Effective Date of Policy

The Honorable Tony M. Clayton
Chair-Southern University
System Board of Supervisors

Effective Date of Policy





POLICY TITLE

Umbrella Policy on Artificial Intelligence Use, Data Governance, Management and Oversight, and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1 AA)

POLICY NUMBER

SUS 8-010

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. What is the purpose/rationale for this policy?

The University recognizes the transformative role Artificial intelligence (AI) in teaching, learning, research, operations, student services, communications, and data-driven decision-making. This umbrella policy integrates:

Ethical AI use and academic integrity requirements from the Southern University System Comprehensive AI Use Policy.

Cybersecurity, risk management, and data protection standards from the Louisiana Board of Regents Policy and Responsible, Ethical, and Secure Use of AI (Policy # IT-006)

Web accessibility and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 Level AA compliance requirements from Louisiana State Executive Order Policy and Procedure Memoranda Number 74 (PPM- Number 74)—Web Accessibility Compliance (LAC 4:V Chapter 61)

The purpose of this integrated policy is to:

1. Ensure responsible, secure, transparent, equitable, and ethical use of AI across the institution.
2. Provide clear expectations for faculty, staff, students, administrators, contractors, and vendors.
3. Strengthen data governance, privacy, accessibility, cybersecurity, and intellectual property protections.
4. Promote innovation while protecting academic integrity, rigor, institutional reputation, and operational resilience.
5. Ensure all university digital content and AI-supported services comply with WCAG 2.1 AA and American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.
6. Adhere to Louisiana State Executive Order (PPM -74) and Louisiana State Board of Regents policy alignment.

This policy advances institutional accountability, creates a unified governance structure, and supports continuous improvement in alignment with federal and state laws, accreditation requirements, and national and state-level best practices.

2. What is the fiscal impact of this policy?

Implementation of this integrated Artificial Intelligence, Data Governance, and Web Accessibility policy will require a strategic, multi-year investment in technology infrastructure, workforce development, and governance processes. These expenditures represent both initial and recurring obligations necessary to ensure System-wide compliance with state and federal regulations, mitigate institutional risk, and support accreditation readiness and high-quality digital learning environments. Preliminary estimates indicate that the required training for all System employees may range from approximately **\$250,000 to \$1,000,000**, depending on the scope of adoption, vendor selection, and the number of personnel requiring certification or ongoing professional development. Additional fiscal considerations may include system upgrades, licensing fees, accessibility remediation, staffing to support governance and monitoring functions, and periodic third-party assessments. This investment is essential to sustaining a secure, ethical, and compliant AI-enabled ecosystem across the Southern University System.

A. Technology and Licensing

- Acquisition or expansion of approved AI tools, analytics and monitoring platforms and accessibility evaluation tools.
- Integration of AI tools into existing enterprise systems in line with secure development and testing and data-risk classifications.

B. Workforce Development

- Ongoing AI literacy, academic-integrity, data governance, and accessibility training for faculty, staff, students, and administrators (AI & data governance resources and academic integrity training modules)

C. Governance, Oversight, and Accessibility

- Support for institutional AI Oversight Committee, Data Governance, and Accessibility Councils
- Regular accessibility audits and remediation of legacy digital content to meet WCAG 2.1 AA.

These costs are justified by improved risk management, compliance, reduced exposure to legal or accreditation risk, better data-informed decision making, enhanced student experience, and more inclusive digital environments.

3. Was this policy developed based on best practices and in alignment with similar universities/colleges, policy organizations such as Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission

on Colleges (SACSCOC), Louisiana Board of Regents, etc. Briefly discuss and provide an example.

This umbrella policy is aligned with the Louisiana Board of Regents Policy on Responsible, Ethical, and Secure Use of AI (system-level governance, AI risk and tools inventory, cybersecurity, enforcement)- Policy # IT-006

Southern University System Comprehensive AI Use Policy (ethical AI, academic integrity, FERPA protection, instructional use)- SUS-1-004

Southern University System Cybersecurity Policy No. 8-001

Southern University System Information Security Policy Plan No. 8-002

Southern University IT Procurement Policy for All System Campuses

Southern University IT Data Classification Policy for All System Campuses

Louisiana State Government PPM 74 Web Accessibility Compliance and state requirements for WCAG 2.1 AA and ADA. -LAC 4:V Chapter 61

In addition, the policy incorporates best practices from other Louisiana and national universities, including AI usage in coursework and communication, data governance and classification, digital governance and accessibility.

This policy also reflects National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) AI risk management framework (risk classification, secure development, monitoring).

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) requirements related to academic integrity, distance education, and student support.

American Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 508, Department of Justice (DOJ) Final Rule on digital accessibility, and AGB governance principles. April 24, 2024.

Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) principles

4. If this is a policy revision or update, please provide a summary of the proposed revisions and reason(s) for the revisions.

This document represents a comprehensive revision and expansion of the Southern University System's existing Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy. The revisions were necessary to transform the prior AI guidance—which focused primarily on ethical use and academic integrity—into a fully integrated Umbrella Policy that addresses the broader institutional implications of AI across university departments, academics, operations, data protection, and digital accessibility.

The updated Umbrella AI Policy includes the following major enhancements:

1. Expanded Scope

The revised policy extends beyond instructional AI use to now include:

- Administrative and operational AI applications
- Research-related AI use
- AI-enabled student services and advising
- Enterprise-level AI technologies and automation tools

2. Creation of Formal Governance Bodies

New governance structures have been established, including:

- AI Advisory Council
- Data Governance, Management & Oversight Committee
- Digital Accessibility Officer with WCAG 2.1 oversight responsibilities

3. Integration of Data Governance Requirements

The updated policy aligns AI use with institutional data governance standards through:

- Data classification rules
- Privacy and security protections
- Requirements for handling restricted and confidential data
- Institutional Data Governance Policy Enforcement

4. AI Tools Inventory and Risk Assessment Process

The policy introduces formal processes for:

- Vetting and approving AI tools
- Maintaining a centralized AI Tools Inventory
- Conducting AI risk assessments using defined risk tiers
- Assessing vendor security, privacy, bias mitigation, and accessibility documentation

5. Updated Procurement and Vendor Requirements

AI procurement now requires:

- Contractual data protection clauses
- Vendor security reviews
- Accessibility conformance reports (e.g., Voluntary Product Accessibility Templates (VPATs))
- Alignment with institutional risk and governance standards

6. Full Integration of WCAG 2.1 AA Digital Accessibility Requirements

The revised policy adds new accessibility standards related to:

- Accessible AI interfaces
- Accessible digital content and multimedia
- Internal controls and pre-publication accessibility checks
- Mandatory accessibility statements for university web properties by Louisiana Executive Order PPM-74.

7. Addition of Comprehensive Training and Education Requirements

The new version establishes training expectations for:

- Faculty (AI literacy, pedagogy, accessibility, integrity)
 - Staff (data governance, AI tools, privacy, AI literacy)
 - Students (ethical AI use, literacy, integrity)
 - Specialized roles (data stewards, instructional designers, IT staff)
8. Updated Compliance and Enforcement Measures
- Clearer enforcement language has been added to outline:
- AI misuse enforcement
 - Data policy violations
 - Accessibility non-compliance
 - Vendor accountability measures



POLICY TITLE

Umbrella Policy on Artificial Intelligence Use, Data Governance, Management and Oversight, and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.2 AA)

POLICY NUMBER

SUS-8-010

Responsible Unit(s): System Division of Information Technology, System Office for Compliance, System Office of Human Resources, and each Campus's Division of Academic Affairs	Effective Date: <i>01/24/2026</i>
Responsible Official(s): System Chief Information Officer, System Director for Compliance, Chief Human Resources Officer, and each Campus's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Last Reviewed Date: <i>01/23/2026</i>
Policy Classification: Information Technology	Origination Date: <i>12/18/2025</i>

I. POLICY STATEMENT AND RATIONALE

The Southern University System is committed to the responsible, ethical, secure, and inclusive use of technology across all academic, administrative, and operational functions. This umbrella policy establishes a unified institutional framework governing (1) the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), (2) data governance, management, and oversight, and (3) digital and web accessibility in compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.2) Level AA. Together, these domains safeguard the System's academic integrity, protect institutional and personal data, and ensure that all digital content and services are accessible to every member of the System community.

The System requires all employees, students, vendors, contractors, and affiliated partners to follow the standards and expectations defined in this policy. This includes the ethical use of AI tools; the secure collection, storage, management, and sharing of System data; and the design, development, and maintenance of accessible digital content and technologies.

All AI usage must align with federal and state regulations, Louisiana Board of Regents guidance, accreditation expectations, national accessibility standards, and emerging national best practices. All institutional data must be handled in accordance with approved data governance structures, including required data classification, data quality standards,

internal controls, inventory processes, and privacy and security protocols. All System websites, digital platforms, instructional materials, and online technologies must meet or exceed WCAG 2.2 AA accessibility standards to ensure equitable access.

This policy affirms the System’s commitment to transparency, accountability, innovation, data stewardship, digital equity, and continuous improvement. It requires each campus to demonstrate compliance, participate in training, document processes, complete required assessments, and remediate areas of noncompliance within established timelines. Through this unified framework, the Southern University System seeks to strengthen institutional effectiveness, support responsible innovation, improve accessibility, and uphold the System’s mission of excellence in teaching, research, and service.

This policy sets forth the overarching governance, responsibilities, and controls for use, procurement, deployment, and management of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, data assets, and digital content across the institution. The rationale is to:

- Enable innovation and efficient use of AI-driven tools while ensuring ethical, secure, transparent, and accountable usage.
- Provide expectations for faculty, staff, students, administrators, contractors, and vendors.
- Ensure proper data governance— Cybersecurity, risk management, and data protection standards data classification, access, quality, retention, and disposal—when leveraging AI systems.
- Ensure web and digital-content accessibility in compliance with WCAG 2.2 Level AA (or higher) so that AI-enabled digital services do not undermine accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- Aligns institutional policy with the Louisiana Board of Regents’ policy on the responsible, ethical, and secure use of AI in public post-secondary education in Louisiana.
- Adherence to Louisiana State Government Policy and Procedure Memoranda Number 74 (PPM-74)
- Establish governance committees and accessibility leadership

II. POLICY SCOPE AND AUDIENCE

This policy applies to:

- All institutional units and all employees, students, contractors, affiliates, third-party vendors, and partners engaged with the institution.
- All uses of AI technologies (including but not limited to machine learning, generative AI, large language models, decision-support systems) deployed for institutional business, teaching, research, student services, administration, or externally facing digital content.
- All digital content and web/mobile assets developed, procured or managed by the institution (including AI-driven content generation or delivery) that must comply with accessibility standards.

- All data assets (structured, unstructured, synthetic) that are processed, analyzed, ingested, output, or otherwise involved in AI systems.
- All vendor and procurement activities related to AI systems, services, or digital content. Exceptions or narrower scope (e.g., purely personal, or academic exploration of AI on personal devices) may be defined in institutional procedures but must still align with the spirit of this policy.

III. POLICY COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with the policy may result in:

- Required completion of additional training
- Suspension or revocation of access to AI tools and systems
- Disciplinary action under student, staff, faculty, or other conduct codes (e.g. vendors, contractors and consultants)
- Reporting obligations to system offices, the Board of Regents, or state entities
- Corrective actions, including remediation plans or audits

Examples of non-compliance

- Using AI to commit academic misconduct, such as submitting AI-generated work as one's own without permission or attribution.
- Inputting FERPA-protected, HIPAA, or other sensitive institutional data into unapproved, external AI tools.
- Deploying AI systems without required risk assessments, governance approval, or vendor security review.
- Publishing or maintaining web content or digital resources not conforming to WCAG 2.2 AA accessibility standards, absent a documented and time-bound remediation plan.

IV. POLICY DEFINITIONS

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Any system, service or software that performs functions or tasks that would normally require human intelligence—such as machine learning, natural-language processing, computer vision, generative content, decision-making.

Generative AI: AI systems that can generate new content (text, image, audio, video) based on patterns or training data.

AI Output: Any content or decision formed wholly or in part by an AI system.

Human-in-the-Loop / Human Oversight: Ensuring that humans review, validate or approve AI outputs before they drive significant decisions.

Data Classification: The categorization of data by sensitivity (e.g., public, internal, confidential, restricted) as per institutional policy.

Web Content / Digital Content: Websites, web applications, mobile apps, documents, multimedia, interactive tools, portals, and any user-facing digital interface.

WCAG 2.2 Level AA: The success criteria defined in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.2 at Level AA conformance.

Vendor / Third-Party AI System: Any system or service procured from a third party which employs AI technology.

AI Incident: Any event in which an AI system is misused, manipulated, produces harmful or biased output, causes a data breach or regulatory non-compliance, or where vendor/procurement oversight fails.

Umbrella Policy: A comprehensive, overarching institutional policy that integrates multiple related policy areas into a single, unified framework. It establishes broad governance structures, system-wide expectations, and high-level principles that apply across all campuses, departments, operations, and stakeholders.

System: The Southern University System and its institutions.

V. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

A. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The Southern University System will establish an AI Advisory Council to provide strategic guidance, oversight, and coordination for the responsible, ethical, and transparent use of Artificial Intelligence across all campuses. The Council will serve as the primary institutional body for reviewing AI-related risks, recommending standards, evaluating emerging technologies, monitoring compliance, and ensuring alignment with federal and state regulations, accreditation requirements, and best national practices.

The AI Advisory Council will:

1. Review & Approve AI Systems
 - Reviewing all proposed AI systems, platforms, or tools prior to procurement or deployment
 - Assessing risk areas: ethical use, bias, security, privacy, accessibility, and data handling
 - Ensuring no AI system processes restricted or confidential data without appropriate controls.

2. Policy Oversight & Alignment

- Recommending updates to the AI Comprehensive Policy.
- Ensuring alignment with federal law, state mandates, and Louisiana Board of Regents' AI Policy
- Reviewing the integration of WCAG 2.2 requirements for all AI-generated or AI-presented content

3. Risk Management & Incident Response

- Evaluating and documenting AI-related incidents, breaches, misuse, or accessibility failures
- Recommending mitigation strategies and corrective actions
- Working collaboratively with IT Security, Data Governance, Management & Oversight, and Accessibility offices

4. Training & Competency Development

- Supporting the development of campus-wide AI training programs
- Ensuring faculty, staff, and students understand responsible AI usage and data handling.
- Promoting awareness of accessibility requirements associated with AI tools.

5. Monitoring & Reporting

- Maintaining the official inventory of all AI tools authorized for institutional use.
- Conducting annual reviews of AI systems for compliance, accessibility, and performance
- Providing annual AI Governance Reports to the Chancellor/President and Board

B. Requirements for AI Advisory Council

Members must demonstrate competency in AI, including one or more of the following:

- Formal training or certification in AI, machine learning, data science, cybersecurity, instructional technology, or related fields
- Documented experience in AI integration in higher education, research, instructional design, IT, or digital governance
- Familiarity with accessibility standards (WCAG 2.2), data governance practices, or AI risk management
- Demonstrated ability to review, evaluate, and interpret AI tools or systems

Members shall participate in ongoing professional development to maintain competency in emerging AI technologies, accessibility practices, and data governance regulations.

C. AI usage in Coursework and Instruction

AI may be used to enhance efficiency, support innovation in teaching, learning, research and administration, provided the use aligns with this policy and institutional procedures. AI may assist in routine tasks (e.g. summarization, scheduling, content suggestions) but human oversight remains mandatory for decisions affecting individuals and institutional reputation.

1. Instructor Authority and Clarity

- Individual instructors determine whether and how AI tools may be used in each course or assignment, where AI use must be clearly addressed in syllabi and assignment instructions.
- If AI use is not specifically mentioned, students should assume it is restricted or prohibited and seek clarification before using AI in graded work.

2. Permitted Uses (when authorized)

When explicitly allowed, AI may be used for:

- Ideation and brainstorming
- Outlining or first-draft development, with substantial human revision
- Language support (such as transition grammar assistance)
- Tutoring or concept clarification

Students remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of all submitted work and must follow any reference/citation and disclosure requirements established by the instructor.

3. Prohibited Uses

- Generating entire assignments, projects, essays, or exam responses and submitting them as one's own work.
- Using AI to fabricate data, sources, or citations.
- Using AI to evade learning outcomes (e.g. bypassing required practice or problem-solving).

4. Academic Integrity Education

The System may require students to complete academic integrity and AI use training modules.

D. AI Use in Research and Scholarly Activity

- Researchers must document AI use in methods sections where applicable, including model type, prompts, and limitations, echoing the System's emphasis on disclosure and accountability in undergraduate and graduate research.
- Research involving AI must comply with IRB, data-use agreements, and sponsor requirements.
- Training data and outputs must be managed in accordance with data governance, privacy, and intellectual property policies.

E. AI Use in Administrative and Operational Functions

Staff may use AI only with approved tools, supervisor approval, and must:

- Avoid entering confidential, restricted, extremely sensitive, proprietary, or regulated data into AI tools unless the tool and configuration are specifically

approved for such use (e.g. health records, student personal identifiable information, financial data).

- Ensure that AI-generated communications are accurate, appropriate, and aligned with System policies.

AI must not be used to:

- Generate fraudulent, deceptive, or misleading communications
- Circumvent internal controls or established review processes
- Perform automated decisions on employment or student status without human oversight and documented fairness review

F. Data Governance, Privacy, and Security

A. The Data Governance, Management & Oversight Committee ensures that all data used by or generated through AI systems is accurate, secure, accessible, ethically managed, and compliant with institutional and state data governance standards. The System-wide Data Governance, Management & Oversight Committee is responsible for:

1. Provides oversight and accountability to ensure consistent practices across all campuses
 - Enforce campus compliance with system-wide data policies and procedures
 - Establish system-wide standards for data quality, classification, retention, privacy, and security
 - Maintain a system-wide data inventory and data custodian registry.
 - Approve data access levels and define institutional data-sharing protocols
 - Oversee data-risk assessments, compliance audits, reporting accuracy, and remediation.
 - Collaborate with the AI advisory committee and the Digital Accessibility Committee
 - Coordinate data governance with IT security, institutional research, and academic affairs
 - Review and recommend updates to the data-governance framework annually.
 - Ensure campus policies align with system-wide requirements.
2. Policy Oversight & Alignment
 - Recommend updates to the Data Governance Policy.
 - Ensure alignment with federal law, state mandates, and Louisiana Board of Regents' Data governance policies
3. Risk Management & Incident Response
 - Evaluate and document non-compliance of data incidents, breaches, misuse, or accessibility failures
 - Recommend mitigation strategies and corrective actions
 - Work collaboratively with IT Security
4. Training & Competency Development
 - Support the development of campus-wide data training programs
 - Support unit-level data stewards with training and resources

- Ensure faculty, staff, and students understand responsible data handling.
- Promote awareness of accessibility requirements.

5. Monitoring & Reporting

- Conduct annual reviews of data systems for compliance, accessibility, and performance
- Manage campus data assets, inventories, access permissions, and data-quality procedures
- Provide quarterly/annual data governance reports to the Chancellor/President and Board. Reporting data governance risks and mitigation strategies to the System senior leadership.

6. Vendor Data Oversight

- Evaluate vendor compliance with data residency, data ownership, deletion procedures, and ethical practices

B. Membership Requirements for Data Governance, Management & Oversight Committee

Requirements for Data Governance, Oversight & Management Committee must demonstrate competency in data governance, including:

- Understanding of data classification levels, privacy laws, and cybersecurity controls
- Familiarity with WCAG 2.2 and accessibility considerations in digital content
- Experience with enterprise data systems, analytics, or data security
- Ability to evaluate data risk in the context of AI system usage

1. Membership on the committee shall be role based, drawn from major data domains and supporting units—including institutional research/effectiveness, registrar, HR, finance, IT, sponsored programs, enrollment management, academic affairs, legal counsel, compliance, and any others approved by the Chancellor. These roles are based on primary data domains of the institution as well as roles from additional areas of the institution that have a vested interest in data governance.
2. Terms of membership committee members shall serve three-year terms with the option of one-year extensions.
3. Meetings shall be held at least monthly. A meeting may be called at any time by the Chair when sensitive items arise or cancelled if no agenda exists.
4. The committee acts as an advisory capacity to the System's senior leadership and works in coordination with executive governance bodies and other oversight councils.
5. Committee members are expected to maintain competency through ongoing training and development.

6. Members shall participate in ongoing professional development to maintain competency in emerging data governance, management, and oversight technologies, accessibility practices, and data governance regulations.

C. The System will maintain a data governance program. Core elements include:

1. Data Governance Structure

- A cross-functional data governance committee responsible for: data classification and standards, AI and analytics data requirements, data access policies and role-based permissions, data quality, and lifecycle management

2. Data Classification and Use

- Institutional data will be classified by sensitivity (e.g. public, internal, confidential, restricted) and protected accordingly.
- AI tools may only access data consistent with classes and with minimum-necessary use principles.

3. Data Retention and Deletion

- AI generated content, logs, models, and input datasets must adhere to institutional record-retention schedules.
- Documented disposal of archiving of AI models and associated data must occur at end of life or when superseded.

4. Vendor/Third Party Data Governance

- Vendor contracts must address: data ownership, data residency, data access, deletion/return of data upon contract termination, confidentiality, audit rights.
- Vendors must commit to accessibility, bias mitigation, and security controls, aligned with institutional standards.

5. Audit and Incident Response

- Periodic audits of AI systems for data governance compliance
- AI-related data incidents will follow established incident response protocols, including required notifications and corrective actions.
- Document findings, remediation actions, and maintain a register of AI systems in use (inventory).

6. Training and Awareness

- Data Users (faculty, staff, and approved student employees) will complete periodic training on data-handling responsibilities, AI-related data risks, privacy, and security controls.

G. Web Accessibility and Digital Governance (WCAG 2.2 AA)

1. The System adopts WCAG 2.2 Level AA as its minimum web accessibility standard, consistent with Louisiana State Government PPM Number 74:

- The System will maintain a Web Accessibility & Digital Governance Council (or equivalent). The purpose of the Web Accessibility Council is to ensure that all digital, physical, instructional, and programmatic aspects of the System are fully accessible, inclusive, and compliant with federal, state, and accrediting-body requirements.
- The Council provides institutional leadership, guidance, and oversight to eliminate barriers, promote equitable experiences, and advance the System's commitment to creating an accessible environment for all students, faculty, staff, visitors, and community partners.

2. The Web Accessibility Council serves as the central governance body responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining accessibility standards, including WCAG 2.2 AA and ADA/Section 504 requirements.
- Reviewing and approving accessibility policies, procedures, and implementation plans across campuses and operational units.
- Monitoring compliance through ongoing audits, evaluations, and remediation planning for digital, instructional, and physical environments.
- Guiding procurement and vendor review processes to ensure that technology, software, digital content, and instructional materials meet accessibility expectations before adoption or renewal.
- Supporting faculty, staff, and students through training, resources, professional development, and consultation.
- Recommending corrective actions and institutional improvements that reduce risk, address systemic gaps, and support accreditation and regulatory requirements.
- Providing leadership and reporting to the President/Chancellor, Executive Cabinet, and relevant governance committees on accessibility compliance, institutional risk, and strategic priorities.
- Promoting a culture of inclusion by championing universal design, equitable access, and continuous improvement in digital and physical accessibility across the System.

3. In fulfilling this purpose, the Accessibility Council ensures that accessibility is not an isolated task or a compliance checkbox, but a shared, institution-wide responsibility essential to academic excellence, student success, and the System's mission.

4. Web Accessibility Coordinator

A Web Accessibility Coordinator will be designated and trained per PPM-74 to:

- Serve as the primary contact for accessibility concerns.
- Support units in creating accessible content.
- Coordinate training and remediation activities.

- Develop Accessibility Statements and prepare reporting -Accessibility statements, including contact information for the coordinator will be posted on major web properties.

5. Continuous Improvement

- Where third-party platforms are not compliant, the System will provide alternate access methods and work with vendors using tools such as Voluntary Product Accessibility Templates (VPAT) to improve accessibility over time.

IX. POLICY RELATED INFORMATION

This policy is supported by and should read alongside:

- Southern University System Comprehensive Artificial Intelligence Use Policy <https://www.sus.edu/assets/sus/systempolicies/System-Policies/01/1-004.pdf> (Policy #SUS 1-001)
- Southern University Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources <https://www.subr.edu/assets/subr/WirelessNetwork/acceptusetechology.pdf>
- Southern University System Cybersecurity Policy No. 8-001 https://www.sus.edu/assets/sus/DoIT/Cybersecuriy-Policy_Sept21.pdf
- Southern University System Information Security Policy Plan No. 8-002 https://www.sus.edu/assets/sus/DoIT/Information-Security-Policy-Plan_Sept21.pdf
- Southern University IT Procurement Policy for All System Campuses <https://www.subr.edu/assets/subr/DoIT/IT-Procurement-Approved.pdf>
- Southern University IT Data Classification Policy for All System Campuses <https://www.subr.edu/assets/subr/DoIT/IT-DataClassification-Approved.pdf>
- Louisiana Board of Regents Policy on Responsible, Ethical, and Secure Use of AI <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/ots/policies-and-forms/artificial-intelligence-acceptable-use-policy/> (Policy # IT-006)
- Louisiana State Executive Order JML-25-105 State Government Use of AI <https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/ExecutiveOrders/2025/JML-Exective-Order-25-103.pdf>
- Louisiana State Government PPM -74 Web Accessibility Compliance



<https://www.doa.la.gov/media/2tsfafxj/ppm-74-amendment-web-accessibility-compliance.pdf>

- State of Louisiana AI Acceptable Use Policy (OTS)
<https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/ots/policies-and-forms/artificial-intelligence-acceptable-use-policy/>
- Southern University System, Louisiana State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, LSUE, Southeastern and SUSLA web accessibility statements and resources
<https://www.sus.edu/page/accessibility-statement>
<https://louisiana.edu/web-accessibility>
- Institutional Data Governance and Data Management Policies
https://www.lsu.edu/data/datagov/data_governance.php?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Southern University Smart Glasses and Wearable Technology policy-*in development*

7. POLICY HISTORY AND REVIEW CYCLE

This is a new umbrella policy that unifies AI usage, data governance, management and oversight, and web accessibility standards under a single, integrated institutional framework.

8. POLICY URL

www.sus.edu/page/policy-search

9. POLICY APPROVAL

Orlando F. McMeans, Ph.D.

**Interim President, Southern University and A&M
College System**

Effective Date of Policy

The Honorable Tony M. Clayton

**Chair-Southern University
System Board of Supervisors**

Effective Date of Policy





SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE SYSTEM

J. S. CLARK ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

4TH FLOOR

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70813

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT
(225) 771-4680

WWW.SUS.EDU

February 6, 2026

Southern University and A&M College
Board of Supervisors
J.S. Clark Administration Building, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Re: *Revised Disqualification Plan*

Dear Chairman Clayton and Honorable Members of the Board:

Pursuant to the Rules for the Board of Ethics, we received a revised Disqualification Plan from Ms. Desiree Honoré Thomas, Acting VC of Finance and Administration for Southern University and A&M College, regarding any future project within the System where her brother's company, Honoré Companies, has the winning bid. The plan is necessary because failure of her removal would otherwise present a violation of LSA R.S. 42:1112. To ensure that all parties are adhering to their ethical obligations, I provide the following.

Ms. Honoré Thomas will continue to exclude herself from identifying the need for the project, coordinating the bid, or selecting the winning proposal in a matter where her brother's company may be considered. However, it has been discovered that given the position of Mrs. Honoré Thomas and the structure of the payments within the System it is unrealistic to completely remove her from the payment portion of the transaction. The revised plan clarifies the handling of payments.

I am requesting that the Board to allow the disqualification plan referenced above on future awards if, and only if, the situation is similar (i.e., Ms. Honoré Thomas is not involved in identifying the need of the project, coordinating the bid, or selecting the winning proposal). Doing so will allow the efficient operation of the university and continue a solid relationship with a vendor with strong ties not only to Southern University but to the community of Scotlandville. Should the Board refuse the disqualification plan, it could cause a delay in the completion of projects, the selection of a non-preferred vendor, or payment of additional expenses.

If awarded a future bid, Mr. Honoré has been notified of his responsibility to complete the appropriate disclosures to ensure compliance.

The current plan prevents Ms. Honoré Thomas' participation and allows for the efficient operation of the university. It is for these reasons that I ask for your approval of the disqualification plan.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Orlando F. McMeans".

Orlando F. McMeans
President-Chancellor

Cc: John K. Pierre, Chancellor Southern University and A&M College
Linda Antoine, Director of Purchasing



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL &
MECHANICAL COLLEGE

OFFICE OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

February 5, 2026

Southern University Board of Supervisors
President Orlando F. McMeans
J. S. Clark Administration
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors and President McMeans:

I am writing to inform you of a transaction regarding a relative in accordance with RS 42:1112 where an employee removes themselves from a transaction that would ultimately result in violation of the statute.

Based on information I have received, Honore Companies, LLC participated in a public bid for site pre-development for the Southern University Agriculture Center. This bid was fully conducted under the direction of SUAG.

In my current role, overseeing Finance and Administration for Southern University and A&M College, the Purchasing, Facilities, and Finance Offices report to me. However, I am not privy to proposed construction projects, requests for bids, or submissions in response to the same. To illustrate the same, I was advised by General Counsel that Honore Companies, LLC was selected as a vendor for this upcoming project. Counsel brought it to my attention because Honore Companies, LLC is owned by a relative of mine. Approval of the award, without proper protocols in place, could be an ethical violation of § 1112 of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Pursuant to § 1402 of Title 52 of the Louisiana Administrative Code, I am submitting the following disqualification plan.

Purchasing - continued autonomy from me as it relates to proposed projects, including timing of requests, qualifications, determination, approvals, etc. Should assistance from my office be necessary, Chancellor John K. Pierre or his designee will assist.

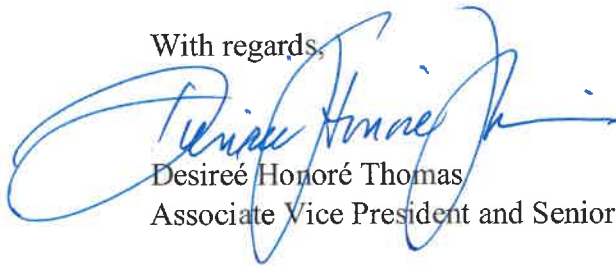
Facilities - continued autonomy from me as it relates to Honore Companies, LLC. Should assistance from my office be necessary, Chancellor John K. Pierre or his designee will assist.

Finance - I will remove myself from review, approval or payment of any invoices submitted in relation to Honore Companies, LLC for this project or any subsequent project. In lieu of my signature/approval on invoices, we are routing such documents in the following manner.

1. Invoices will be routed through the established process for approval except the step that would include myself. They will be routed through Chancellor John K. Pierre or his designee.
2. Payments issued by the Baton Rouge Campus will follow the normal process. The university uses a digitized signing process for all payments. As CFO, my signature is pre-loaded to sign all checks issued. I also sign a cover sheet to release all checks for mailing or distribution. Because of this step, I cannot remove my signature on a check that may be issued to said company. I will assure that Mr. Flandus McClinton, System Vice President, is made aware when such an instance has occurred.

I am available to answer any questions regarding this process. Thank you for your consideration.

With regards,



Desiree Honoré Thomas
Associate Vice President and Senior Administrative Operations Officer

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LEASE AGREEMENT

This Wireless Telecommunications Facility Lease Agreement (“Lease”) is entered into as of the _____ day of _____, 2025 (the “Effective Date”) by and between the Southern University and A&M College, whose address is _____ (“Landlord”) and Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC (“Tenant”), a Delaware limited liability company whose address is 38 West Market Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572.

W I T N E S S E T H:

WHEREAS, Landlord is the owner of certain real property more particularly described on Exhibit “A” attached hereto (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, Landlord and Tenant are entering into this Lease for a portion of the Property measuring approximately 5,625 square feet as more particularly described on Exhibit “B” attached hereto (the “Premises”) to permit Tenant to develop the Premises as a wireless telecommunications facility; and

WHEREAS, in order to develop the Premises, Tenant shall construct a tower, as generally depicted on Exhibit “C” attached hereto (collectively, the “Structure”), as well as equipment sheds and related facilities and improvements to accommodate multiple wireless carriers as well as Landlord’s public service antennas; and

WHEREAS, Tenant intends to market portions of the Structure and Premises to wireless carriers, and to enter into appropriate agreements with such carriers to use the Structure and Premises; and

WHEREAS, during the period of the carriers’ use of the Structure and the Premises, Tenant shall manage the Premises by performing the services described on Exhibit “D” attached hereto (the “Antenna Site Management Responsibilities”);

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, Landlord and Tenant hereby agree as follows:

1) Premises. Landlord hereby leases to Tenant the Premises and Tenant hereby leases from Landlord the Premises upon the terms and conditions contained in this Lease.

2) Term.

(a) The Initial Term of the Lease shall be ten (10) years (the “Initial Term”), commencing upon the date (“Commencement Date”) that Tenant completed the actual construction of the Structure on the Premises. Upon commencing such construction, Tenant

WEC-LA-01
Southern University and A&M College

shall notify Landlord of the Commencement Date. Tenant shall have the right to extend this Lease for four (4) renewal terms of ten (10) years each (each, a "Renewal Term"; the Initial Term and any Renewal Term are hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Lease Term").

(b) If Tenant elects not to exercise Tenant's right to renew the Term or any Renewal Term, as the case may be, Tenant shall notify Landlord, in writing, of Tenant's intention not to renew this Lease, at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of the then current term. Unless Tenant notifies Landlord, in writing, of its intention not to exercise a Renewal Term, such Renewal Term shall be deemed automatically exercised and this Lease shall continue pursuant to the terms hereof, subject to the Renewal Fee.

(c) If Tenant remains in possession of the Premises at the expiration of the Lease Term without a written agreement, such tenancy shall be deemed a month-to-month tenancy under the same terms and conditions of this Lease.

3) Rent.

(a) **Base Rent:** Upon the Commencement Date, Tenant shall pay Landlord, as rent, the amount of **Thirty-one Thousand Two Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$31,212) per year** (the "Base Rent") payable in equal monthly installments of **Two Thousand Six Hundred One Dollars (\$2,601.00) per month** in advance to Landlord, at the Landlord's business address as provided by Landlord to Tenant. Base Rent for each year of the Initial Term and all Renewal Terms shall be increased by the amount of **three percent (3%)** over the Annual Rent in effect at the end of the previous year. The Base Rent shall include the installation of equipment for, and sublease with, one co-locator (the "Anchor Co-locator"), to be designated by Tenant.

(b) **Co-location Rent (Sublease Revenue Sharing):** In addition, Tenant shall pay to Landlord a portion of the amounts collected from wireless carriers using portions of the Structure and the Premises as specified in Section 6(c) below ("Co-Location Rent"; Annual Rent and Co-Location Rent are sometime hereinafter referred to, collectively, as "Rent").

(c) **Sublease Signing Fee:** In addition, Tenant shall pay to Landlord a one-time bonus payment of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)** payable within ten (10) business days of full execution of each sublease of the Premises by a major wireless carrier, including the Anchor Co-locators (as hereinafter defined).

(d) **Site Access Fee:** In addition, upon receipt of all Governmental Approvals, including building permit, to construct the Facility, Tenant shall pay Landlord a Site Access Fee of **Ninety-five Thousand Dollars (\$95,000)**, payable within ten (10) business days of issuance of the building permit.

(e) **Scholarship Fund:** Starting on the Commencement Date, and continuing annually thereafter until the Term ends, Tenant shall make an annual contribution of **Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00)** (the "Contribution") to a scholarship fund established by Southern University and A&M College (the "Scholarship Fund"). The Contribution shall be payable during each year of the Term. The Scholarship Fund will be designated for students seeking careers in the field of telecommunications, engineering or related areas of study, and may be administered in Southern University and A&M College's sole discretion.

(f) **Lump Sum Option:** Landlord may elect to receive a one-time Lump Sum Payment in lieu of the Base Rent in the total amount of **Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00)**. The Lump Sum payment is in addition to all other payments as set forth in Sections 3(b) through 3(e) above and is payable to the Landlord upon installation of the first wireless carrier (the Anchor Co-locator). Thereafter, the Landlord will receive the Co-location Rent from the second and subsequent Co-locators.

(g) Landlord acknowledges and agrees that the total compensation or remuneration which Landlord shall be entitled to charge and collect from Tenant, in any manner related to Tenant's use and operation of the Premises, shall be solely as set forth in Sections 3(a) through 3(f) above. In this regard, Landlord agrees that it shall not levy any additional fees (other than standard and customary permit fees), taxes and/or assessments upon Tenant, in any manner related to Tenant's use and operation of the Premises.

4) Permitted Use; Governmental Approvals; Construction.

(a) The Premises may be used by Tenant for the construction, maintenance and operation of the Structure for the transmission and reception of communications signals, including wireless communication purposes and uses incidental thereto. Tenant shall obtain all licenses, certificates, permits, authorizations or approvals from all applicable government and/or regulatory entities including, but not limited to all necessary building permits and certificates of occupancy (collectively, the "Governmental Approvals").

(b) Landlord hereby authorizes Tenant to prepare, execute, and file all required applications for the Governmental Approvals, subject to the approval of Landlord, not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. Tenant shall be responsible for vigorously and diligently defending on its behalf (but not representing Landlord) all Governmental Approvals granted for the Structure and Premises, including any approvals made by a board or commission of the Landlord, which are challenged by a third party in any administrative agency or court of law.

(c) Tenant shall have the right, at Tenant's expense, to conduct engineering tests, environmental tests, and all other feasibility studies necessary or desirable for Tenant's use of the Premises. Such testing by Tenant shall not unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Landlord at the Property.

(d) Upon obtaining all Governmental Approvals, Tenant shall have the right, at Tenant's expense, to construct and maintain the Structure on the Premises. In this regard, Tenant shall have the right to install, at Tenant's sole cost and expense, utilities and conduits necessary to service the Structure, to improve the present utilities on the Property, and/or install an emergency power generator on the Premises. All work by Tenant shall be performed in compliance with applicable laws and ordinances and shall be done in a fashion so as to minimize interference with the use of the area surrounding the Premises by Landlord and, upon completion of such construction, any area disturbed by the work, shall be restored to the condition it was in prior to the commencement of said work.

5) Access; Utilities and Taxes.

(a) Landlord hereby grants Tenant access to the Premises over, under and across the

Property ("Access") twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, for the purpose of ingress, egress, installation, maintenance and operation of the Structure and any associated utilities. The Access right granted herein shall automatically extend to all of Tenant's agents, representatives, contractors, invitees and vendors, as well as to all subtenants and their agents, representatives, contractors, invitees and vendors.

(b) Landlord's access to the Premises shall be restricted as follows: (i) unless an emergency condition exists, all access shall be on reasonable notice to Tenant; (ii) Landlord shall take commercially reasonable precautions to ensure that no damage occurs to the Structure or other improvements or any of the property of Tenant or any subtenant during or as a result of such access; and (iii) Landlord shall promptly repair, to Tenant's reasonable satisfaction, any damage caused as a result of any such access.

(c) Tenant shall have the right to obtain, for itself and on behalf of its subtenants, sufficient utility services to the Premises, including, without limitation, electric service and telephone service. Subject to Landlord's reasonable approval of the location and at Tenant's sole cost, Tenant shall have the right to install conduits, utility lines, related equipment and other items to connect the Premises to such utility services. At the time of such installation by Tenant, Tenant shall provide conduits and sufficient electrical capacity to allow Landlord to operate Landlord's public safety antenna systems at the Premises. Such installation by Tenant shall not unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Landlord at the Property. Tenant shall pay any charges to install utilities to the Premises, including emergency power generators, and shall pay all utilities charges for utilities consumed by Tenant at the Premises. Landlord agrees to reasonably cooperate with Tenant to obtain any required local public utility easements, if necessary.

(d) Landlord hereby acknowledges and agrees that Tenant shall have no obligation to pay to Landlord or any municipal agency or taxing authority under Landlord's jurisdiction any real estate taxes, property taxes or ad valorem taxes of any kind or nature on or related to the Premises, the Structure, Tenant's use of the Premises or the Structure or any income or proceeds received by Tenant from the project contemplated by this Lease, nor shall Tenant be required to reimburse or otherwise pay Landlord for any real estate taxes imposed upon Landlord regarding the Premises.

6) Assignment and Subletting.

(a) Tenant may not assign this Lease without obtaining the prior consent of Landlord, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Tenant shall have the right to assign this Lease, without the consent of Landlord: (i) to the purchaser or transferee of the Structure, provided that (x) the proposed assignment is for a legitimate business purpose, (y) the proposed purchaser shall have been engaged in business in the wireless industry for at least five years and (z) the proposed purchaser shall have assets or net worth of at least Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) at the time of the proposed transfer; or (ii) to a parent, affiliate, or subsidiary of Tenant, or an entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with Tenant. In the event Tenant assigns this Lease, Tenant shall give notice to Landlord within ten (10) business days of such assignment. Tenant's notice to Landlord shall

specify the name and mailing address of the assignee. Upon assignment of this Lease as contemplated herein, Tenant shall be relieved of all obligations of this Lease.

(b) Tenant shall have the further right, to sublet the Structure and the Premises, in whole or in part, to wireless carriers ("Co-locators") in accordance with the permitted uses of the Premises set forth in Section 4 above. Tenant shall give notice to Landlord each time Tenant enters into any such sublease. Tenant's notice to Landlord shall specify the name and mailing address of the subtenant. Tenant shall pay Landlord the rental income from subleases as described in subsection 6(c) below. Tenant shall be responsible for all costs arising from marketing activities, acquisition of subtenants and the preparation and negotiation of legal sublease documentation.

(c) **Co-location Rent (Sublease Revenue Sharing):** Tenant shall pay Landlord the Co-Location Rent, which shall be **Thirty Percent (35%)** of the Rental Income received from the second and subsequent subleases of the Premises. Tenant shall not be obligated to pay a Co-Location Rent of the Rental Income from the Anchor Co-locator. If the Anchor Co-locator sublease is terminated, Tenant shall designate by notice to Landlord the co-locator sublease that shall replace the terminated Anchor Co-locator sublease. The term "Rental Income" as used in this Lease shall mean all amounts paid to Tenant by subtenants (Co-locators), except that Rental Income shall expressly exclude (i) any amounts paid to Tenant to reimburse Tenant for costs incurred by Tenant caused by, at the request of or on behalf of, the subtenant, including, but not limited to, utilities, site improvements, conduits, taxes, assessments, security deposits, penalties and fines (including interest thereon) for violations of law by the subtenant and legal fees; (ii) any amounts paid to Tenant to reimburse Tenant for costs incurred by Tenant in entering into this Lease, obtaining the Governmental Approvals, or constructing the Structure and Premises; and (iii) any initial fee to be charged by Tenant to each prospective subtenant to reimburse Tenant for costs, expenses and fees related to the submissions, installation design and site engineering studies for such subtenant. In the event that any amount of Rental Income is received by Tenant in a month other than the month for which such Rental Income is due, Tenant will make appropriate adjustments in order to properly allocate such amounts to the proper month. Tenant agrees that it shall maintain sufficient records for Landlord to properly account for the revenues paid and received pursuant to this Lease, which shall be open to inspection and audit by Landlord. Upon request, but no more than twice annually, Landlord may review Tenant's records, including true and complete copies of amendments, restatements or modifications of this Lease and sublicenses of the Premises. Landlord's review of Tenant's records will be conducted at Tenant's offices at a date and time to be mutually agreed upon. Upon request, Tenant shall deliver copies of the records to Landlord.

(d) At the Landlord's discretion, Tenant shall provide structural capacity and reserved space on the Structure for Landlord's public service antennas at the top of the Structure and below the commercial antenna levels. **At no cost to Landlord, Tenant shall install Landlord's antenna(s) and related equipment on the Structure and Premises, as applicable, promptly following the completion of the construction of the Structure. Tenant shall provide such space on the Structure to Landlord free of rent. Landlord shall be solely responsible for all costs to maintain Landlord's antennas. Tenant will provide**

suitable antenna mounts to accommodate Landlord's antennas and those of local public/emergency services. Concurrent with the initial installation of the tower, Tenant will install Landlord's antenna and lines at no cost. Tenant shall provide all site civil and electrical improvements to accept the Landlord's antennas. Landlord shall be solely responsible for all costs to maintain Landlord's antennas, radio equipment and generator, and Landlord shall pay for its own electric utility usage and communications telephony. Throughout the Term, Tenant will provide structural analysis for the Landlord's initial antenna installation and future modifications at no cost to Landlord. At Landlord's option, Tenant will procure (with no mark-up) Landlord's antenna and related equipment, and Tenant may deduct the cost of the procured equipment from Rent and other payments due to Landlord.

(e) Landlord may not assign its rights or obligations under this Lease without the prior written consent of Tenant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, on written notice to Tenant, Landlord shall be entitled to: (i) assign its right to receive Rent; and (ii) sell the Property, provided that such transfer is for a legitimate business purpose and the purchaser agrees to assume all of Landlord's obligations hereunder.

(f) If at any time after the Effective Date, Landlord receives a bona fide written offer from a third party seeking an assignment of (or otherwise seeking to acquire) the rental stream associated with this Lease (a "Purchase Offer"), Landlord shall immediately furnish Tenant with a copy of the Purchase Offer, together with a representation that the Purchase Offer is valid, genuine and true in all respects (a "Purchase Offer Notice"). Tenant shall have the right within thirty (30) days after it receives the Purchase Offer Notice to agree in writing to match the terms of the Purchase Offer. If Tenant chooses not to exercise this right of first refusal or fails to provide written notice to Landlord within the thirty (30) day period, Landlord may assign the rental stream pursuant to the Purchase Offer subject to the terms of this Lease (including, without limitation, the terms of this Subparagraph 6(f), to the person or entity that made the Purchase Offer provided that (i) the assignment is on the same terms contained in the Purchase Offer and (ii) the assignment occurs within ninety (90) days of Tenant's receipt of a copy of the Purchase Offer. If such third party modifies the Purchase Offer or the assignment does not occur within such ninety (90) day period, Landlord shall re-offer to Tenant, pursuant to the procedure set forth in this Subparagraph 6(e), the assignment on the terms set forth in the Purchase Offer, as amended and the foregoing time periods and terms/conditions shall re-apply to the amended Purchase Offer. The right of first refusal hereunder shall (i) survive any transfer of all or any part of the Property or assignment of all or any part of the Lease; (ii) bind and inure to the benefit of, Landlord and Tenant and their respective heirs, successors and assigns; (iii) run with the land; and (iv) terminate upon the expiration or earlier termination of this Lease without the necessity of any further written confirmation of said termination of this right of first refusal.

7) Maintenance, Repair and Removal. Tenant shall, at Tenant's expense, keep and maintain in good condition and repair the Premises and the Structure. Tenant shall install and operate the Structure in compliance with all applicable laws and ordinances to the extent that such

compliance is required as a result of Tenant's use or occupancy of the Premises. Upon termination of this Lease, Landlord shall have the option of requiring that Tenant remove the Structure and all other installations made by Tenant at the Premises, including utility lines. Whether or not Landlord requires the removal, of the Structure, the Premises shall be returned to Landlord in good, usable condition, reasonable wear and tear and casualty excepted. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that Landlord requires Tenant to remove the Structure as contemplated herein, Landlord acknowledges and agrees that Tenant shall have no obligation to remove the foundation of the Structure beyond three (3) feet below grade.

8) Default. Any of the following occurrences, conditions or acts shall be deemed a default under this Lease (a "Default"): (a) if Tenant fails to pay monetary amounts due under this Lease within ten (10) business days of its receipt of written notice that such payments are overdue; or (b) if either party fails to observe or perform any non-monetary obligations under this Lease and does not cure such failure within thirty (30) days from its receipt of written notice of breach; provided, however, that if such breach cannot be cured within said thirty (30) day period, the breaching party shall not be in Default if, within thirty (30) days, it commences efforts, and thereafter proceeds diligently, to cure such breach.

9) Termination.

(a) This Lease may be terminated by Landlord without any penalty or further liability, on thirty (30) days prior notice to Tenant at any time in the event that Tenant: (i) is in Default after notice and the expiration of any applicable cure period; or (ii) has failed to construct the structure or enter into any subleases of the Premises or the Structure within eighteen (18) months following Effective Date. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, Landlord may not terminate this Agreement if Government Approvals have not been granted and Tenant is diligently pursuing such Government Approvals, or if Tenant has started construction and is diligently pursuing completion.

(b) This Lease may be terminated by Tenant, without any penalty or further liability, on thirty (30) days prior notice to Landlord as follows: (i) if Tenant is unable to obtain in a timely manner any Governmental Approval necessary for the installation and/or operation of the Structure at the Premises, or any Governmental Approval is canceled, expires, lapses or is otherwise withdrawn or terminated; or (ii) if Tenant determines the Premises are not appropriate for its operations for economic or technological reasons; or (iii) if Tenant is unable to occupy and utilize the Premises due to an action of the Federal Communications Commission including, without limitation, a take back of channels or change in frequencies; or (iv) if Hazardous Substances (as defined in Section 16) are or become present on the Property or Premises in violation of Environmental Laws (as defined in Section 16).

10) Insurance and Subrogation.

(a) Tenant shall maintain the following insurance during the Lease Term:

(i) general liability insurance for claims for bodily injury or death and property damage with combined single limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a general

aggregate limit of \$2,000,000, which limits may be provided in combination with umbrella coverage.

(ii) workers' compensation insurance insuring against and satisfying Tenant's obligations and liabilities under the workers' compensation law of the state in which the Premises are located; and

(iii) if Tenant operates owned, hired or non-owned vehicles on or about the Property, comprehensive automobile liability insurance with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 combined bodily injury and property damage.

(iv) an umbrella policy of \$5,000,000.

Each such policy (except workers' compensation) shall list Landlord as an additional insured, and shall provide that it will not be terminated during the Lease Term or modified to affect the coverage required except after thirty (30) days prior notice thereof to Landlord.

(b) Tenant shall have the right to fulfill its insurance obligations under this paragraph by obtaining appropriate endorsements to any master policy of liability insurance that Tenant or its affiliates may maintain.

(c) Tenant shall, prior to commencing construction of the Structure and annually thereafter, furnish to Landlord certificates of insurance listing Landlord either as additional named insured or additional insured on a primary basis to the extent permitted by applicable insurance regulations.

(d) At all times during the Lease Term, Landlord will carry and maintain commercial general liability insurance on the Property, including any common area, in commercially reasonable amounts.

(e) Landlord and Tenant each waive any and all rights to recover against the other, or against the officers, directors, shareholders, partners, joint ventures, employees, agents, customers, invitees or business visitors of such other party, for any loss or damage to such waiving party arising from any cause covered or required to be covered by any property insurance required to be carried pursuant to this paragraph or any other property insurance actually carried by such party, provided that the party against whom relief is sought, has complied with the terms of this Section 10. Landlord and Tenant will cause their respective insurers to issue waiver of subrogation rights endorsements to all property insurance policies carried in connection with the Structure or the Premises or the contents of either.

11) Hold Harmless. Tenant agrees to indemnify and hold Landlord harmless from any and all claims arising directly from the installation, use, maintenance, repair or removal of the Structure at the Premises, except for claims arising from the negligence or intentional acts of Landlord, its employees, agents or independent contractors. Landlord agrees to indemnify and hold Tenant harmless from any and all claims arising out of the negligence or intentional acts of Landlord, its employees, agents, or independent contractors in, on or about the Property, except for claims arising from the negligence or intentional acts of Tenant, its employees, agents or independent contractors.

12) Notices. All notices, requests, demands and other communications shall be in writing and shall be deemed given, (i) if personally delivered or mailed, upon delivery, or if (ii) by certified mail, return receipt requested, five (5) days after mailing, or if (iii) sent by overnight carrier, upon receipt, to the addresses for Landlord and Tenant stated below:

if to Landlord: Southern University
J.S Clark Administration Building Annex, First Floor
James L. Presage Drive
P.O. Box 9534
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Attention: Purchasing Department

with a copy to: Southern University
J.S. Clark Administration Building, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Attention: Corinne Blache, General Counsel

if to Tenant: Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC
PO Box 63
Rhinebeck, New York 12572
Attention: Tower Development

with a copy to: Corrigan, Baker & Levine, LLC
75 South Broadway, Suite 4-961
White Plains, New York 10601
Attention: Robert J. Levine, Esq.

13) Quiet Enjoyment, Title and Authority. Landlord represents, warrants and covenants to Tenant that (i) Landlord has full right, power and authority to execute this Lease and Landlord has taken all necessary action to approve this Lease and has authorized the signatories of this Lease to sign same; (ii) the Property is free and clear of any unrecorded covenants, restrictions, liens or mortgages which would interfere with Tenant's rights to or use of the Premises; (iii) no consents are required from any mortgagee, licensee or any other occupant of the Property with respect to Tenant's use of the Premises; (v) the execution and performance of this Lease will not violate any local laws, ordinances, covenants or the provisions of any mortgage, lease or other agreement binding on Landlord. Landlord shall be responsible for any costs due to the failure of the Property to comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations. Landlord covenants that at all times during the term of this Lease, Tenant's quiet enjoyment of the Premises or any part thereof shall not be disturbed as long as Tenant is not in Default after notice and the expiration of any applicable cure period.

14) Casualty or Condemnation. If the Property or the Structure are destroyed or damaged so as in Tenant's reasonable judgment to substantially and adversely affect the effective use of the Structure, then Tenant may elect to terminate this Lease and in such event, all rights and obligations of the parties shall cease as of the date of the damage or destruction, and Tenant shall be entitled to the reimbursement of any Rent prepaid by Tenant. If Tenant elects to continue this Lease, then all Rent shall abate until the Premises and/or Structure are restored to the condition existing immediately prior to such damage or destruction. In the event of a condemnation of all or any part of the Property, Tenant shall have the right to terminate this Lease if such condemnation disrupts Tenant's operation at the Property or renders the Premises unsuitable for Tenant's use. Landlord and Tenant shall each be entitled to pursue their own separate awards with respect to such taking. Sale of all or part of the Premises to a purchaser with the power of eminent domain in the face of the exercise of the power shall be treated as a taking by condemnation.

15) Waiver of Landlord's Lien; Financing. The Structure shall remain the exclusive property of Tenant. In this regard, Landlord hereby waives any and all lien rights it may have, statutory or otherwise, concerning the Structure or any portion thereof, as well as and all other installations made by Tenant at the Premises, whether same are deemed real or personal property under applicable laws, and Landlord gives Tenant the right to remove all or any portion of same from time to time. Tenant may enter into a secured financing arrangement for which the Structure or this Lease is security, provided such an arrangement shall not impair or abridge the rights of Landlord under this Lease and such secured party agrees to be bound by the terms and provisions of this Lease from the time it succeeds to the interest of Tenant under this Lease.

16) Environmental Laws.

(a) As used herein, the term "Environmental Laws" shall mean any and all local, state or federal statutes, regulations or ordinances pertaining to the environment or natural resources. As used herein, the term "Hazardous Substance" shall mean any toxic or hazardous waste, material, or substance that is regulated by Environmental Laws, including, without limitation, asbestos and petroleum products; hazardous or solid wastes.

(b) Tenant and Landlord each represent, warrant and agree that it will conduct its activities on the Property in compliance with all applicable Environmental Laws. Landlord further represents, warrants and agrees that neither Landlord, nor to Landlord's knowledge, any third party, has used, generated, stored or disposed of, or permitted the use, generation, storage or disposal of, any Hazardous Substance on, under, about or within the Property or Premises in violation of any Environmental Law.

17) Miscellaneous.

(a) This Lease shall run with the Property and shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties, their respective successors, personal representatives and assigns.

(b) This Lease, together with the Rider and Exhibits annexed hereto constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the parties, and supersedes all offers, negotiations and other agreements. There are no representations or understandings of any kind not set forth herein. Any amendments to this Lease must be in writing and executed by the party against whom enforcement is sought.

(c) Each party agrees to cooperate with the other in executing any documents (including a memorandum of lease and/or easement agreement) in a form reasonably satisfactory to both parties necessary to protect its rights or use of the Premises. Tenant may record the memorandum of lease.

(d) Tenant agrees that it will pay or cause to be paid all costs for work done by it or caused to be done by it on the Premises and will keep the Premises free and clear of all mechanics' liens on account of work done by Tenant or persons claiming under it. Tenant may contest the validity or amount of any such lien and may appeal any adverse judgment or decree, provided, however, that at the reasonable written request of Landlord, Tenant shall post a bond sufficient to remove such lien pending contest against the enforcement of the lien against Landlord. If Tenant shall default in paying any charge for which a mechanic's lien and suit to foreclose the lien have been filed, and shall not be taking appropriate actions to contest the validity or amount of such lien within ninety (90) days of the filing of such lien, Landlord may (but shall not be required to), after written notice to Tenant, pay said claim and the amount so paid shall be immediately due and owing from Tenant to Landlord, and Tenant shall pay the same to Landlord upon demand.

(e) This Lease and the rights and obligations of the undersigned parties shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State where the Property is located without giving effect to principles of conflict of laws. The undersigned hereby irrevocably submit to the jurisdiction and venue of any State or Federal Court located in the State and County where the Property is located, over any action or proceeding arising out of any dispute between the undersigned, with respect to this Lease.

(f) The provisions of this Lease are severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction rules that any provision of this Lease is invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall be replaced by another provision which is valid and enforceable and most closely approximates and gives effect to the intent of the invalid or unenforceable provision. Furthermore, such ruling shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Lease.

(g) Any consent required hereunder shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed.

(h) This Lease may be executed in any number of counterparts, any of which may be executed and transmitted by facsimile or other electronic method, and each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

(i) No failure on the part of either party to exercise, and no delay in exercising, any right under the Lease shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other right, all subject to the conditions and limitations contained in the Lease.

(j) A waiver of any right or remedy by either party at any one time shall not affect the

exercise of such right or remedy or any other right or remedy by that party at any other time. In order for any waiver to be effective, it shall be in writing, signed by an authorized person or board, and be express and unequivocal and specify precisely the rights or remedies being waived. The failure of either party to take any action in the event of any breach by the other party shall not be deemed or construed to constitute a waiver of any of its rights or to otherwise affect the right of that party to take any action permitted by the Lease at any other time, in the event that such breach has not been cured, or with respect to any other breach.

(k) The rights and remedies provided in the Lease are cumulative and not exclusive of any remedies provided by law, and nothing contained in the Lease shall impair any of the rights of either party under applicable law, subject in each case to the terms and conditions in the Lease.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Lease as of the date and year first above written.

LANDLORD:

TENANT:

Southern University and A&M College

Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC

By: _____

Name: Dr. Orlando McMeans

Title: Interim President

By: _____

Name: John E Arthur

Title: President

[Signature page to Wireless Telecommunications Facility Lease Agreement]

RIDER TO WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LEASE AGREEMENT

This Rider to Wireless Telecommunications Facility Lease Agreement (“Rider”) is entered into as of the ____ day of _____, 2025 (the “Effective Date”) by and between the Southern University and A&M College (“Landlord”) and Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC (“Tenant”).

1. Taxes

Landlord and Tenant acknowledge and agree that all applicable taxes are included in the **Base Rent** of this Agreement. State agencies are exempt from all State and local sales and use taxes.

2. Termination

The State of Louisiana has the right to terminate this Agreement immediately for any of the following reasons: (a) material misrepresentation by the Tenant; (b) Tenant’s fraud, collusion, conspiracy or other unlawful means of obtaining any agreement with the State of Louisiana; (c) conflict of contract provisions with constitutional or statutory provisions of State or Federal Law; (d) abusive or belligerent conduct by the Tenant towards an employee or agent of the State; (e) Tenant’s intentional violation of the Louisiana Procurement Code (La. R.S. 39:1551 et seq.) and its corresponding regulations; or, (f) any listed reason for debarment under La. R.S. 39:1672.

3. Termination for Cause

The State of Louisiana may terminate this Agreement for cause based upon the failure of Tenant to comply with the terms and/or conditions of this Agreement, or failure to fulfill its performance obligations pursuant to this Agreement, provided that the State shall give the Tenant written notice specifying the Tenant’s failure. If within 30 days after receipt of such notice, the Tenant shall not have corrected such failure or, in the case of failure which cannot be corrected in 30 days, begun in good faith to correct such failure and thereafter proceeded diligently to complete such correction, then the State may, at its option, place the Tenant in default and this Agreement shall terminate on the date specified in such notice.

The Tenant may exercise any rights available to it under Louisiana law to terminate for cause upon the failure of the State to comply with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, provided that the Tenant shall file a claim with the Chief Procurement Officer under La. R.S. 39:1671 -1673.

4. Record Ownership

All records, reports, documents and other material delivered or transmitted to the Tenant by the State shall remain the property of the State. The Tenant, at its expense, shall return this property to the State at the termination or expiration of this Agreement, unless otherwise required by this Agreement. Delivery of this property shall be in a form specified by the State.

5. Use of State Property

Any property of the State furnished to the Tenant shall, unless otherwise provided herein, or approved by the State and/or Using Agency, be used only for the performance of this Agreement.

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Southern University and A&M College

The Tenant shall be responsible for any loss or damage to property of the State and/or Landlord which results from willful misconduct or lack of good faith on the part of the Tenant or which results from the failure on the part of the Tenant to maintain and administer that property in accordance with sound management practices, to ensure that the property will be returned to the State and/or Landlord in like condition, except for normal wear and tear, to that in which it was furnished to the Tenant. Upon the happening of loss, or destruction of, or damage to property of the State and/or Landlord, the Tenant shall notify the State and/or Landlord thereof and shall take all reasonable steps to protect that property from further damage.

The Tenant shall surrender to the State and/or Using Agency all property of the State and/or Landlord prior to completion, termination, or cancellation of this Agreement, unless otherwise specified herein. All reference to the Tenant under this section shall include any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors.

6. Project Manager

The Landlord will appoint a Project Manager for this Agreement who will provide oversight of the activities conducted hereunder. Notwithstanding the Tenant's responsibility for management during the performance of this Agreement, the assigned Project Manager will be the principal point of contact on behalf of the State and will be the principal point of contact for the Tenant concerning the Tenant's performance under this Contract.

7. Force Majeure

It is understood and agreed that neither party can foresee the exigencies beyond the control of each party which arise by reason of an Act of God or force majeure; therefore, neither party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance beyond its control resulting from an Act of God or force majeure. The State shall determine whether a delay or failure results from an Act of God or force majeure based on its review of all facts and circumstances. The parties shall use reasonable efforts, including but not limited to, use of continuation of operations plans (COOP), business continuity plans, and disaster recovery plans, to eliminate or minimize the effect of such events upon the performance of their respective duties under this Agreement.

8. Limitations of Liability

For all claims against the Tenant not governed by any other provision of this Section, regardless of the basis on which the claim is made, the Tenant's liability for direct damages shall be limited to the maximum dollar amount of this Agreement.

The Tenant shall not be liable for incidental, indirect, special, or consequential damages, unless otherwise specifically enumerated herein, or in a resulting task order or purchase order mutually agreed upon between the parties. In no circumstance shall the State be liable for incidental, indirect, special, or consequential damages; lost profits; lost revenue; or lost institutional operating savings.

9. Other Remedies

If the Tenant fails to perform in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, or if any lien or claim for damages, penalties, costs and the like is asserted by or against the State, then, upon notice to the Tenant, the State may pursue all remedies available to it at law or equity, including retaining monies from amounts due the Tenant and proceeding against any surety of the Tenant.

10. Licenses and Permits

The Tenant shall secure and maintain all licenses and permits and pay inspection fees required to do the work required to complete this Agreement, if applicable.

11. Subcontractors

The Tenant may, with prior written permission from the State and/or Landlord, such permission not to be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed, enter into subcontracts with third parties for the performance of any part of the Tenant's duties and obligations. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of the Tenant to the State and/or Using Agency for any breach in the performance of the Tenant's duties. The Tenant will be the single point of contact for all subcontractor work.

The State shall reserve the right to require removal and replacement of any contract personnel whose performance it considers unacceptable.

12. Code of Ethics

The Tenant acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 42:1101 et. seq., Code of Governmental Ethics) applies to the Contracting Party in the performance of services called for in this Agreement. The Tenant agrees to immediately notify the State if potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics arise at any time during the term of this Contract.

13. Confidentiality

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operation which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the Tenant in order to carry out this Agreement, or which become available to the Tenant in carrying out this Agreement, shall be protected by the Tenant from unauthorized use and disclosure through the observance of the same or more effective procedural requirements as are applicable to the State. The identification of all such confidential data and information as well as the State's procedural requirements for protection of such data and information from unauthorized use and disclosure shall be provided by the State in writing to the Tenant. If the methods and procedures employed by the Tenant for the protection of the Tenant's data and information are deemed by the State to be adequate for the protection of the State's confidential information, such methods and procedures may be used, with the written consent of the State, to carry out the intent of this paragraph. The Tenant shall not be required under the provisions of this paragraph to keep confidential any data or information which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the Tenant's possession, is independently developed by the Tenant outside the scope of this Agreement or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

Under no circumstance shall the Tenant discuss and/or release information to the media concerning this project without prior express written approval of the University.

14. Contract Controversies

Any claim or controversy arising out of this Agreement shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1671-1673, as applicable.

15. Right to Audit

The State Legislative auditor, federal auditors and internal auditors of the University, Division of Administration, or others so designated by the DOA, shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to this Agreement for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment or as required

by applicable State and Federal Law. The Tenant and subcontractor shall maintain such books and records for this five-year period and cooperate fully with the authorized auditing agency. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.

16. Data/Record Retention

The Tenant shall retain all their books, their records, and their other documents relevant to this Agreement and the funds expended hereunder for five (5) years after final payment or, if Federal funds are used, as required by applicable Federal law, whichever is longer.

17. Tenant's Certification of No Federal Suspension or Debarment

The Tenant has a continuing obligation to disclose any suspensions or debarment by any government entity, including but not limited to General Services Administration (GSA). Failure to disclose may constitute grounds for suspension and/or termination of this Contract and debarment from future Agreements.

18. Tenant's Cooperation

The Tenant has the duty to fully cooperate with the State and provide any and all requested information, documentation, etc. to the State when requested. This applies even if this Agreement is terminated and/or a lawsuit is filed. Specifically, the Tenant shall not limit or impede the State's right to audit or shall not withhold State owned documents.

19. Security

To the extent provided to Tenant or posted on the property, Tenant's personnel shall comply with all security regulations in effect at the State's premises and externally for materials and property belonging to the State or to the project. Where special security precautions are warranted (e.g., correctional facilities), the State shall provide such procedures to the Tenant, accordingly.

The Tenant shall comply with the Office of Technology Services' Information Security Policy at <https://www.doa.la.gov/doa/ots/about-us/infosec/>.

The Tenant is responsible for promptly reporting to the State any known breach of physical or information security.

20. Cybersecurity Training

In accordance with La. R.S. 42:1267(B)(3) and the State of Louisiana's Information Security Policy, if the Tenant, any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors will have access to State government information technology assets, the Tenant's employees, agents, or subcontractors with such access must complete cybersecurity training annually, and the Tenant must present evidence of such compliance annually and upon request. The Tenant may use the cybersecurity training course offered by the Louisiana Department of State Civil Service without additional cost.

For purposes of this Section, "access to State government information technology assets" means the possession of credentials, equipment, or authorization to access the internal workings of State information technology systems or networks. Examples would include but not be limited to State-issued laptops, VPN credentials to access the State network, badging to access the State's telecommunications closets or systems, or permissions to maintain or modify IT systems used by the State. Final determination of scope inclusions or exclusions relative to access to State government information technology assets will be made by the Office of Technology Services.

21. Commencement of Work

No work shall be performed by the Tenant and the University shall not be bound until such time as this Agreement is fully executed between the State and the Tenant and all required approvals are obtained.

22. Compliance with Civil Rights Laws

The Tenant agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and the Tenant agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Tenant agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this Contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by the Tenant, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this Agreement.

23. Anti-Kickback Clause

The Tenant hereby agrees to adhere to the mandate dictated by the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act which provides that each Tenant or subgrantee shall be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the completion of work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he is otherwise entitled.

24. Clean Air Act

The Tenant hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders or requirements issued under Section 306 of the Clean Air Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of Violating Facilities.

25. Energy Policy and Conservation Act

The Tenant hereby recognizes the mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the State energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (P.L. 94-163).

26. Clean Water Act

The Tenant hereby agrees to adhere to the provisions which require compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under Section 508 of the Clean Water Act which prohibits the use under non-exempt Federal contracts, grants or loans of facilities included on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) List of Violating Facilities.

27. Anti-Lobbying and Debarment Act

The Tenant will be expected to comply with Federal statutes required in the Anti-Lobbying Act and the Debarment Act.

28. Prohibition of Discriminatory Boycotts of Israel

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.1, for any contracts with a value of \$100,000 or more and for any Tenant with five or more employees, the Tenant certifies that it is not engaging in a boycott of Israel and it will, for the duration of its contractual obligations, refrain from a boycott of Israel.

The State reserves the right to terminate this Contract if the Tenant, or any Subcontractor, engages in a boycott of Israel during the term of this Agreement.

29. Prohibition of Companies That Discriminate Against Firearm and Ammunition Industries

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.2, the following applies to any competitive sealed bids, competitive sealed proposals, or contract(s) with a value of \$100,000 or more involving a for-profit company with at least fifty full-time employees:

Unless otherwise exempted by law, by submitting a response to this solicitation or entering into this contract, the Bidder, Proposer or Tenant certifies the following:

1. The company does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association;
2. The company will not discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of the contract based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.

The State reserves the right to reject the response of the Bidder, Proposer or Tenant if this certification is subsequently determined to be false, and to terminate any contract awarded based on such a false response or if the certification is no longer true.

30. Prohibited Use of Funds

The Tenant agrees not to use agreement proceeds to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition on an election ballot nor shall such funds be used to lobby for or against any proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority. This provision shall not prevent the normal dissemination of factual information relative to a proposition on any election ballot or a proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the Louisiana Legislature or any local governing authority.

31. E-Verify

The Tenant shall comply with the provisions of La. R.S. 23:995 and federal law pertaining to E-Verify in the performance of services under this Contract.

32. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be interpreted under Louisiana Law, including but not limited to La. R.S. 39:1551-1736 (Louisiana Procurement Code) and La. R.S. 39:196-200 (Information Technology Procurement Code), if applicable; purchasing rules and regulations; executive orders; terms and conditions; and specifications listed in the RFP and this Contract. Venue of any action brought, after exhaustion of administrative remedies, with regard to all activities associated with this Agreement shall be in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana.

33. Complete Contract

This is the complete Agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter and all prior discussions and negotiations are merged into this Agreement. This Agreement is entered into with neither party relying on any statement or representation made by the other party not embodied in this Contract and there are no other agreements or understanding changing or modifying the terms. This Agreement shall become effective upon final statutory approval.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Rider to Lease as of the date and year first above written.

LANDLORD:

TENANT:

Southern University and A&M College

Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC

By: _____
Name: Dennis J. Shields
Title: President

By: _____
Name: John E Arthur
Title: President

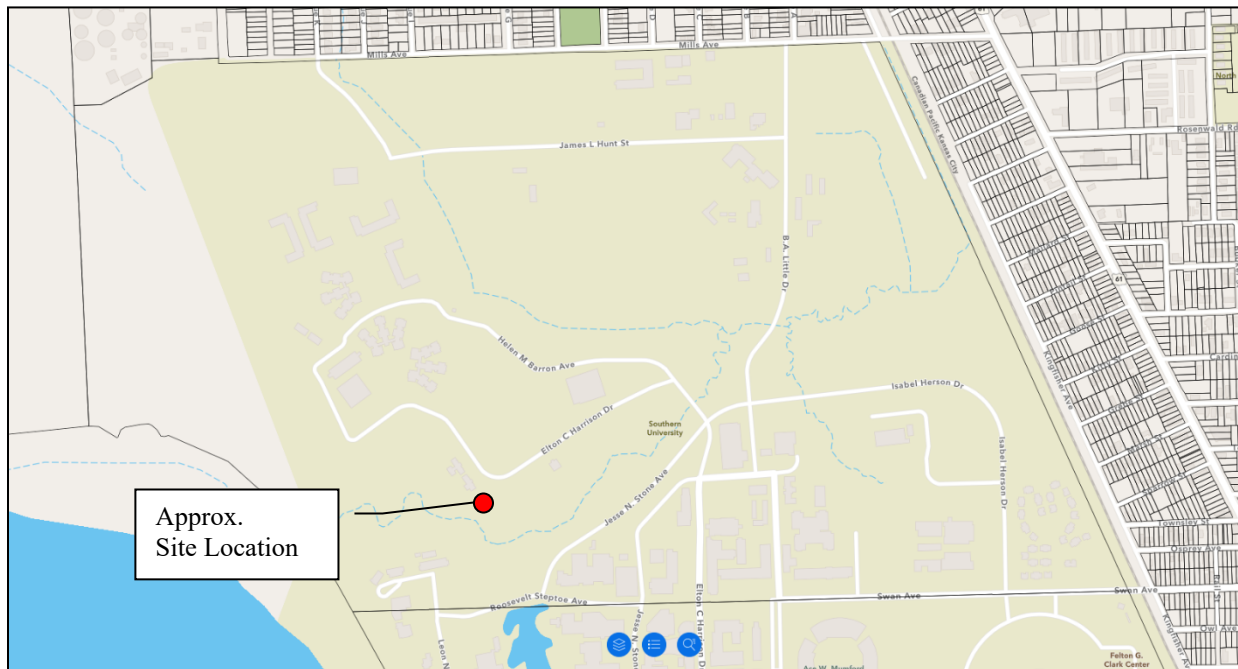
EXHIBIT A

Description of the Landlord's Property

That certain parcel of real property located in the City of Baton Rouge, Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana designated as Parcel 420080359 and commonly known as 801 Harding Boulevard, a portion of which properties are more particularly shown on Exhibit B attached hereto.

Legal Description/Map:

A CERTAIN TRACT CONT. 387.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN SECS. 39, 67 & 75, T6S, R1W. (SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY) LESS & EXCEPT: 6.895 ACRES PROP # 30850366



WEC-LA-01
Southern University and A&M College

EXHIBIT B

Description of the Leased Premises

DRAWING TO BE PROVIDED

EXHIBIT C

The Structure

DRAWING TO BE PROVIDED

EXHIBIT D

Antenna Site Management Responsibilities

Wireless *EDGE* Towers III, LLC or its affiliate (“WE”) shall perform all of the services that are the subject of this Agreement. WE shall be the site manager for subleasing of the Premises and the Structure.

We will perform the following site management services for the Premises:

1. Market Facility to Co-locaters (wireless carriers)
2. Determine tenants’ current & future requirements.
3. Develop sublease template(s).
4. Develop site application form and installation requirements.
5. Actively market the site from time to time in conjunction with tenants’ buildouts and available space on the site.
6. Review and process tenant’s applications.
7. Negotiate subleases.
8. Review tenant’s proposed construction drawings with Landlord (where applicable).
9. Review tenant’s RF study report (where applicable).
10. Coordinate installation schedule with Landlord.
11. Inspect site for compliance with approved drawings.
12. Inspect site for general quality of work.
13. Maintain site inventory database of tenants’ equipment (antenna, cable, and cabinet level)
14. Coordinate site changes.
15. Monitor sites annually for configuration changes against lease baseline and check general condition of wireless carrier installations.
16. Maintain Facility as necessary.
17. Collect and track rent payments.
18. Consolidate rent streams from all tenants.
19. Remit month revenue share to Landlord.
20. Track annual adjustments to lease payments.
21. Maintain insurance requirements throughout the Lease Term and Management Term.
22. Maintain all required permits and Governmental Approvals to operate the Facility.
23. Provide any required FAA monitoring services.



Purchasing Department
P.O. Box 9534
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Phone: (225) 771-4580
Fax: (225) 771-2026

February 3, 2026

Christ Beaner
Associate General Counsel
Office of the President
Southern University System
J.S. Clark Administration Building, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

*Re: Request for Board of Supervisors' Approval
Contract for Viticulture Fields-Bid 10347*

Dear Attorney Beaner:

Please find attached the contract for \$499,020.00 and supporting documents for the Board of Supervisors' approval. A request for bid was issued to convert a pasture to a viticulture field for harvesting grapes for the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (Ag Center). Honore Companies, LLC is the lowest and most responsive bidder.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Linda Antoine
Linda Antoine
Director of Purchasing

c: Orlando F. McMeans, Interim President, SUS and
Chancellor/Southern University Agricultural, Research and Extension Center
Calvin Walker, Executive Vice Chancellor, Southern University Agricultural, Research
and Extension Center
John K. Pierre, Chancellor, SUBR
Flandus McClinton, Jr., Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs, SUS
Desiree Honoré Thomas, Asso. VP/Sr. Administrative Operations Officer, SUS

CONTRACT

STATE OF *LOUISIANA*
PARISH OF *EAST BATON ROUGE*

CONTRACT BETWEEN OWNER AND CONTRACTOR

This agreement entered into this 3rd day of February 2026 by HONORE COMPANIES, LLC hereinafter called the "Contractor", whose business address is 6655 VAN GOGH AVENUE, BATON ROUGE, 70806 and SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE, BATON ROUGE, LA 70813 hereinafter called the "Owner".

Witnesseth that the Contractor and the Owner, in consideration of premises and the mutual covenants; consideration and agreement herein contained, agree as follows:

Statement of Work: The contractor shall furnish all labor and materials and perform all of the work required to build, construct and complete in a thorough and workmanlike manner for the:

VITICULTURE FIELDS TLA PROJECT NUMBER 24-131

in strict accordance with specifications

It is recognized by the parties herein that said Procurement Documents including by way of example and not of limitation, **Bid Number 10347**, Performance & Payment Bond, the and Specifications, Instruction to Bidders, Bid Forms, General Conditions, Certificate of Insurance, any Addenda, if applicable, thereto, impose duties and obligations upon the parties herein, and said parties thereby agree that they shall be bound by said duties and obligations. For these purposes, all of the provisions contained in the aforementioned Procurement Documents are incorporated herein by reference with the same force and effect as though said Procurement Documents were herein set out in full.

Time for Completion: The work shall commence on a date to be specified in the written order of the Owner and shall be completed within one hundred fifty (150) consecutive calendar days after receipt of Notice to Proceed consecutive calendar days from and after the said date.

Liquidated Damages: Contractor shall be assessed Liquidated Damages Per Diem in the amount of Five Hundred and 00/100 (**\$500.00**) per day for each consecutive calendar day which work is not complete beginning with the first day beyond the completion/stipulated time.

Compensation to be paid to the Contractor: The Owner will pay and the Contractor will accept in full consideration for the performance of the contract the sum of **Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Twenty 00/100 (\$499,020.00)**, which sum represents the base bid.

Taxes: Contractor hereby agrees that the responsibility for payment of taxes from the funds thus received under this Contract and/or legislative appropriation shall be contractor's obligation and identified under Federal tax identification number 27-4177065.

Performance & Payment Bond: The condition of this performance and payment bond shall be that should the Contractor herein not perform the contract in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof, or should said Contractor not fully indemnify and save harmless the Owner, from all cost and damages which he may suffer by said Contractor's non-performance or should said Contractor not pay all persons who have and fulfill obligations to perform labor and/or furnish materials in the prosecution of the work provided for herein, including by way of example workmen, laborers, mechanics, and furnishers of materials, machinery, equipment and fixtures, then said Surety agrees and is bound to so perform the contract and make said payment(s).

Provided, that any alterations which may be made in the terms of the contract or in the work to be done under it, or the giving by the Owner of any extensions of time for the performance of the contract, or any other

forbearance on the part of either the Owner or the Contractor to the other shall not in any way release the Contractor or the Surety from their liability hereunder, notice to the Surety of any such alterations, extensions or other forbearance being hereby waived.

Owner shall pay Contractor not to exceed 90% of contracted price upon approved work and AIA/Pay Applications documents or invoices.

Insurance: Contractor shall maintain insurance throughout the project per insurance requirements.

FINAL PAYMENT:

Upon satisfactory completion of the work, the Owner will issue a written acceptance of the work to the Contractor, who will immediately file same with the Recorder of Mortgages in East Baton Rouge Parish. Not less than forty-five days after filing the formal acceptance of work with the Recorder of Mortgages, providing that all work done under the contract is at the time found to be in good condition insofar as the Contractor is responsible for it, the Owner will pay the Contractor the retained portion of the contract price, after deducting therefrom such sums as may be withheld under any provisions of this contract, said payment being conditional on the Contractor furnishing to the Owner a certificate from the Recorder of Mortgages for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, that the contract is clear of any liens or privileges. Contractor will receive final 10% of contract after receipt of clear lien certificate.

Contractor acknowledges and agrees to comply with the provisions of La. R.S. 38:2212.10 and federal law pertaining to E-Verify in the performance of services under this Contract.

It is hereby agreed that the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana and/or the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration auditors shall have the option of auditing all accounts of contractor which relate to this contract.

The continuation of this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of the contract, or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the appropriations act to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract, the contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds are not appropriated.

The contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Contractor agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability, or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by Contractor, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this contract.

Prohibition of Discriminatory Boycotts of Israel

In accordance with R.S. 39:1602.1, effective May 22, 2018, for any contract for \$100,000 or more and for any contractor with five or more employees, Contractor, or any Subcontractor, shall certify it is not engaging in a boycott of Israel, and shall, for the duration of this contract, refrain from a boycott of Israel. The State reserves the right to terminate this contract if the Contractor, or any Subcontractor, engages in a boycott of Israel during the term of the contract.

Prohibition of Companies That Discriminate Against Firearm and Ammunition Industries

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.2, the following applies to any competitive sealed bids, competitive sealed proposals, or contract(s) with a value of \$100,000 or more involving a for-profit company with at least fifty full-time employees.

Unless otherwise exempted by law, by submitting a response to this solicitation or entering into this contract, the Bidder, Proposer or Contractor certifies the following:

1. The company does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association;
2. The company will not discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of the contract based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.

The State reserves the right to reject the response of the Bidder, Proposer or Contractor if this certification is subsequently determined to be false, and to terminate any contract awarded based on such a false response or if the certification is no longer true.

Contractor has a continuing obligation to disclose any suspensions or debarment by any government entity, including but not limited to General Services Administration (GSA). Failure to disclose may constitute grounds for suspension and/or termination of the Contract and debarment from future Contracts.

Contractor, and each tier of Subcontractors, shall certify that it is not on the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs promulgated in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension," as set forth at 24 CFR part 24.

In Witness whereof, the parties hereto on the day and year first above written have executed this agreement in two (2) counterparts, each of which shall, without proof or accountancy for the other counterparts, be deemed an original thereof.

THUS, DONE AND SIGNED at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on the day, month, and year first written above.

HONORE COMPANIES, LLC

By _____
Authorized Signature

Print Name _____

Title _____

Witnessed: _____

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY A&M COLLEGE

By _____
*John K. Pierre, Chancellor
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge Campus*

Witnessed _____

By _____
*Orlando F. McMeans, Interim President
Southern University and A&M College System
and Chancellor, Southern University
Agricultural, Research and Extension Center*

Witnessed _____

AIA[®] Document A310[™] - 2010
Bid Bond

Bond No: NW11243-15

CONTRACTOR:*(Name, legal status and address)*

Honore Companies, LLC
6655 Van Gogh Ave
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

SURETY:*(Name, legal status and principal place of business)*

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company
One West Nationwide Blvd., I-14-301
Columbus, OH 43215

This document has important legal consequences. Consultation with an attorney is encouraged with respect to its completion or modification.

Any singular reference to Contractor, Surety, Owner or other party shall be considered plural where applicable.

OWNER:*(Name, legal status and address)*

Southern University Agricultural Center
PO Box 9534
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

BOND AMOUNT:

5% of total amount of bid not to exceed: Twenty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Forty One and 00/100 Dollars (\$29,941.00)

PROJECT:*(Name, location or address, and Project number, if any)*

Viticulture Fields_Ag Center Project

The Contractor and Surety are bound to the Owner in the amount set forth above, for the payment of which the Contractor and Surety bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally, as provided herein. The conditions of this Bond are such that if the Owner accepts the bid of the Contractor Within the time specified in the bid documents, or within such time period as may be agreed to by the Owner and Contractor, and the Contractor either (1) enters into a contract with the Owner in accordance with the terms of such Bid, and gives such bond or bonds as may be specified in the bidding or contract Documents, with a surety admitted in the jurisdiction of the Project and otherwise acceptable to the Owner, for the faithful performance of such Contract and for the prompt payment of labor and material furnished in the prosecution thereof; or (2) pays to the Owner the difference, not to exceed the amount of this Bond, between the amount specified in said bid and such larger amount for which the Owner may in good faith contract with another party to perform the work covered by said bid, then this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect. The Surety hereby waives any notice of an agreement between the Owner and Contractor to extend the time in which the Owner may accept the bid. Waiver of notice by the Surety shall not apply to any extension exceeding sixty (60) days in the aggregate beyond the time for acceptance of bids specified in the bid documents, and the Owner and Contractor shall obtain the Surety's consent for an extension beyond sixty (60) days.

If this Bond is issued in connection with a subcontractor's bid to a Contractor, the term Contractor in this Bond shall be deemed to be Subcontractor and the term Owner shall be deemed to be Contractor.

When this Bond has been furnished to comply with a statutory or other legal requirement in the location of the Project, any provision in this Bond conflicting with said statutory or legal requirement shall be deemed deleted herefrom and provisions conforming to such statutory or other legal requirement shall be deemed incorporated herein. When so furnished, the intent is that this Bond shall be construed as a statutory bond and not as a common law bond.

Signed and sealed this 9th day of January, 2026

(Witness)

Honore Companies, LLC

*(Principal)**(Seal)**(Title)* Dalton Honore, Managing Member

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

*(Surety)**(Title)*

Brad Quiri, Attorney-In-Fact

Power of Attorney

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT:

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, an Ohio corporation

hereinafter referred to severally as the "Company" and collectively as "the Companies" does hereby make, constitute and appoint:

AMANDA QUIGLEY; BRAD QUIRI; ETHAN BAKER; JEREMY JOHN CRAWFORD;

each in their individual capacity, its true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power and authority to sign, seal, and execute on its behalf any and all bonds and undertakings, and other obligatory instruments of similar nature, in penalties not exceeding the sum of

UNLIMITED

and to bind the Company thereby, as fully and to the same extent as if such instruments were signed by the duly authorized officers of the Company; and all acts of said Attorney pursuant to the authority given are hereby ratified and confirmed.

This power of attorney is made and executed pursuant to and by authority of the following resolution duly adopted by the board of directors of the Company:

"RESOLVED, that the president, or any vice president be, and each hereby is, authorized and empowered to appoint attorneys-in-fact of the Company, and to authorize them to execute and deliver on behalf of the Company any and all bonds, forms, applications, memorandums, undertakings, recognizances, transfers, contracts of indemnity, policies, contracts guaranteeing the fidelity of persons holding positions of public or private trust, and other writings obligatory in nature that the business of the Company may require; and to modify or revoke, with or without cause, any such appointment or authority; provided, however, that the authority granted hereby shall in no way limit the authority of other duly authorized agents to sign and countersign any of said documents on behalf of the Company."

"RESOLVED FURTHER, that such attorneys-in-fact shall have full power and authority to execute and deliver any and all such documents and to bind the Company subject to the terms and limitations of the power of attorney issued to them, and to affix the seal of the Company thereto; provided, however, that said seal shall not be necessary for the validity of any such documents."

This power of attorney is signed and sealed under and by the following bylaws duly adopted by the board of directors of the Company.

Execution of Instruments. Any vice president, any assistant secretary or any assistant treasurer shall have the power and authority to sign or attest all approved documents, instruments, contracts, or other papers in connection with the operation of the business of the company in addition to the chairman of the board, the chief executive officer, president, treasurer or secretary; provided, however, the signature of any of them may be printed, engraved, or stamped on any approved document, contract, instrument, or other papers of the Company.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be sealed and duly attested by the signature of its officer the 1st day of April, 2024.

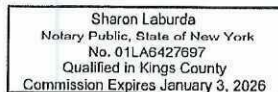


Antonio C. Albanese, Vice President of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS: ss

On this 1st day of April, 2024, before me came the above-named officer for the Company aforesaid, to me personally known to be the officer described in and who executed the preceding instrument, and he acknowledged the execution of the same, and being by me duly sworn, deposes and says, that he is the officer of the Company aforesaid, that the seal affixed hereto is the corporate seal of said Company, and the said corporate seal and his signature were duly affixed and subscribed to said instrument by the authority and direction of said Company.



Notary Public
My Commission Expires
January 3, 2026

CERTIFICATE

I, Lezlie F. Chimienti, Assistant Secretary of the Company, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original power of attorney issued by the Company; that the resolution included therein is a true and correct transcript from the minutes of the meetings of the boards of directors and the same has not been revoked or amended in any manner; that said Antonio C. Albanese was on the date of the execution of the foregoing power of attorney the duly elected officer of the Company, and the corporate seal and his signature as officer were duly affixed and subscribed to the said instrument by the authority of said board of directors; and the foregoing power of attorney is still in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name as Assistant Secretary, and affixed the corporate seal of said Company this 9th day of

January, 2026



Assistant Secretary



Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

1100 Locust St, Dept. 2006
Des Moines, Iowa 50391-2006
Attn: Surety Claims Manager
Tel. 866-387-0457

Surety Claim Notification

Claim notices should be sent to the attention of the Surety Claims Manager via e-mail to bondclms@nationwide.com or via mail to the address above.

All other notices should be sent to the attention of the Surety Underwriting Department via e-mail to bondcomm@nationwide.com or via mail to the address above.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, Surety Department

Single Member Board Resolution

RESOLUTION OF THE SOLE DIRECTOR/MEMBER OF

Honore Companies LLC
6655 Van Gogh Avenue
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

Date: January 09, 2026

WHEREAS, the undersigned is the sole director/member of Honore Companies LLC, a LLC organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, and is authorized to act on behalf of the company;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The undersigned hereby approves and authorizes the following action(s) on behalf of the company:

Is hereby authorized to submit proposals and execute agreements on behalf of this company with the Southern University.

2. This resolution shall remain in full force and effect until modified or rescinded by the undersigned.



Dalton Honore II

date

1/9/26

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors

Search by Contractor Name

Contractor Information	
Name	Honore Companies L.L.C.
Mailing Address	6655 Van Gogh Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone Number	(225) 281-2857
Email Address	dhonore@builtbyhonore.com

Active Licenses	
License	CL.54964
Type	Commercial License Certificate
Status	Active
Effective Date	02/12/2024
Expiration Date	02/11/2027
First Issued	02/11/2011

License

RL886611

Type

Residential License Certificate

Status

Active

Effective Date

10/28/2024

Expiration Date

09/04/2027

First Issued

09/04/2020

Classifications**Class**

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

HIGHWAY, STREET AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Qualifying Party

Dalton Wayne Honore II

Dalton Wayne Honore II

Dalton Wayne Honore II

Close Details

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors
600 North Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Phone: (225) 765-2301
Fax: 888-510-0127
[Contact Us \(https://lsllbc.gov/contact-us/\)](https://lsllbc.gov/contact-us/)

**Request for Taxpayer
Identification Number and Certification**

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.) Honore Companies LLC	
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.	
	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. ☒ Individual/sole proprietor ☐ C corporation ☐ S corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. ☐ Other (see instructions)	
	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) (Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)	
	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions.	☐
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions. 6655 Van Gogh Avenue	Requester's name and address (optional) Southern University
	6 City, state, and ZIP code Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70806	
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

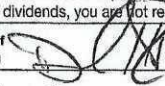
Social security number									
			-						
or									
Employer identification number									
2	7	-	4	1	7	7	0	6	5

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here Signature of U.S. person 

Date **2-3-26**

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

LOUISIANA UNIFORM PUBLIC WORK BID FORM

TO: **Southern University and A&M College**
Post Office Box 9534
James J. Prestage Dr-J.S. Clark Adm. Bldg. Annex
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

BID FOR: **Bid Number 50016-10347**
PROJECT: **VITICULTURE FIELDS**
TLA Project Number 24-13su Ag Center
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge Campus

The undersigned bidder hereby declares and represents that she/he: a) has carefully examined and understands the Bidding Documents, b) has not received, relied on, or based his bid on any verbal instructions contrary to the Bidding Documents or any addenda, c) has personally inspected and is familiar with the project site, and hereby proposes to provide all labor, materials, tools, appliances and facilities as required to perform, in a workmanlike manner, all work and services for the construction and completion of the referenced project, all in strict accordance with the Bidding Documents prepared by: Thompson Luke & Associates

Bidders must acknowledge all addenda. The Bidder acknowledges receipt of the following **ADDENDA**: (Enter the number the Designer has assigned to each of the addenda that the Bidder is acknowledging) #1

TOTAL BASE BID: For all work required by the Bidding Documents (including any and all unit prices designated "Base Bid" * but not alternates) the sum of:

Four Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand & Twenty Dollars ^{4¢/sq} (\$ 499,020.00)

ALTERNATES: For any and all work required by the Bidding Documents for Alternates including any and all unit prices designated as alternates in the unit price description. N/A

Alternate No. 1 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A

Dollars (\$ _____)

Alternate No. 2 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A

Dollars (\$ _____)

Alternate No. 3 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A

Dollars (\$ _____)

NAME OF BIDDER:

Honore Companies LLC

ADDRESS OF BIDDER:

6655 Van Gogh Ave
Baton Rouge LA 70806

EMAIL

dhonore@builtbyhonore.com

PHONE

225-281-2057

LOUISIANA CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE NUMBER:

54964

PRINT NAME OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER:

Dalton Honore

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER:

[Signature]

TITLE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER:

Owner

DATE:

1/9/26

Completion Time: 150 days **Liquidated Damages:** \$500.00 per day

5% Bid Security: ☒ **Yes** (shall be included with bid)

(check here) ☐ **Bid Security included.** Bid Security shall be total of 5% for base bid and alternates.

Successful bidder will be notified by letter to secure Performance and Payment Bond up to 100% of cost.

(check here) ☐ **Board Resolution**

A CORPORATE RESOLUTION OR WRITTEN EVIDENCE of the authority of the person signing the bid for the public work as prescribed by LA R.S. 38:2212(B)(5) or Secretary of State verification.

BID SECURITY(5%) in the form of a bid bond, certified check or cashier's check as prescribed by LA RS 38: 2218.A is attached to and made a part of this bid.

The Unit Price Form shall be used if the contract includes unit prices. Otherwise it is not required and need not be included with the form. The number of unit prices that may be included is not limited and additional sheets may be included if needed.

dhonore@builtbyhonore.c

Southern University and A&M College
Purchasing Department

BID TABULATION

BID # 10347
PROJECT NAME VITICULTURE FIELDS
AG CENTER PROJECT

BID DATE January 9, 2026
BID TIME 10:30 AM

NAME OF BIDDER <i>attended mandatory pre-bid conf</i>	LA. LIC. NO.	Site Visit	Bid Bond	Add- turn # 1	BASE BID	ALTERNATE N/A	ALTERNATE N/A	ALTERNATE N/A	Remarks
Honore Companies, LLC	54964		✓	✓	499,020				
The Luster Group, LLC	58037		✓	✓	529,000				
Bucktown Contractors & Co	28190								
Boone Services, LLC	29595								
M.A. Wilson Construction and Consulting, LLC	61901								
Precision Grading and Sitework	76580		✓	✓	748,800				

Sandra Antone Director
1-9-2026

Mary Jane Spivey
1-9-2026



Purchasing Department

P.O. Box 9534

Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Phone: (225) 771-4580

Fax: (225) 771-2026

By email only

INTENT TO AWARD

February 3, 2026

Dalton Honore, Owner
Honore Companies, LLC
6655 Van Gogh Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Re: Intent to Award-Bid 10347 Viticulture Fields

Dear Mr. Honore:

Southern University intends to award your company Bid 10347 for the referenced project for \$499,020.00. The contract and other pertinent documents are forthcoming after additional approvals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Linda Antoine'.

Linda Antoine

Director of Purchasing

- c: Calvin Walker, Executive Vice Chancellor, SU Ag Center
Devaiah Kambiranda, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Research
Professor, Plant and Soil Science, SU Ag Center
Ervin Antoine, Project and Facility Manager, SU Ag Center
Floyd Luster, Jr., Managing Member, The Luster Group, LLC
Masson LeMieux, Vice President, Precision Site Work and Grading, LLC

Intent to Award to Honore Companies, LLC---Bid 10347 Viticulture Fields

From Linda Antoine <linda_antoine@subr.edu>

Date Tue 2/3/2026 11:14 AM

To 'Dalton Honore II' <dhonore@builtbyhonore.com>

Cc calvin_walker@suagcenter.com <calvin_walker@suagcenter.com>; Devaiah Kambiranda <devaiah_kambiranda@subr.edu>; Ervin Antoine <ervin_antoine@suagcenter.com>; fluster <fluster@thelustergroup.com>; masson@precisiongradingla.com <masson@precisiongradingla.com>

 1 attachment (235 KB)

Intent to Award-Bid 10347 Viticulture Fields.1_0001.pdf;

Dalton Honore, Owner
Honore Companies, LLC

Dear Mr. Honore:

Attached is the Intent to Award letter for the referenced bid project.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Linda Antoine, Director
Southern University and A&M College
Purchasing Department
PO Box 9534
JS Clark Administration Building Annex-1st Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
225-771-4587
linda_antoine@subr.edu

Re: SU Viticulture Fields-Bid 10347

From builtbyhonore <dhonore@builtbyhonore.com>

Date Mon 2/2/2026 10:18 AM

To Belinda Marquette <belinda@tlaeng.com>

Cc office1@builtbyhonore.com <office1@builtbyhonore.com>; Scott Welch <scott@tlaeng.com>

Good Morning,

Please accept this email as my official response for the submitted bid of the referenced project. Our price is firm and we are good with it as bid.

Should you have any questions/comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

Dalton

dhonore@builtbyhonore.com

"Walking the long road"



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On Feb 2, 2026, at 9:32 AM, Belinda Marquette <belinda@tlaeng.com> wrote:

Good morning,

Honore Companies was the low bidder for this project, and the SU Ag Center has accepted your bid. Please send over a letter stating that your bid price is firm and you are good with it.

Thank you,

<image002.png> <image004.png> *Belinda Perkins Marquette*

Office Manager

Thompson Luke and Associates, LLC

225-293-9474 | www.tlaeng.com

PRE-BID CONFERENCE & SITE-VISIT: DECEMBER 3, 2025 @ 10:30 AM - BID NUMBER 10347
 SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE- VITICULTURE FIELDS-AG CENTER PROJECT
 PRE-BID & SITE LOCATION: PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT/BENJAMIN H. KRAFT BLDG/515 JAMES L. HUNT STREET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN THE APPROPRIATE AREAS (IN INK ONLY)

COMPANY	REPRESENTATIVE (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS (BOX#, STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NO.
✓ Honore Companies LLC	Dalton Honore	6655 Van Goy 4 Ave B.R. LA 70806	dhonore@ buhlbyhonore.com	225-281-2857
✓ McDonald Supplier Immigration-Mart	Tre Haydel	13799 Airline Hwy Baton Rouge LA 70817	tre.haydel@immigration-mart.com	225-755-3447
✓ Thelaster Group	Michael Dick	3255 Chestnut Dr Suite D BR 70705	flister@thelastergroup.com	225-389- 1657B
✓ Bucktown Contractors & Co.	Aaron LeBourgeois	1005 Veterans Memorial bld. Suite 105 Kenner Louisiana 70062	aaronbucktowninc@yahoo.com	504-342-3094
✓ Bone Services	Patrick Adams	9143 S. Tiger Bend Rd 70817	Dustin@Bone Services com	225-752-0325
✓ MA Wilson Construction	Scott Wilson	383 Highlandia Dr. Suite 219 BR, LA 70810	mscottwilson@yahoo.com	225 931 9264
✓ Precision grading and site work LLC	Masson LeMieux	6534 DoubleTree Dr Baton Rouge LA 70812	Masson@Precision grading len.com	225-571-5222
✓ Monroe Comit, Inc	Angela Ferrer Coraig Corie	11325 Pennywood Ave Baton Rouge LA 70817	che@monroecomit.com	225 293-1905
SU-AG - Center	Devanish Kambiranta	181. B. A. Little Dr.	devanish.kambiranta@suag center	225-771-5349

PRE-BID CONFERENCE & SITE-VISIT: DECEMBER 3, 2025 @ 10:30 AM - BID NUMBER 10347
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE - VITICULTURE FIELDS-AG CENTER PROJECT
PRE-BID & SITE LOCATION: PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT/BENJAMIN H. KRAFT BLDG/515 JAMES L. HUNT STREET

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN THE APPROPRIATE AREAS (IN INK ONLY)

COMPANY	REPRESENTATIVE (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS (BOX#, STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NO.
SU AG Center	CP Bagby	84406, Bagby Ave, 1094 Fishers Road	CP@DCE.Bagbyasas.edu	931.281.1666
KRAFT	KESSEE WILSON	KRAFT BLDG, Bldg. 10813	KESSEE-WILSON@SU.A&M, Bldg 10813	225-771-6235
SU AG Center	Danna Brown	SU AG Center	danna_brown@suagcenter.com	(402) 216-3061
SU AG Center	Sonia Wilson	SU AG Center	Sonia-wilson@suagcenter.com	(225) 803-9010
SU AG CENTER	Ervin Antoine	SU AG CENTER	Ervin.Antoine@suagcenter.com	225- 954-1464



Purchasing Department
P.O. Box 9534
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Phone: (225) 771-4580
Fax: (225) 771-2026

February 2, 2026

Christ Beaner
Associate General Counsel
Office of the President
Southern University System
J.S. Clark Administration Building, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

*Re: Request for Board of Supervisors' Approval
Contract for A. O. Williams Modular Campus-Bid # 10348*

Dear Attorney Beaner:

Please find attached the contract for \$4,644,000 and supporting documents for the Board of Supervisors' approval. A request for bid was issued to purchase modular buildings for the Southern University Agricultural, Research and Extension Center (Ag Center). J. Reed Constructors, Inc., is the lowest and most responsive bidder. The A.O. Williams Hall (Ag Center Main Building) is closed due to unsafe conditions. Therefore, the modular buildings are needed for office space and research labs for faculty, staff and students.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Linda Antoine'.

Linda Antoine
Director of Purchasing

- c: Orlando F. McMeans, Interim President, SUS and
Chancellor/Southern University Agricultural, Research and Extension Center
Calvin Walker, Executive Vice Chancellor, Southern University Agricultural, Research
and Extension Center
John K. Pierre, Chancellor, SUBR
Flandus McClinton, Jr., Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs, SUS
Desiree Honoré Thomas, Asso. VP/Sr. Administrative Operations Officer, SUS
Kenneth Dawson, Director, Facilities Planning, SUS

CONTRACT

STATE OF *LOUISIANA*
PARISH OF *EAST BATON ROUGE*

CONTRACT BETWEEN OWNER AND CONTRACTOR

This agreement entered into this 2nd day of February 2026 by J. REED CONSTRUCTORS, INC. hereinafter called the "Contractor", whose business address is 9882 S. PERDUE AVENUE, BATON ROUGE, 70814 and SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE, BATON ROUGE, LA 70813 hereinafter called the "Owner".

Witnesseth that the Contractor and the Owner, in consideration of premises and the mutual covenants; consideration and agreement herein contained, agree as follows:

Statement of Work: The contractor shall furnish all labor and materials and perform all of the work required to build, construct and complete in a thorough and workmanlike manner for the:

A. O. WILLIAMS MODULAR CAMPUS H/S Project Number 25022

in strict accordance with specifications

It is recognized by the parties herein that said Procurement Documents including by way of example and not of limitation, **Bid Number 10348**, Performance & Payment Bond, the and Specifications, Instruction to Bidders, Bid Forms, General Conditions, Certificate of Insurance, any Addenda, if applicable, thereto, impose duties and obligations upon the parties herein, and said parties thereby agree that they shall be bound by said duties and obligations. For these purposes, all of the provisions contained in the aforementioned Procurement Documents are incorporated herein by reference with the same force and effect as though said Procurement Documents were herein set out in full.

Time for Completion: The work shall commence on a date to be specified in the written order of the Owner and shall be completed within one hundred fifty (150) consecutive calendar days after receipt of Notice to Proceed consecutive calendar days from and after the said date.

Liquidated Damages: Contractor shall be assessed Liquidated Damages Per Diem in the amount of Five Hundred and 00/100 (**\$500.00**) per day for each consecutive calendar day which work is not complete beginning with the first day beyond the completion/stipulated time.

Compensation to be paid to the Contractor: The Owner will pay and the Contractor will accept in full consideration for the performance of the contract the sum of **Four million six hundred forty-four thousand and 00/100 (\$4,644,000.00)**, which sum represents the base bid.

Taxes: Contractor hereby agrees that the responsibility for payment of taxes from the funds thus received under this Contract and/or legislative appropriation shall be contractor's obligation and identified under Federal tax identification number **72-1016258**.

Performance & Payment Bond: The condition of this performance and payment bond shall be that should the Contractor herein not perform the contract in accordance with the terms and conditions hereof, or should said Contractor not fully indemnify and save harmless the Owner, from all cost and damages which he may suffer by said Contractor's non-performance or should said Contractor not pay all persons who have and fulfill obligations to perform labor and/or furnish materials in the prosecution of the work provided for herein, including by way of example workmen, laborers, mechanics, and furnishers of materials, machinery, equipment and fixtures, then said Surety agrees and is bound to so perform the contract and make said payment(s).

Provided, that any alterations which may be made in the terms of the contract or in the work to be done under it, or the giving by the Owner of any extensions of time for the performance of the contract, or any other

forbearance on the part of either the Owner or the Contractor to the other shall not in any way release the Contractor or the Surety from their liability hereunder, notice to the Surety of any such alterations, extensions or other forbearance being hereby waived.

Owner shall pay Contractor not to exceed 95% of contracted price upon approved work and AIA/Pay Applications documents or invoices.

Insurance: Contractor shall maintain insurance throughout the project per insurance requirements.

FINAL PAYMENT:

Upon satisfactory completion of the work, the Owner will issue a written acceptance of the work to the Contractor, who will immediately file same with the Recorder of Mortgages in East Baton Rouge Parish. Not less than forty-five days after filing the formal acceptance of work with the Recorder of Mortgages, providing that all work done under the contract is at the time found to be in good condition insofar as the Contractor is responsible for it, the Owner will pay the Contractor the retained portion of the contract price, after deducting therefrom such sums as may be withheld under any provisions of this contract, said payment being conditional on the Contractor furnishing to the Owner a certificate from the Recorder of Mortgages for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, that the contract is clear of any liens or privileges. Contractor will receive final 5% of contract after receipt of clear lien certificate.

Contractor acknowledges and agrees to comply with the provisions of La. R.S. 38:2212.10 and federal law pertaining to E-Verify in the performance of services under this Contract.

It is hereby agreed that the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana and/or the Office of the Governor, Division of Administration auditors shall have the option of auditing all accounts of contractor which relate to this contract.

The continuation of this contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of the contract, or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the appropriations act to prevent the total appropriation for the year from exceeding revenues for that year, or for any other lawful purpose, and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract, the contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds are not appropriated.

The contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the following as applicable: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972, Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended, and contractor agrees to abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Contractor agrees not to discriminate in its employment practices, and will render services under this contract without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, veteran status, political affiliation, disability, or age in any matter relating to employment. Any act of discrimination committed by Contractor, or failure to comply with these statutory obligations when applicable shall be grounds for termination of this contract.

Prohibition of Discriminatory Boycotts of Israel

In accordance with R.S. 39:1602.1, effective May 22, 2018, for any contract for \$100,000 or more and for any contractor with five or more employees, Contractor, or any Subcontractor, shall certify it is not engaging in a boycott of Israel, and shall, for the duration of this contract, refrain from a boycott of Israel. The State reserves the right to terminate this contract if the Contractor, or any Subcontractor, engages in a boycott of Israel during the term of the contract.

Prohibition of Companies That Discriminate Against Firearm and Ammunition Industries

In accordance with La. R.S. 39:1602.2, the following applies to any competitive sealed bids, competitive sealed proposals, or contract(s) with a value of \$100,000 or more involving a for-profit company with at least fifty full-time employees.

Unless otherwise exempted by law, by submitting a response to this solicitation or entering into this contract, the Bidder, Proposer or Contractor certifies the following:

1. The company does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association;
2. The company will not discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association during the term of the contract based solely on the entity's or association's status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.

The State reserves the right to reject the response of the Bidder, Proposer or Contractor if this certification is subsequently determined to be false, and to terminate any contract awarded based on such a false response or if the certification is no longer true.

Contractor has a continuing obligation to disclose any suspensions or debarment by any government entity, including but not limited to General Services Administration (GSA). Failure to disclose may constitute grounds for suspension and/or termination of the Contract and debarment from future Contracts.

Contractor, and each tier of Subcontractors, shall certify that it is not on the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs promulgated in accordance with E.O.s 12549 and 12689, "Debarment and Suspension," as set forth at 24 CFR part 24.

In Witness whereof, the parties hereto on the day and year first above written have executed this agreement in two (2) counterparts, each of which shall, without proof or accountancy for the other counterparts, be deemed an original thereof.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on the day, month, and year first written above.

J. REED CONSTRUCTORS, INC.

By _____
Authorized Signature

Print Name _____

Title _____

Witnessed: _____

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY A&M COLLEGE

By _____
John K. Pierre, Chancellor
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge Campus

Witnessed _____

By _____
Orlando F. McMeans, Interim President
Southern University and A&M College System

Witnessed _____

LOUISIANA UNIFORM PUBLIC WORK BID FORM

TO: **Southern University and A&M College**
Post Office Box 9534
James J. Prestage Dr-J.S. Clark Adm. Bldg. Annex
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

BID FOR: Bid Number 50016-10348
A.O. WILLIAMS MODULAR CAMPUS
H/S Project Number 25022
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge Campus

The undersigned bidder hereby declares and represents that she/he: a) has carefully examined and understands the Bidding Documents, b) has not received, relied on, or based his bid on any verbal instructions contrary to the Bidding Documents or any addenda, c) has personally inspected and is familiar with the project site, and hereby proposes to provide all labor, materials, tools, appliances and facilities as required to perform, in a workmanlike manner, all work and services for the construction and completion of the referenced project, all in strict accordance with the Bidding Documents prepared by: Holly & Smith Architects

Bidders must acknowledge all addenda. The Bidder acknowledges receipt of the following **ADDENDA:** (Enter the number the Designer has assigned to each of the addenda that the Bidder is acknowledging) 1, 2.

TOTAL BASE BID: For all work required by the Bidding Documents (including any and all unit prices designated "Base Bid" * but not alternates) the sum of:

Four million six hundred forty four thousand Dollars (\$ 4,644,000)
dollars

ALTERNATES: For any and all work required by the Bidding Documents for Alternates including any and all unit prices designated as alternates in the unit price description. N/A

Alternate No. 1 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A Dollars (\$ N/A)

Alternate No. 2 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A Dollars (\$ N/A)

Alternate No. 3 (Owner to provide description of alternate and state whether add or deduct) for the lump sum of:

N/A Dollars (\$ N/A)

NAME OF BIDDER: J. Reed Constructors, Inc.

ADDRESS OF BIDDER: 9882 S. Perdue Ave.

Baton Rouge, LA 70814

EMAIL reed@jreedconstructors.net

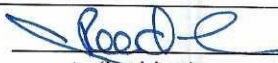
PHONE 225-201-8826

LOUISIANA CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE NUMBER: 37085

PRINT NAME OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER: J. Reed Luneau, Jr.

TITLE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER: President

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY OF BIDDER:


(Louisiana)

DATE: 1/23/26

Completion Time: 150 days Liquidated Damages: \$500.00

5% Bid Security: XX Yes (shall be included with bid)

(check here) Bid Security included. Bid Security shall be total of 5% for base bid and alternates.

Successful bidder will be notified by letter to secure Performance and Payment Bond up to 100% of cost.

(check here) Board Resolution

A CORPORATE RESOLUTION OR WRITTEN EVIDENCE of the authority of the person signing the bid for the public work as prescribed by LA R.S. 38:2212(B)(5) or Secretary of State verification.

BID SECURITY in the form of a bid bond, certified check or cashier's check as prescribed by LA RS 38:2218.A is attached to and made a part of this bid.

The Unit Price Form shall be used if the contract includes unit prices. Otherwise it is not required and need not be included with the form. The number of unit prices that may be included is not limited and additional sheets may be included if needed.

CORPORATE RESOLUTION

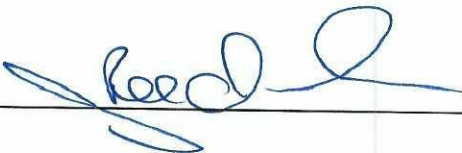
A meeting of the Board of Directors of J. Reed Constructors, Inc., a Corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana and domiciled Baton Rouge, was held this 23rd day of January, 2026, and was attended by a quorum of the members of the Board of Directors.

The following resolution was offered, duly seconded and, after discussion, was unanimously adopted by said quorum:

BE IT RESOLVED, that J Reed Luneau, Jr. is hereby authorized to submit bid proposals and execute contracts and/or agreements on behalf of this corporation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said authorization and appointment shall remain in full force and effect, unless revoked by resolution and appointment shall remain in full force and effect, unless revoked by resolution of this Board of Directors and that said revocation will not take effect until the Purchasing Agent of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, shall have been furnished a copy of said resolution, duly certified.

I, J. Reed Luneau, Jr., hereby certify that I am the Secretary of J Reed Constructors, Inc., a corporation created under the laws of the State of Louisiana domiciled in Baton Rouge that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by a quorum of the Board of Directors of said corporation at a meeting legally called and held on the 23rd day of January, 2026 as said resolution appears of record in the Official Minutes of the Board of Directors in my possession. This 23rd day of January, 2026.



Secretary

CR - 1

BID BOND
FOR
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE PROJECTS

Date: 1/23/2026

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That J. Reed Constructors, Inc. of Baton Rouge, LA, as Principal, and Arch Insurance Company, as Surety, are held and firmly bound unto Southern University and A&M College, in the full and just sum of five (5%) percent of the total amount of this proposal, including all alternates, lawful money of the United States, for payment of which sum, well and truly be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, jointly and severally firmly by these presents.

Surety represents that it is listed on the current U. S. Department of the Treasury Financial Management Service list of approved bonding companies as approved for an amount equal to or greater than the amount for which it obligates itself in this instrument or that it is a Louisiana domiciled insurance company with at least an A - rating in the latest printing of the A. M. Best's Key Rating Guide. If surety qualifies by virtue of its Best's listing, the Bond amount may not exceed ten percent of policyholders' surplus as shown in the latest A. M. Best's Key Rating Guide.

Surety further represents that it is licensed to do business in the State of Louisiana and that this Bond is signed by surety's agent or attorney-in-fact. This Bid Bond is accompanied by appropriate power of attorney.

THE CONDITION OF THIS OBLIGATION IS SUCH that, whereas said Principal is herewith submitting its proposal to the Obligee on a Contract for:

A.O. Williams Modular Campus

Bid No. 50016-10348 - H/S Project No. 25022

NOW, THEREFORE, if the said Contract be awarded to the Principal and the Principal shall, within such time as may be specified, enter into the Contract in writing and give a good and sufficient bond to secure the performance of the terms and conditions of the Contract with surety acceptable to the Obligee, then this obligation shall be void; otherwise this obligation shall become due and payable.

J. Reed Constructors, Inc.

PRINCIPAL (BIDDER)

Arch Insurance Company

SURETY

BY: 

AUTHORIZED OFFICER-OWNER-PARTNER
J. Reed Luneau, Jr., President, Secretary/Treasurer

BY: 

AGENT OR ATTORNEY-IN-FACT (SEAL)
Randolph A. Brunson, Attorney-In-Fact

July 2021

This Power of Attorney limits the acts of those named herein, and they have no authority to bind the Company except in the manner and to the extent herein stated. Not valid for Note, Loan, Letter of Credit, Currency Rate, Interest Rate or Residential Value Guarantees.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Persons By These Presents:

That the Arch Insurance Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri, having its principal administrative office in Jersey City, New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as the "Company") does hereby appoint:

Fiona J. Boyd, Miller Hilliard and Randolph A. Brunson of Baton Rouge, LA (EACH)

its true and lawful Attorney(s)-in-Fact, to make, execute, seal, and deliver from the date of issuance of this power for and on its behalf as surety, and as its act and deed: Any and all bonds, undertakings, recognizances and other surety obligations, in the penal sum not exceeding One Hundred Fifty Million Dollars (\$150,000,000.00). This authority does not permit the same obligation to be split into two or more bonds in order to bring each such bond within the dollar limit of authority as set forth herein.

The execution of such bonds, undertakings, recognizances and other surety obligations in pursuance of these presents shall be as binding upon the said Company as fully and amply to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been duly executed and acknowledged by its regularly elected officers at its principal administrative office in Jersey City, New Jersey.

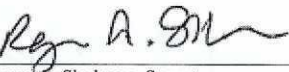
This Power of Attorney is executed by authority of resolutions adopted by unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the Company on August 31, 2022, true and accurate copies of which are hereinafter set forth and are hereby certified to by the undersigned Secretary as being in full force and effect:

"VOTED, That the Chairman of the Board, the President, or the Executive Vice President, or any Senior Vice President, of the Surety Business Division, or their appointees designated in writing and filed with the Secretary, or the Secretary shall have the power and authority to appoint agents and attorneys-in-fact, and to authorize them subject to the limitations set forth in their respective powers of attorney, to execute on behalf of the Company, and attach the seal of the Company thereto, bonds, undertakings, recognizances and other surety obligations obligatory in the nature thereof, and any such officers of the Company may appoint agents for acceptance of process."

This Power of Attorney is signed, sealed and certified by facsimile under and by authority of the following resolution adopted by the unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the Company on August 31, 2022:

VOTED, That the signature of the Chairman of the Board, the President, or the Executive Vice President, or any Senior Vice President, of the Surety Business Division, or their appointees designated in writing and filed with the Secretary, and the signature of the Secretary, the seal of the Company, and certifications by the Secretary, may be affixed by facsimile on any power of attorney or bond executed pursuant to the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors on August 31, 2022, and any such power so executed, sealed and certified with respect to any bond or undertaking to which it is attached, shall continue to be valid and binding upon the Company. **In Testimony Whereof,** the Company has caused this instrument to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by their authorized officers, this 21st day of July, 2025.

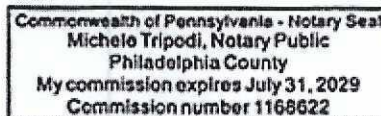
Attested and Certified



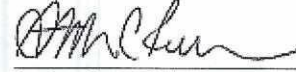
Regan A. Shulman, Secretary

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA SS
COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA SS

I, **Michele Tripodi**, a Notary Public, do hereby certify that Regan A. Shulman and Stephen C. Ruschak personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are respectively as Secretary and Executive Vice President of the Arch Insurance Company, a Corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri, subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person and severally acknowledged that they being thereunto duly authorized signed, sealed with the corporate seal and delivered the said instrument as the free and voluntary act of said corporation and as their own free and voluntary acts for the uses and purposes therein set forth.



Arch Insurance Company



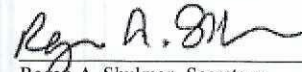
Stephen C. Ruschak, Executive Vice President



CERTIFICATION

I, **Regan A. Shulman**, Secretary of the Arch Insurance Company, do hereby certify that the attached **Power of Attorney dated July 21, 2025** on behalf of the person(s) as listed above is a true and correct copy and that the same has been in full force and effect since the date thereof and is in full force and effect on the date of this certificate; and I do further certify that the said Stephen C. Ruschak, who executed the Power of Attorney as Executive Vice President, was on the date of execution of the attached Power of Attorney the duly elected Executive Vice President of the Arch Insurance Company.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the corporate seal of the Arch Insurance Company on this 23rd day of January, 2026.



Regan A. Shulman, Secretary

This Power of Attorney limits the acts of those named therein to the bonds and undertakings specifically named therein and they have no authority to bind the Company except in the manner and to the extent herein stated.

PLEASE SEND ALL CLAIM INQUIRIES RELATING TO THIS BOND TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Arch Insurance Company Claims Department
Surety Claims
P.O. Box 542033
Omaha, NE 68154
suretyclaims@archinsurance.com



To verify the authenticity of this Power of Attorney, please contact Arch Insurance Company at SuretyAuthentic@archinsurance.com. Please refer to the above named Attorney-in-Fact and the details of the bond to which the power is attached.

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Give form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.

Before you begin. For guidance related to the purpose of Form W-9, see *Purpose of Form*, below.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name of entity/individual. An entry is required. (For a sole proprietor or disregarded entity, enter the owner's name on line 1, and enter the business/disregarded entity's name on line 2.) J. Reed Constructors, Inc.
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above.
	3a Check the appropriate box for federal tax classification of the entity/individual whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes. ☐ Individual/sole proprietor ☒ C corporation ☐ S corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ Trust/estate ☐ LLC. Enter the tax classification (C = C corporation, S = S corporation, P = Partnership) Note: Check the "LLC" box above and, in the entry space, enter the appropriate code (C, S, or P) for the tax classification of the LLC, unless it is a disregarded entity. A disregarded entity should instead check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. ☐ Other (see instructions)
	3b If on line 3a you checked "Partnership" or "Trust/estate," or checked "LLC" and entered "P" as its tax classification, and you are providing this form to a partnership, trust, or estate in which you have an ownership interest, check this box if you have any foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries. See instructions ☐
	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) reporting code (if any) _____ <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the United States.)</i>
5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.). See instructions. 9882 S. Perdue Ave	Requester's name and address (optional)
6 City, state, and ZIP code Baton Rouge, LA 70814	
7 List account number(s) here (optional)	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. See also *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number								
			-				-	
or								
Employer identification number								
7	2		-	1	0	1	6	2 5 8

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification Instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and, generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign
Here

Signature of
U.S. person

Date

05/09/25

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

What's New

Line 3a has been modified to clarify how a disregarded entity completes this line. An LLC that is a disregarded entity should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner. Otherwise, it should check the "LLC" box and enter its appropriate tax classification.

New line 3b has been added to this form. A flow-through entity is required to complete this line to indicate that it has direct or indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries when it provides the Form W-9 to another flow-through entity in which it has an ownership interest. This change is intended to provide a flow-through entity with information regarding the status of its indirect foreign partners, owners, or beneficiaries, so that it can satisfy any applicable reporting requirements. For example, a partnership that has any indirect foreign partners may be required to complete Schedules K-2 and K-3. See the Partnership Instructions for Schedules K-2 and K-3 (Form 1065).

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS is giving you this form because they

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors

Search by Contractor Name

Contractor Information	
Name	J. REED CONSTRUCTORS, INC.
Mailing Address	9882 South Perdue Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814
Phone Number	(225) 201-8826
Email Address	accounting@jreedconstructors.net
Active Licenses	
License	CL.37085
Type	Commercial License Certificate
Status	Active
Effective Date	07/21/2024
Expiration Date	07/20/2027
First Issued	07/20/2000

Classifications

Class

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

MUNICIPAL AND PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION

Qualifying Party

Johnny R. Luneau Jr.

Johnny R. Luneau Jr.

Close Details

Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors

600 North Street

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone: (225) 765-2301

Fax: 888-510-0127

Contact Us (<https://lslbc.gov/contact-us/>)

© 2026 - ARL Systems, LLC.

J. REED CONSTRUCTORS, INC.

9882 S. Perdue Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70814
(225) 201-8826 phone
(225) 201-8829 fax
reed@jreedconstructors.com

January 23, 2026

Holly & Smith Architects
2302 Magazine Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

Attn: Mr. Rohit Sodd

Re: A.O. Williams Modular Campus
Southern University – Baton Rouge Campus

Mr. Sodd:

This letter is written to confirm we have reviewed our bid documents, plans and specifications and confirm our pricing for the A.O. Williams Modular Campus project. We are comfortable with our pricing and find no errors or omissions in our proposal.

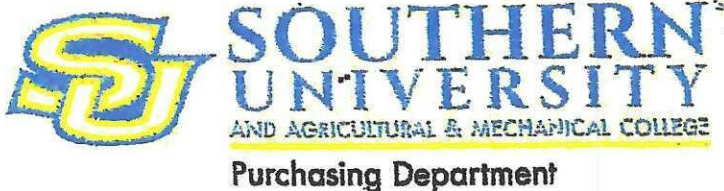
With that said, we are in the process of proceeding with the post bid documentation.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with your firm and we look forward to a successful project!

Sincerely,



J. Reed Luneau, Jr.
President
J. Reed Constructors, Inc.



EMAILED
LA 1/29/26

Purchasing Department
P.O. Box 9534
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
Phone: (225) 771-4580
Fax: (225) 771-2026

INTENT TO AWARD

By email only

January 29, 2026

J. Reed Luneau, Jr., President
J. Reed Constructors, Inc.
9882 S. Perdue Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA 70814

Re: Intent to Award-Bid 10348 A.O. Williams Modular Campus (Rebid)

Dear Mr. Luneau:

Southern University intends to award your company Bid 10348 for the referenced project for \$4,644,000. The contract and other pertinent documents are forthcoming after additional approvals.

Sincerely,

Linda Antoine
Linda Antoine
Director of Purchasing

c: Calvin Walker, Executive Vice Chancellor, SU Ag Center
Ervin Antoine, Project and Facility Manager, SU Ag Center
Kenneth Dawson, Director, SUS Office of Facilities Planning
Rohit Sood, AIA, LEED AP, ALEP, Holly & Smith Architects
Scott Deumite, Managing Member, Deumite Construction, LLC
Jeremy Sandin, V P of Preconstruction, Build Commercial Construction, LLC
Garth Haakenson, CEO/President, Pacific Mobile Structures, Inc
Ben Foster, Vice President, Assisted Building Solutions, INC (ABS)
Joshua P. McCoy, Owner/Chairman, Dynamic Group, LLC
William Hall, Sr. Director-Custom Modular Solutions, McGrath Rent Corp dba
Mobile Modular Management Corporation

JOB SITE VISIT

**PROJECT: A. O. WILLIAMS MODULAR CAMPUS
SU AG CENTER**

BID NUMBER 50016-10348

MANDATORY SITE VISIT DATE: JANUARY 6, 2026 at 10:30 AM

LATE ARRIVALS CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN THE BID PROCESS

It is the responsibility of the bidder to inspect job site verify any measurements and/or supplies needed prior to submitting a bid price on this project. Each bidder shall fully acquaint himself with conditions relating to construction and labor so that he may fully understand the facilities, difficulties and restrictions attending the execution of work under this contract. If vendor finds conditions that disagree with the physical layout as described in the bid, or any other features of the specifications that appear to be in error, same shall be noted on proposal. Failure to do so will be interpreted as specified. No consideration or allowance will be granted the Contractor for failure to visit the site or for any alleged misunderstanding of the materials to be furnished or the work to be done.

JOB SITE VISIT LOCATION:

Physical Plant Department
Benjamin H. Kraft Building
515 James L. Hunt Street
Southern University
Baton Rouge Campus
Site Telephone No. 225-771-4741 or 771-6241

The signed statement certifies the vendor's name listed below, has visited the proposed site and is familiar with all conditions surrounding fulfillment of the specifications for this project.

COMPANY J. Reed Constructors, Inc

BY Cindy Crumhott

DATE 1/6/26

Note: Questions not answered at Site Visit or any additional questions shall be submitted in writing to the Director of Purchasing, Linda A. Antoine at linda_antoine@subr.edu.

Note: Responses to inquiries/Addenda are posted on LaPAC (LA Procurement Website) LA State Procurement website:

<https://wwwcfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/Agency/outMain.cfm>

It is the responsibility of the vendor to check LAPAC for addenda.

JOB SITE VERIFIED BY DESIGNATED SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE:

Linda A. Antoine 1/6/26
SIGNATURE

Return this sheet with bid for information purpose

Southern University and A&M College
Purchasing Department

BID TABULATION

BID 10348

PROJECT NAME

A. O. WILLIAMS MODULAR CAMPUS-REBID

1/23/2026

BID DATE January 23, 2026

BID TIME

10:30 AM

NAME OF BIDDER	LA. LIC. NO.	Site Visit	Bid Bond	Adden- m # 1&2	BASE BID	ALTERNATE No. 1	ALTERNATE No. 2 n/a	ALTERNATE No. 3 n/a	Remarks
<i>attended mandatory pre-bid conf</i>									
Build Commercial Construction	70230 ✓		✓	✓	4,979,500				
Deumite Construction	43152 ✓		✓	✓	4,849,000				
Brunt Construction	6328								
Aries Building Systems	60356								
Pacific Mobile Structures	79615 ✓		✓	✓	5,981,787.39				224,377.62 (deduct)
Dynamic Group, LLC	64705 ✓		✓	✓	5,348,363				electronic bid
Assisted Building Solutions, LLC	4130 ✓		✓	✓	5,162,686				electronic bid
Palomar Modular Buildings	55712								
McGrath Rentcorp, Inc.	63745 ✓		✓	✓	5,239,938.52				electronic bid
Spartan Building Corporation	4805								
Nycom, Inc.	51704								
H21 Group, Inc.	69903								
J Reed Constructors, Inc.	37085 ✓		✓	✓	4,644,000				

Linda Antone 1/23/2026
Director

Mary Jane Howell 1/23/2026
Assistant Director

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE-BATON ROUGE CAMPUS

BID 10348 A. O. WILLIAMS MODULAR CAMPUS (REBID)

JANUARY 23, 2026 @ 10:30 AM

BID SIGN-IN SHEET-ATTENDEES

COMPANY/BUSINESS	SIGNATURE	PHONE NUMBER
McGrath Builders DBA Mobile Modular		(504) 908-7667
Houtz and Smith Architects		(985) 974-7856
Southern University Facilities Planning		(225) 771-2786
J Reed Constructors, Inc	Lindy Crumholt	225. 201. 8824
Southern University Facilities Planning		225. 771. 3819
Southern University Facilities Planning		225. 998. 4623
BUSAP COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION		910-915-9449
Deinite Construction LLC.		225-769-2948
Southern University Purchasing		225-771-4587
Southern University Purchasing	Mary Jane Powell	225-771-2800



Office of the Chancellor

J.S. Clark Administration Building
Post Office Box 9820
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813
Office: 225 771-2360

January 27, 2026

Dr. Orlando McMeans, Interim President
Southern University System
4th Floor, J S Clark Administration Building
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70813

Re: Salary Adjustment Request for Dr. Kedric Taylor, Director of Bands at Southern University and A&M College

Dear Dr. McMeans,

Dr. Cynthia Bryant, Dean of the College of Humanities and Interdisciplinary Studies, has requested and recommended a salary adjustment for Dr. Kedric Taylor, Director of Bands at Southern University and A&M College. Under Dr. Taylor's leadership, the Southern University Band Program has experienced unprecedented growth, national recognition, and measurable academic growth and success. These outcomes are directly attributable to the extraordinary commitment to excellence that Dr. Taylor has exhibited.

The Southern University Marching Band, known worldwide as the Human Jukebox under the leadership of Dr. Taylor now has a total membership of 325 students, including a Freshman class of 135. The current marching band is the largest band in the history of the university. During the most recent recruitment cycle, the program auditioned over 800 prospective students.

I am particularly proud of the fact that during the fall 2025 semester, 119 band students had grade point averages of 3.0 or higher and that 81% of the band students had grade point averages of 2.0 or better. Dr. Taylor is committed to academic success, retention, progression, and graduation for band students.

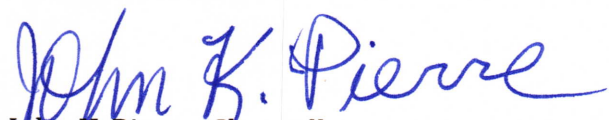
Under the leadership of Dr. Taylor, the band program has achieved milestones that have elevated the national profile of Southern University. Milestones include:

- Performance during the 2025 Superbowl Pregame Show
- Recognition as the ESPN Band of the Year in December 2025
- Performance on the Jennifer Hudson Show
- Participation in the Honda Battle of the Bands in 2025
- Participation in the Pepsi National Battle of the Bands in 2025 and 2026
- Performance at the Superbowl Soul Program in 2024
- Performance at the Tournament of Roses Parade
- Performance at the Essence Music Festival in 2025

Salary Adjustment Request for Dr. Kedric Taylor
Page 2

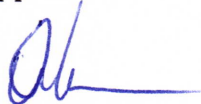
Dr. Taylor's current salary is \$127,832. His salary is below the salary of many band directors in the state of Louisiana. His salary is also below the salary level of many HBCU band directors at institutions with comparable enrollment levels. Given the performance demands, national visibility, and responsibilities associated with being the Director of Bands at Southern University and A&M College, I recommend a salary adjustment of \$10,000 to be made effective February 1, 2026. This recommended adjustment is modest given the accomplishments of Dr. Taylor. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



John K. Pierre, Chancellor
and Vanue B. Lacour Endowed Law Professor

Approved



Orlando McMeans, Interim President

DR. KEDRIC TAYLOR

225-281-9862 Baton Rouge, LA 70811 musickt02@gmail.com <http://www.linkedin.com/in/kedric-taylor-63b32694/>

2026

MUSIC EDUCATION LEADER

ACCOMPLISHED MUSIC EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL offers a solid educational background, and over 16 years of expertise in building solid band programs that have produced excellent musicians and a high rate of superior performance grades. Highly motivated, results-focused professional with superior leadership and interpersonal skills that have established trust and credibility among all professional relationships.

- Doctor of Music Education
- Masters in educational leadership
- Skilled Arranger
- Knowledgeable in Brass, Keyboard, and
Woodwind Pedagogy
- Band Clinician and Adjudicator
- Drill Writer
- Event Coordination/Fundraising
Experience

WORK EXPERIENCE

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY – *Baton Rouge, LA*

09/2018 – Present

Director of Bands

Direct and manage the overall program of instrumental music for the entire program and provide students with an environment that is conducive to higher learning.

- Organize and orchestrate performances, enforce academic requirements, and verify each student's eligibility to participate in band.
- Arrange transportation, lodging, and meals for out-of-town events.
- Create and manage departmental budgets.
- Design and implement plans for recruitment and retention of students.
- Oversee all bands-Marching band, pep band, symphonic band, wind ensemble, and brass choir.
- Manages the Dancing Dolls.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY – *Baton Rouge, LA*

08/2016 – 09/2018

Associate Director of Bands

Assisted with directing and managing the overall program of instrumental music for the entire program and provided students with an environment that was conducive to higher learning.

- Responsible for arranging music and helping orchestrate field show designs.
- Director of the wind ensemble.
- Responsible for upper brass and woodwind recruitment and auditions.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY – *Baton Rouge, LA*

07/2014 – 08/2016

Assistant Director of Bands

Provided support for overall program functions and spearheaded the recruitment process for the marching band.

- Director of the symphonic band.
- Arranged music for the marching band.
- Recruited and auditioned students for the marching band.

BAKER HIGH SCHOOL – *Baker, LA* 08/2008-07/2014

Director of Bands

Directed and managed the overall program of instrumental music for campus and provided students with an opportunity to participate in extracurricular band activities.

- Established performance requirements, enforced academic requirements, and verified each student's eligibility to participate in band.
- Arranged transportation, lodging, and meals for out-of-town events.
- Obtained and used evaluative findings (including student achievement data) to determine program effectiveness and ensure that program renewal is continuous and responds to student needs.
- Designed and implemented plans for the recruitment and retention of students.
- Baker High School Teacher of the Year 2010-2011.
- City of Baker PONY Young Musicians Award 2011.
- Over 20 1st-place finishes at various local, state, and national marching band competitions.
- Superior Ratings 2010, 2012, 2013. Excellent Ratings 2011, 2014 at District IV Concert Festivals.

JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL – *Jackson, LA*

07/2006 -08/2008

Director of Bands

Cultivated a new band program through student musicians' development and music leadership strategies that achieved growth.

- Developed and facilitated the expansion of the marching band program.
- Increased student participation in the band by 56% within 6 months.
- Placed no lower than 2nd place in all band competitions.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Director of Fine Arts, The Louisiana Leadership Institute All-Star Band	2018 – present
Director of Music, The Louisiana Leadership Institute All-Star Band	2013 – 2016
Director, The Louisiana Sounds of Dynamite All-Star Band	2009– 2013
Assistant Director, The Louisiana Sounds of Dynamite All-Star Band	2005 – 2009
Assistant Director, The Mobile All-Star Band	2003 – 2005

ORGANIZATIONS

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. is the oldest intercollegiate historically African American fraternity. It was initially a literary and social studies club organized in the 1905–1906 school year at Cornell University but later evolved into a fraternity with a founding date of December 4, 1906.

Phi Beta Mu – International Bandmasters Fraternity

Phi Beta Mu, International Bandmasters' Fraternity, is an honorary fraternity for band directors. The fraternity was designed to honor outstanding band directors at the state level, with only one potential chapter per state. There are currently 35 active chapters in the United States and Canada.

Louisiana Music Adjudicators Association-

Organizing and administering adjudication training for music educators for the purpose of consistency, education, and pedagogy. Providing a common meeting forum and clearinghouse for an exchange of ideas and methods that will

stimulate professional growth and advance the standard of musical and educational achievements for music directors in the state. Cooperating with existing associations whose purpose is the betterment of music education.

EDUCATION

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY – *Lynchburg, VA*

VANDERCOOK COLLEGE OF MUSIC – *Chicago, IL*

NORTH CENTRAL UNIVERSITY – *Phoenix, AZ*

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY – *Baton Rouge, LA*

Doctor of Music Education – Graduation 2023

Graduate Music Studies – 2016

Master of Education Leadership – 2012

Bachelor of Music –

Office of the Chancellor
Southern University at New Orleans

Joseph Bouie, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor



6400 SUNO Knights Drive
New Orleans, LA 70126
(504) 286-5000

February 6, 2026

Orlando F. McMeans, Ph.D.
Interim President
Southern University and A&M College System
Chancellor-Dean
Southern University Agricultural Research & Extension
Center
J.S. Clark Administration Building, 4th floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Dear President McMeans:

I am pleased to submit the name of Dr. Ceeon Quiett-Smith for the Chief of Staff position at Southern University in New Orleans, reporting directly to me, Dr. Joseph Bouie, Chancellor. The salary for this position will be \$100,000 annually. Dr. Smith received her Doctorate in Mass Communications from Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications in 2016. She also earned a Master's degree in Strategic Communications from the University of Maryland, and she earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Howard University.

Dr. Quiett-Smith is a senior higher education executive, scholar, and communications strategist with more than two decades of leadership experience spanning university administration, academic affairs, government, and crisis management. She is nationally recognized for her work in strategic communications, emergency management, and HBCU advancement. Her academic career includes service as Executive Vice President for Student Success and Operations at Dillard University, Chief of Staff and Executive Vice President at Benedict College, and Chair and Cleo Fields Endowed Professor of Mass Communication at Grambling State University. Across these roles, she has overseen multi-million-dollar operating budgets, represented presidents and boards, led enrollment, housing, facilities, communications, and student success divisions, and guided major institutional restructurings and strategic planning initiatives.

Dr. Quiett-Smith's portfolio reflects deep expertise in institutional operations, external affairs, and federally funded initiatives. She has served as Principal and Co-Principal Investigator on multiple federal grants (Department of Education, Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, SBA), securing and administering awards supporting campus safety, violence prevention, emergency management, and entrepreneurship. She has led admissions and enrollment recovery efforts, campus technology modernization projects, COVID-19 reopening strategy, ransomware recovery operations, and infrastructure realignments that improved fiscal accountability, student services, and operational efficiency. Her work includes building cross-functional executive teams, redesigning housing and auxiliary revenue models, and advancing data-driven decision systems for presidents and boards.

In addition to her academic leadership, Dr. Quiett-Smith brings extensive public-sector and corporate experience, including serving as Director of Communications for the City of New Orleans, Executive Assistant to the Mayor of Detroit, and a disaster recovery consultant following the BP Gulf oil spill. Nationally, she completed a federal detail with the U.S. Department of Transportation supporting the White House Initiative on HBCUs and infrastructure implementation. Collectively, her background demonstrates a rare combination of executive leadership, scholarly accomplishment, federal grant stewardship, crisis response, and strategic communications, positioning her as a transformative leader capable of advancing institutional effectiveness, student success, and community impact.

To that end, Dr. Ceeon Quiett-Smith has the abilities, knowledge, and skillset to contribute significantly to SUNO's long-term sustainability. Therefore, I am seeking your support and the approval of the Board of Supervisors for my recommendation.

Thank you for considering this request and submitting it for approval at the February 27, 2026 meeting of the Southern University and A&M College System Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,



Joseph Bouie, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor
Southern University at New Orleans

APPROVAL:



Orlando F. McMeans, Ph.D.
Interim President
Southern University and A&M College System

EDUCATION

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY-WALTER CRONKITE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION
Phoenix, AZ

Doctor of Philosophy in Mass Communication *First African American Cronkite Ph.D. Conferee (2016)*

Dissertation: *“Courting Disaster: An Analysis of Public Sector Usage of Twitter During National Disasters with a Focus on Hurricane Sandy”*

Chair: Fran Matera, PhD

Faculty Associate (2012-2016)

Research Fellowship (2014-2016)

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

College Park, MD

Master of Arts, Strategic Communications (1996)

Thesis: *“Reengineering Management”*

Chair: Larissa Grunig, PhD

Research Fellowship (1995-1996)

Howard University

Washington, D.C.

Bachelor of Arts, Journalism (1991)

U.S. Congressional Fellow, Office of Congresswoman Lindy Boggs (2nd District of Louisiana)

Fellow, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Professional Recognitions/Certifications

Council of Independent Colleges, Presidential Vocational Fellow 2019

Marquis Who’s Who 2020/ Professional of the Year 2020

University of Louisiana System, Management & Leadership

Institute (ML&I) 2021

IE Magazine, 2022 Emerging Leader 2022

U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Office of the Secretary 2022-2024

HBCU/MSI Bipartisan Infrastructure (BIL) Advisor

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYMENT

Executive Vice President, Student Success and Operations June 2023-February 2025
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

Chair /Cleo Fields Endowed Professor, Department of Mass Communication
Grambling State University, Grambling, LA 2021-2023

Chief of Staff/Executive Vice President, Benedict College
Columbia, SC 2018-2021

Chair, Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation (CDC)
Benedict College 2019-2021

Vice President, External Affairs & Communication
Florida Memorial University, Miami Gardens, FL 2017-2018

Faculty Associate, Walter Cronkite Public Relations Lab
 Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication
 Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ

2015-2017

ACADEMIC FACULTY EXPERIENCE/APPOINTMENTS

Co-Principal Investigator Dillard University, New Orleans, LA	Targeted Prevention/Targeted Violence Dept. of Homeland Security Award: \$389k	September 2024-Present
	Targeted Prevention/Targeted Violence Anti-Terrorism Program Pilot Dept. of Homeland Security Grant Partner: Elizabeth City State	
Principal Investigator (PI) Dillard University, New Orleans, LA	Project Serve Grant U.S. Dept. of Education Award: \$287,000.00	June 2023-June 2024
Mass Communication Department Grambling State University, Grambling, LA	Chair/Cleo Fields Endowed Professor Assistant Professor Dept. of Professional Studies Representative GSU Emergency Management Team NTIA Research Grant Team (Administrative Appointment) University of Louisiana, Management & Leadership Institute Nominee	July 21-July 23
Principal Investigator Grambling State University Grambling, LA	Proposal to Investigate HBCUs Relationship with FEMA Award: \$10,000.00	Fall 2022
Principal Investigator Benedict College Columbia, SC	Dept. of Commerce U.S. Small Business Administration Women's Business Center Grant Award: \$550,000.99	Spring 2020
FEMA Higher Education Division Emmitsburg, MD	Peer Review Lead 4 th Annual FEMA Higher Ed Symposium	Spring 2022
Department of Public Relations Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ	Guest Lecturer	Fall 2019
ASU Global Initiatives Program/ Saudi Arabian Journalists Association Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ	Visiting Professor	Summer 2021
Benedict College, Columbia, SC School of Business School of Arts & Sciences	Created Student Innovation Hub Created Tiger Cutz Maker Space Created Master Class in Sequential Art	August 2017
Department of Communication & Journalism Florida Memorial University, Miami Gardens, FL	Assistant Professor	July 2016-2017

Department of Public Relations
Walter Cronkite School of Journalism & Mass Communication
Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ

Faculty Associate

July 2013-2016

Department of Communication
Alabama State University, Montgomery, AL

Instructor

1998-2004

Department of Journalism and Communication
Auburn University of Montgomery
Montgomery, AL

Instructor

1997-2001

CORPORATE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BP – Gulf incident Management Response Houma, LA	Disaster Recovery Consultant	2010-2012
City of New Orleans, Office of the Mayor	Director of Communications	2006-2010
City of Detroit, Office of the Mayor	Executive Assistant to the Mayor Communications/Director Communications and Creative Services City of Detroit Chair, Detroit Cable Commission	2004-2006
<i>The Montgomery Advertiser</i> (Gannet) Montgomery, Alabama	Circulation Marketing Manager Market Development Manager Publisher's Cabinet Diversity Committee Chair News 2000 Editorial Team	1996 – 2004
Black Entertainment Television (BET)	Senior Publicist	1994-1996

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Experienced Senior Leadership: Leadership & Management

- Completed a “detail” to Office of the U.S Secretary of Transportation (USDOT), Pete Buttigieg, supporting the Division of Civil Rights in developing strategies and initiatives specific to BIL implementation, with a specific focus on HBCUs and MSIs. Served as a member of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).
- Served as an official signatory on checks and other financial documents in the absence of the President and/or CFO (Benedict College and Dillard University); granted secure access and authority to university bank accounts (Benedict College and Dillard University).
- Represented the President for speaking engagements, official campus convenings, Board of Trustee meetings (Benedict College and Dillard University).
- Serve as first-female Cleo Fields Endowed Professor and Chair of the Department of Mass Communication at Grambling State University.
- Served as chair of the Publications Committee at Benedict College that oversees the programming and coordination of various academic and faculty teams responsible for campus programs including Fall & Spring Convocation (served as co-presider), Commencement, Faculty/Staff meetings, Homecoming, etc.
- Led the management (\$5 million operating budget) and budgeting of the Detroit Communications & Creative Services Department and the Detroit Communications & Cable Commission. Served on the Budget & Finance Committee task force that restructured city operations to create a consolidated General Services department to reduce operational redundancies and increase efficiencies specifically in vehicle maintenance and transportation.
- Created and led departmental budget review processes in collaboration with the CFO to coordinate budget hearings with each division to present budget goals to the President.
- Created and implemented, under the advisement of the General Counsel, a revision of procurement and transportation policies; executed property contracts pertaining to campus and Benedict-Allen CDC assets.
- Advancing the President's vision, created a Student Affairs, Housing, Enrollment Management and Financial Aid team at Benedict College to develop a tuition-reduction plan. This project also led to implementing strategies to streamline and enhance student and family experiences in housing, admissions, student accounts, and financial aid.
- Realigned housing lease terms for campus off-site housing, which included implementing maintenance fees,

deposits, and criteria for use. The result was an increased in monthly college revenue.

- Led an internal team at Florida Memorial University to expand and identify locations on campus for event rental, including enhanced catering opportunities.
- Led the five-year strategic planning process and implementation approved by the Benedict College Board of Trustees.
- Served the IT, Facilities and Athletics Committees for the Benedict College Board of Trustees. Also appointed to serve on the Committee on Trustees.
- Served as a liaison for the U.S. delegation assigned by the U.S. Secretary of State for the International Conference on Infrastructure and Recovery in Martinique, Dominican Republic in response to the Haiti earthquake.
- Led the Benedict College technology conversion integrating the technological platforms for Business & Finance, Enrollment Management, Academic Affairs and Institutional Advancement. This campus-wide initiative enabled all campus divisions to operate on one seamless platform enabling students to complete registration online, thus streamlining enrollment and financial processes. Realized and achieved budget efficiency via reduction of service duplications, reduced waste, improved customer service for students and families, and most of all, improved staff morale by reducing registration work hours.
- Led a professional team of Residential Housing staff (Benedict College and Dillard University). Used data to drive effective communication with families and students and created an internal financial and capacity dashboard to provide real-time information to the President and Executive team.

Experienced Senior Leadership: Strategic Planning & Funding

- During the restructuring of campus units, selected to lead the Admissions, Facilities, Marketing Communication, Auxiliary Services. During this time the Admissions team achieved and exceeded the admissions budgeted number of students for the first-time in several years, and increasing the number of Louisiana New Students in by 62% from 164 on July 3 to 266 by Aug. 30.
- Led the Dillard University Admissions team in recruiting efforts to meet budgeted goal of 1085 students. By August 30th, the exceeded the admissions budgeted goal (1095).
- Created a profit/loss dashboard for the Dillard University Residential Housing and Budget Director to manage room capacity and revenue in order to work more effectively with Facilities, and effectively communicate with students and families.
- Led campus technology data breach recovery efforts after a ransom ware breach impacted the finance, financial-aid and student account servers. Worked with the local FBI, cybersecurity branch and insurance agents to file insurance claims. Provided to the President, timely reports, recovery budget (including technology equipment) estimates, and timelines toward full restoration.
- Led the Benedict College Emergency & Risk Management Team, a team of faculty and staff members that was also responsible for in drafting and implementing the Benedict Re-Opening Tiger Nation COVID-19 plan. As a result of these efforts, Benedict College was recognized by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and featured on *National Public Radio*. The strategic planning and execution of the team was featured as a reopening “Best-Practice” by the Center for Disease and Environmental Control (CDC) and a case study for the HBCU Emergency Management Workforce Consortium.
- Realigned the T.A. Burroughs Small Business Development & Center for Entrepreneurship to assume management of campus properties by revising housing policies and practices to support campus housing.
- Redesigned the Benedict College T.A. Burroughs Small Business Development Center to create an innovative space that targeted businesses in key growth sectors. The result was a 30% increase in monthly revenue to the college and a 20% increase in incubator occupancy.
- Led the Benedict College Facilities/Physical Plant team realigning the transportation processes which resulted in fuel savings and increased controls to manage costs.
- Led faculty and staff who led Upward Bound, Summer Bridge, and other summer grant programs, to improve fiscal accountability and eliminated financial waste using technology, and as a result, produced more efficient and accurate reporting of summer grant programs.
- Implemented a weekly 30-60-90-day facilities report with associated costs to determine infrastructure repair and construction needs- reviewed regularly with the President and CFO of Benedict College.
- Served as the Co-Chair of the Executive Recovery Operations team and the Recovery and Budget Leadership teams for the City of New Orleans; Managed city funding of the quasi-city agency, the New Orleans Tourism and Visitor’s Bureau (\$1 million budget).

- Led a professional staff of 15 full-time and 30 part-time staff providing marketing, customer service and retention support to the *Montgomery Advertiser* (a Gannett newspaper). Total budget responsibilities \$20million. Provided Circulation Director (and staff) and Publisher weekly budget and forecast reports.
- Created and developed the strategic long-term recovery organizational and strategic plan for the BP-Louisiana Gulf Coast Restoration Organization (BP-LAGCRO); Facilitated the development of the organizational and communications policies and programming for the entire Gulf Coast Restoration Organization (GCRO) which included the states most directly impacted by the oil spill – Alabama, Louisiana, Texas and Florida.
- Served on the Budget and Finance Committees for the City of Detroit and the City of New Orleans.
- Led the national and international strategic communication response efforts for the largest natural and man-made disasters in U.S. history - Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (with Gustav and Ike soon following). Provided executive level communications counsel on policy, operations, fiscal management and strategic communications programs and outreach initiatives, specifically, in the area of disaster recovery communications. Served as the head of the Joint Information Center (JIC) during disaster and emergency incidents
- *Student Innovation Hub*: created a senior-level interdisciplinary course partnering faculty from the T.A. Burroughs School of Business and Entrepreneurship with the professional staff in the Burroughs Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship Center to create design-learning curriculum reinforcing student professional and soft-skill development and supporting project needs of local small business owners.
- Created a Master Class in *Sequential Art*. The Master Class completed projects in partnership with The FORD Foundation, Peleton, Marvel and other commercial clients. This was a successful collaboration with Enrollment Management, Student Accounts, Institutional Advancement, and Academic Affairs.
- *Tiger Cutz, A Cosmetology Maker Space*: A collaboration with Institutional Advancement and Student Affairs to launch a cosmetology makerspace providing opportunities for students to work on campus, receive advanced certifications from master stylists, and work with STEM faculty to design and produce marketable products.
- Currently, serving as a PI on a FEMA Hi-Education Research Grant, 10,000.00. A Grambling State University and the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Communication collaboration. The research investigates emergency management resources and needs at the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). This grant will also pilot a multidisciplinary Joint Information Center: Media & Strategy Lab with students from GSU and ASU.
- Serving as the USDOT HBCU/MSI Technical Assistance and Capacity Building lead to develop and implement TA/Capacity Building initiative to provide technical assistance for HBCUs. In this role, responsibilities also include working with the Offices of Procurement and the Office of Budget and Finance to prepare consultant contract support documents – scope of work, deliverables and budget (estimated over \$1million). Strategic planning process involves facilitating regular discussions with USDOT staff leads from the Office of the Secretary (OST) and the seven Operating Administrations (OA's) that comprise the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- Served as Principal Investigator (PI) on grant award from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to fund T.A. Burroughs Small Business Development & Center for Entrepreneurship a Women's Business Center (BCWBC) and a COVID-19 grant award to assist women owned businesses impacted by coronavirus, totaling over \$550,000 and positioning Benedict College as the only Historically Black College and University (HBCU) to receive a state-wide SBA WBC award. Funding efforts for the WBC totaled over \$1million in the first-year.
- As Chair of the Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation, led the CDC Board and professional staff in the completion of construction and securing financing for the Read Street Housing Development Project - eight, affordable homes ranging from \$130k-\$155k. Led the collaboration with the development partner, the National Community Reinvestment Corporation (NCRC), the City of Columbia and the CDC Board to complete construction and sale of all homes on time and within budget.
- Created tenant leases (a new campus revenue stream) in a market place design managed by an inter-campus team to create the Small Business Retail Incubator Marketplace. Students managed the operations of the marketplace (professional and leadership development, customer service, team building skills). Entrepreneurship opportunities were created for students to compete for retail space to sell original products. Featured article in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* (2021).
- Realigned the BC Tiger Print Shop from a campus-only printing service to an expanded commercial enterprise with a street-front designed and equipped to provide printing and design services for the surrounding businesses. This strategic realignment repositioned the print shop as a revenue generating enterprise servicing the surrounding community as well as partnering with public and private businesses. The Mayor's Office of Economic Development and the local Black Chamber of Commerce served as supporters and advisors.

JURIED CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

- “Crisis Communication in the Public and Private Sector: A Content Analysis of the Gulf Oil Spill Pinpointing Rupture and Capping.” Southwest Education Council for Journalism & Mass Communication (SWECJMC). Denver, CO (October 2014).
- “Media and Policy Framing During Disasters: Which Frame Dominates?” Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management, Higher Education Symposium. Emmitsburg, MD (June 2015).
- “Citizen Framing of Ferguson: Visual Representations on Twitter and Tumblr.” Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication National Conference (AEJMC). San Francisco, CA (August 2015).
- “Courting Disaster: An Analysis of Public Sector Twitter Usage During National Disasters with a Focus on Hurricane Sandy.” Fourth Annual Conference on Governance of Emerging Technologies: Law, Policy and Ethics. (April 2015).
- “Citizen Framing of #Ferguson on Twitter.” The Journal of Social Media and Society 5(3), (December 2016).
- “Twitter in Crisis: How the FAA Used Microblogging During the 737 MAX Crashes and Aftermath. Southwest Education Council for Journalism & Mass Communication (SWECJMC). New Orleans, LA (October 2019).

JURIED & NON-JURIED PANEL PRESENTATIONS

- “Joan of Arc was NOT Noah’s Wife: The Need for Religious Literacy Among U.S. Reporters.” Broadcast Education Association (BEA). Las Vegas, NV (May 2015). Panel coordinator.
- “Reputation Capitol & Crisis Incidents: Strategies to Reduce Reputation “Bankruptcy” Arizona Public Service, PIO Symposium (April 2016).
- “An Analysis of Hurricane Sandy.” International Crisis and Risk Communication Conference. Orlando, FL (March 2017).
- Colonial Life Insurance Co. Diversity Speaker (February 2018, non-juried)
- South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Reopening Colleges & Universities in South Carolina (August 2020) Co-Presenter (non-juried)
- "Leveraging HBCUs for Community Prosperity." BFE: A Philanthropic Partnership for Black Communities Raleigh, NC (Juried proposal accepted, conference postponed due to COVID-19)
- The Center for Disease and Environmental Control (CDC) COVID-19 Response. Developing Your COVID-19 Reopening Plan: A Webinar for Minority Serving IHE’s (October 2020) Co-Presenter (non-juried)
- HBCU Emergency Management Workforce Consortium Presenter Best Practices Reopening HBCUs (May 2020, virtual)
- Redefining Journalism in an Age of Technological Advancements, Changing Demographics, and Social Issues, Co-Author of Chapter titled: “Journalism & Social Justice: Reframing Reporting in Mass Communication, Addressing Journalism’s Contribution to Institutional Racism: Lessons from HBCU Journalism Schools.” San Diego State/IG Publishing.
- Strategic Response: Shaping Images & Identity in a Crisis Context, Arizona State University Walter Cronkite School's Global Initiatives Program in collaboration with the Saudi Journalists Association. Presenter (June 2021)
- White House Initiative on HBCUs. HBCU Week. Panel. “HBCU Resiliency: Better, Stronger, and Prepared” Presenter (September 2021).
- 24th Annual FEMA Higher Ed Symposium. Minority Serving Institutions & FEMA: A Path Forward. National Emergency Training Center (NETC), Emmitsburg, MD. Presenter (June 2022).
- Climate Change & Environmental Justice Symposium. University of Maryland, Department of Public Health. Presenter (June 2022).
- “Telling “our” NOLA Story: Contrasting Narratives of a Cultural Space, Post-Disaster.” National Communications Association (NCA) Convention. New Orleans, LA (November 2022).
- “Stronger Together.” Brown University Leadership Pilot/HBCU Library Alliance. Disaster Emergency Response. Presenter (February 2022).

CEEON QUIETT-SMITH, PhD

- “Climate Resilience Community Engagement Roundtable. Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Panelists. (February 2023).

- **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- FEMA Higher Education Consortium
- HBCU EM Workforce Consortium
- Board Member (2015), Southwest Education Council for Journalism & Mass Communication Assoc. (SWECJMC)
- New Orleans Alumni Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., A Public Service Organization
- Co-Lead, Broma.Brosis (homeless shelter food distribution) Victory Community Church
- The New Orleans Chapter, The Links, Inc.
- Board Member, Blessed 26, Louisiana
- Leadership Montgomery (Alabama)
- Executive Board, The United Way (Alabama)
- Member, Public Relations Society of America
- Member, Association for Education Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC)
- National Communications Association (NCA)

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

(Following Special Recognition Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA

January 23, 2026

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Claayton called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM B: INVOCATION

Invocation was provided by Rev. Mary Moss

AGENDA ITEM C: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was provided by student
announced the convening of the Academic Affairs Committee. Mrs. Ann Smith called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President McMeans

Present: Mrs. Ann Smith – Chair, Ms. Maple Gaines – Vice Chair, Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Mr. Aaron Manzy, and Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert, and Atty Tony Clayton - Ex Officio

Absent: Ms. Zazell Dudley, Mr. Henry Whitehorn, and Chris Masingill

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert and second by Mr. Myron K. Lawson.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

1. Request for Approval to Develop a New Post - master's Certificate Program (PMC) titled Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Program - College of Nursing and Allied Health (SUBR)
Motion was made by Ms. Maple Gaines and second by Chairman Clayton to approve the Action Item E1.

Motion approved

2. Request for Approval to Add Distance Learning as a Mode of Delivery - College of Business (SUBR)
Motion was made by Mr. Myron Lawson and second by Ms. Maple Gaines to approve the Action Item E2.

Motion approved

3. Request for Approval of the Center for Applied AI and Institutional Innovation (CAAI2) (SUBR)
Motion was made by Chairman Clayton and second by Mr. Myron Lawson to approve the Action Item E3.

Motion approved

AGENDA ITEM H: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

NONE

AGENDA ITEM I: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM J: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chairman Clayton to adjourn the meeting.

FACILITIES AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

(Following Athletics Committee)

**J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA**

January 23, 2026

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Facilities and Property Committee. Mr. Donald Ray Henry called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by McMeans

Present: Mr. Donald Ray Henry – Chair, Ms. Maple Gaines – Vice Chair, Mr. Paul P. Matthews, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Atty. Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Dr. Rani Whitfield and Atty. Tony Clayton – Ex Officio

Absent: Ms. Zazell Dudley and Mr. Chris Masingill,

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Atty Edwin Shorty and second by Dr. Rani Whitfield

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Facilities Update (SUS)

Mr. Dawson gave the update and answered questions from board members. Mr. Henry commended Mr. Dawson and thanked him for all his hard work on the projects.

Mr. Henry also thanked the Chancellors for their weather updates during the calls this week.

AGENDA ITEM F: OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM G: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Edwin Shorty to adjourn the meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
(Following Facilities and Property Committee)
J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA

January 23, 2026

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Finance Committee. Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President McMeans

Present: – Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert - Chair, Mr. Myron K. Lawson– Vice Chair, Mr. Reggie Abraham, Atty. Quincy Cawthorne, Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Aaron Manzy, Atty. Domoine Rutledge Mrs. Ann Smith and Atty. Tony Clayton– Ex Officio

Absent: Mr. Chris Masingill

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion by Chairman Clayton and a second by Mr. Myron K. Lawson to adopt the agenda.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA ITEM E: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Southern University System Quarterly Fiscal Health Report (SUS)
2. Interim Financial Report (SUS)

Mr. McClinton gave a summary on items 1 and 2 and there were no questions.

AGENDA ITEM F: OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Clayton requested a financial meeting with the campuses to talk about the cumulative debt. He asked Mr. McClinton to coordinate the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM G: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chairman Clayton to adjourn the meeting.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

(Following Finance Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA

January 23, 2026

MINUTES

The Board Chairman Tony Clayton announced the convening of the Governance Committee. Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert called the committee meeting to order.

Roll Call by President McMeans

Present: Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert – Chair, Atty. Quincy Cawthorne, – Vice Chair, Mr. Aaron Manzy, Atty. Domoine Rutledge Atty. Edwin Shorty, and Atty Tony Clayton – Ex Officio

Absent: Mr. Chris Massingill and Mr. Henry Whitehorn

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Atty Quincy Cawthorne and second by Atty Edwin Shorty

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: ACTION ITEM(s)

Dr. Luria Young and Dr. Hall provided a summary of Action items 1 and 2. After which, there were questions and lengthy discussion around Action Items 1 and 2 between several board members and Dr. Young. There was a motion made by Atty Domoine Rutledge and second by Chairman Clayton to postpone approving the action items 1 and 2 today and deferring the items to future meeting. It was suggested to have follow-up conversation and table to next month on the subjects. Ms. Maple Gaines and other board members recommended this topic be discussed during the board development (30 minutes) in February. President McMeans was asked to review funding.

Motion approved

1. Request for Approval of the Data Governance, Management, and Oversight Policy SUS-8-011 (SUS)
2. Request for Approval of the Umbrella Policy on AI Use, Data Gov., Mgmt. and Oversight, & Web Content Accessibility SUS-8-010 (SUS)

AGENDA ITEM F: INFORMATIONAL ITEM(s)

NONE

AGENDA ITEM F: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM G: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Atty Edwin Shorty to adjourn the meeting.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(Following Governance Committee)

J S Clark Administration Building, 2nd Floor

Baton Rouge, LA

January 23, 2026

MINUTES

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Board Chairman Tony Clayton.

PRESENT

Mr. Reggie Abraham, Atty Quincy Cawthorne, Ms. Zazell Dudley, Ms. Maple Gaines, Mr. Donald R. Henry, Mr. Myron K. Lawson, Mr. Chris Masingill, Mr. Paul Matthews, Atty Domoine Rutledge, Atty Edwin Shorty, Mrs. Ann Smith, Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert, Mr. Henry Whitehorn, Dr. Rani Whitfield and Atty Tony Clayton

ABSENT

Mr. Aaron Manzy

AGENDA ITEM C: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There was a motion to adopt the agenda by Mr. Donald Henry and second by Rev. Dr. Samuel Tolbert.

Motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM D: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM E: RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Rachel Watson read resolutions for the following:

Resolutions

- Kevon Barnes Family
- Frank Boudreaux Family
- Greg Dudley Family
- Melanie Fulloough Family
- Nolan Harris, Jr. Family
- Dr. Marvalene Hughes Family
- Yolanda Theresa Levy Family
- Bertha Ann Lockett Family
- Frank Pitts Family
- Marvin Levell Yates, Jr.

Added by Rev. Dr. Samuel

- Mr. Curtis Brown – graduate of SU

There was a motion by Atty Domoine Rutledge to approve the read resolutions as well as the added name and second by Atty Edwin Shorty.

Motion approved.

AGENDA ITEM F: ACTION ITEM(s)

There was a motion by Mrs. Ann Smith and second by Atty Edwin Shorty approved action item F (1-2) globally.

Motion passed.

1. Request for Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2025, SUS Board of Supervisors Meeting
2. Request for Approval of Committee Reports and Recommendations

AGENDA ITEM G: INFORMTIONAL ITEM(s)

1. Status Update for Food Service RFP (SUS)

Chairman Clayton propose moving the item to the February meeting to allow the vendors to present to the board meeting. He is requesting President McMeans and Mr. McClinton to create a structure for the meeting and consult with board staff to get the information to the board members. There was a lengthy discussion and there were comments from several board members. Atty Rutledge requested a summary in writing of RFP offerings/analysis comparison, etc. Mr. Myron K. Lawson asked to consider SUNO and SUSLA when making recommendations and confirming their needs. It was also mentioned to include SULC in negotiation. President McMeans and Mr. McClinton understood their assignment and responded accordingly. Atty Shorty asked for a breakdown package which includes each campus. It was discussed as to the logistics of the meeting and timeframe.

AGENDA ITEM H: OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM I: ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Rani Whitfield to adjourn the meeting.