



**For More Information, Contact:**

Frank Corder  
Assistant City Manager  
City of Pascagoula  
Phone: 228-938-6723  
Email: fcorder@cityofpascagoula.com

**Pascagoula Mayor Maxwell Comments on Release of State Auditor Report**

*June 5, 2019 (Pascagoula, MS)* – Mayor Dane Maxwell issued the statement below following the release of the State Auditor report dated today.

“On behalf of the City Council and administration, I want to thank State Auditor Shad White, District Attorney Angel Myers McIlrath, the FBI and other associated legal authorities and their staffs for conducting a thorough investigation into the financial crisis this administration discovered and promptly reported in July 2018 when a formal complaint was filed by city officials.

“I also want to thank the Jackson County Grand Jury for their consideration and diligent work on this matter, giving the facts and circumstances a fair hearing.

“Collectively, we are glad to see this investigation conclude and that those responsible for the mismanagement of our tax dollars will be held accountable. We are also happy that the city will be able to recoup those funds lost as a result of the mismanagement by the previous administration through civil penalties, some \$31,500 in lost interest owed to the city.

“As stated by the State Auditor, the mismanagement of funds gave this administration the illusion of a budget surplus when in fact a budget deficit existed.

“I would be remiss if I did not thank my colleagues on the City Council for their integrity and ethical approach to this matter, as well as the city staff for their honesty and work in the face of trying times.

“Make no mistake - challenges remain as the city recovers from this unfortunate episode in our history but this City Council and administration are committed to staying the course and righting this ship. We have taken the steps necessary to ensure our city will be financially and legally healthier as a result of our efforts, and we are happy to say that Pascagoula will be better than we found it as a result of this administration’s diligence and commitment.”

The State Auditor’s Report and Release are attached.

