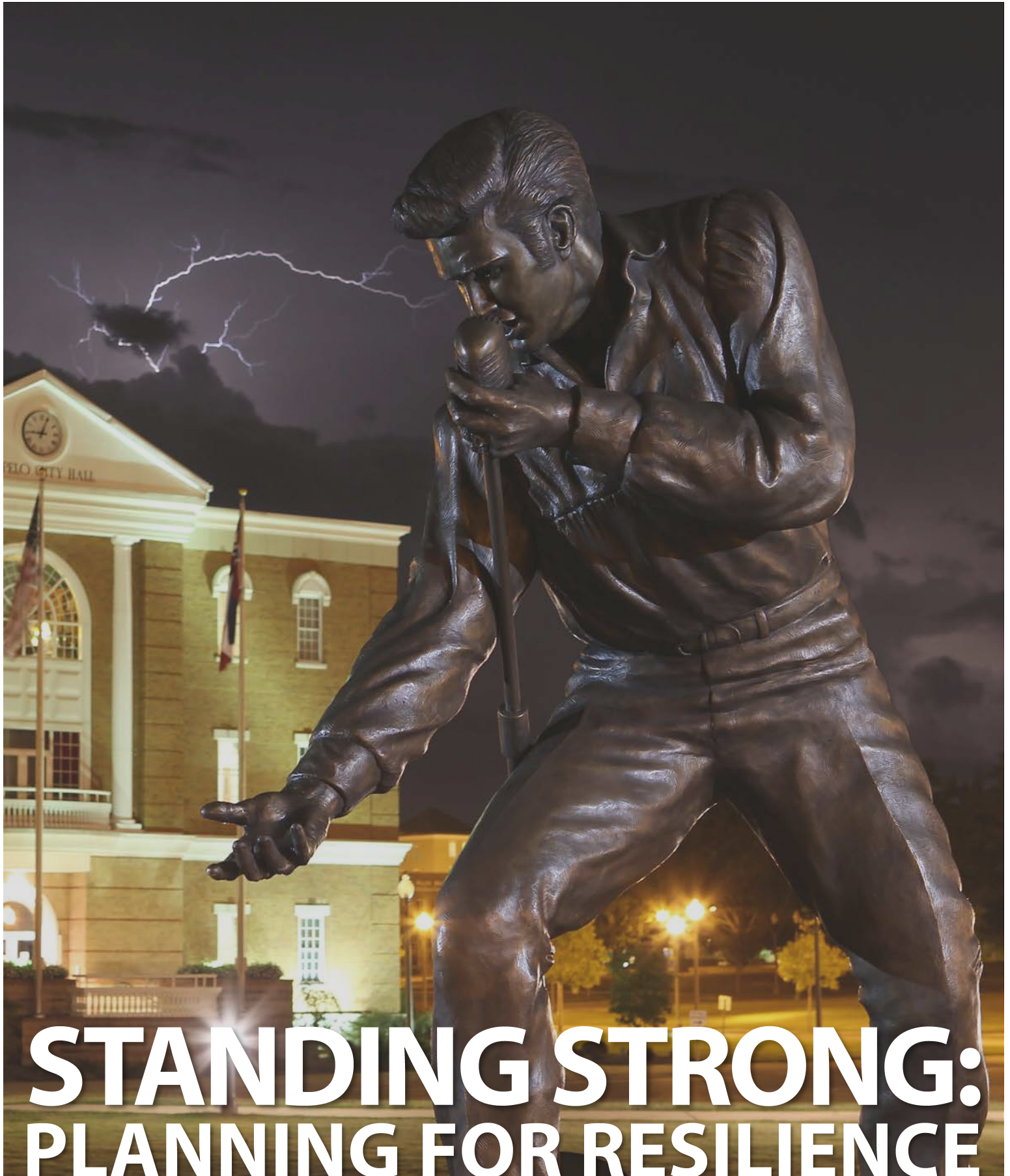




Mississippi & Alabama Chapters of the American Planning Association

# Joint Annual Conference

November 12-14 // Tupelo, Mississippi



# STANDING STRONG: PLANNING FOR RESILIENCE

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Planning Association, we are excited to open registration for our 2014 Annual Conference entitled, "Standing Strong: Planning for Resilience." This gathering of planners is Mississippi's premier planning conference, and is being held in conjunction with the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association, making this our most exciting conference to date!

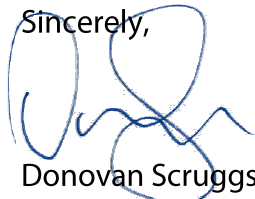
The 2014 conference will be held in Tupelo from November 12-14 at the Bancorp South Conference Center. The conference will involve a series of workshops, interactive sessions, and roundtable discussions led by skilled planners from across the country. With nearly 30 hours of sessions, AICP members will have the ability to acquire up to 12.75 CM credit hours during the three-day event.

Our host city has long been considered a leader in economic development strategies in Mississippi and the region. In recent years the area has made adjustments for the changing economies, and this should be applauded. Now as the area recovers from recent tornados, their resiliency is even more evident in the efforts of the community and the residents. As we look forward as planners, resilience will be necessary, but having the proper plans and policies in place to lessen impacts and optimize recovery efforts will be critical.

At the conference, presenters will provide planning lessons and perspectives from Mississippi and Alabama, as well as across the nation, related to planning in smaller communities, aging in place, economic development, and environmental issues. Sessions on ethics and the law will be provided, and the Chapter will conduct its annual business meeting and review the state of Mississippi's planning initiatives, including the Mississippi Community Planning Assistance Teams, Great Places in Mississippi, and other important planning concerns.

On behalf of the entire team at APA Mississippi, including conference committee chair Shelly Johnstone, AICP, let me extend a warm, personal welcome to all of our APA members from both Mississippi and Alabama, to our allied professionals and guests, and to the many friends of planning, as we plan for a more resilient future at this year's conference. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Donovan Scruggs, AICP  
APA Mississippi Chapter President







# City of Tupelo

Jason L. Shelton,  
Mayor

Greetings,

It is my honor to welcome you to the City of Tupelo. As Mayor, I want to thank you for choosing our "All-America City" for the site of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Planning Association conference. We are so pleased that you have chosen to visit our hometown and experience the hospitality we are so proud of first hand.

## COUNCIL

Markel Whittington  
Ward One

Lynn Bryan  
Ward Two

Travis Beard  
Ward Three

Nettie Y. Davis  
Ward Four

Buddy Palmer  
Ward Five

Mike Bryan  
Ward Six

Willie Jennings  
Ward Seven

I am sure that you will have an extremely busy program, but I do hope that you will all have a little leisure time to enjoy some of the local attractions and hospitality our city has to offer, such as the Elvis Presley Birth Place and Museum, the Tupelo Automobile Museum, the Buffalo Park, Historic Downtown Tupelo and more. Be sure to stop and dine at some of our fabulous restaurants and enjoy some old fashion southern cooking.

On behalf of the City of Tupelo, I want to extend a warm welcome to you thank you again for choosing Tupelo as the site for the 2014 APA conference.

Sincerely,

Jason L. Shelton  
Mayor  
**CITY OF TUPELO**

# CONFERENCE LOCATION

## TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

Tupelo is best known as Elvis Presley's birthplace, but it is also a regional center for commerce in northeast Mississippi. The city was organized in the late 1860s as a railroad town, and its name comes from the Tupelo Gum tree. The "Tupelo Miracle" describes the economic model that has produced great economic gains in the region and is based upon regional cooperation. The location of a Toyota plant in nearby Union County is just another example of working together across city and county lines to achieve economic goals. This model was formed from a four-page plan with leadership from local newspaper man, George McLean. For more information about Tupelo, visit [www.tupelo.net](http://www.tupelo.net).

## CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS

The conference will be held at the Bancorp South Conference Center in downtown Tupelo, just across the street from Fairpark, the city's award-winning brownfields development project. The conference center is located at 375 East Main Street, and is situated between the Hilton Garden Inn and the 10,000-seat multi-purpose Bancorp South Arena, named for the locally-based Bancorp South. Conference sessions will be held in the conference center and the arena.

## HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS\*

Hilton Garden Inn | \$109 a night, plus tax | 662.718.5500 | 363 E Main Street | [www.hiltongardeninn.hilton.com](http://www.hiltongardeninn.hilton.com)

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites | \$109 a night, plus tax | 888.465.4329 | 923 N Gloster Street | [www.ihg.com/holidayinn](http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn)

\*When making reservations, please call and request the APA Mississippi rate.

# THE BOUCHILLON INSTITUTE

The Bouchillon Institute was created to provide basic and advanced training in the comprehensive field of community planning to local planning officials. The training will include the fundamentals of planning and zoning, meeting management, and commissioner ethics. Participants will gain knowledge and a basic understanding of historical, statutory, and constitutional framework for planning and zoning in Mississippi. The session will also discuss what community planning is and why it is important, historical development of community planning, the role of various public bodies in the planning process, and constitutional issues impacting land use planning and regulation.

Planning commissioners and board of adjustment members are invited to participate in the fall training event of the Bouchillon Institute of Community Planning in partnership with APA Mississippi and the Stennis Institute of Government. See registration form for special rates for planning commissioners and board of adjustment members.



# WEDNESDAY **NOVEMBER 12**

## *at the Bancorp South Center*

### **12:00-2:00 PM**

*"AICP Exam Training" by Moe Chowdhury, Ph.D., AICP, Jordan Hillman, AICP, Eric Jefferson, P.E., AICP, & Ed Shambra, AICP (Elm)*

Arrive early for the conference and get prepped for the exam! Experienced planners will provide information that will prepare participants to become a member of AICP. Lunch will be provided, so pre-registration is requested. There is no cost for this session.

### **12:00-4:00 PM**

*Exhibitor set up in the Lobby of the Bancorp South Center*

### **2:00-4:00 PM**

*"Mobile Workshop: Tanglefoot Trail" by Betsey Hamilton, Sean Johnson, Tim Kent, & Mary Jennifer Russell (2 CM) (Meet in Lobby)*

A presentation by the organizers of the Tanglefoot Trail will be followed by an optional 8-mile bike ride on the trail in the town of New Albany, Mississippi. The Tanglefoot Trail is Mississippi's longest rails-to-trails conversion, meandering 43 miles through the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area. Bike ride for those needing rental bikes is limited to the first 20 registrants. Optional \$20 fee includes bike rental.

### **2:00-4:00 PM**

*"Mobile Workshop: Native Son Farms" by Shelly Johnstone, AICP & Will Reed (2 CM) (Meet in Lobby)*

Visit Tupelo's Native Son Farms, a Certified Naturally Grown farm working toward organic certification, and see how the local food movement can improve your economy and the health of your citizens.

### **2:00-5:00 PM**

*"Planning Commissioner Training" presented by APA Mississippi, the Bouchillon Institute, and the Stennis Institute of Government (Sweet Gum)*

Planning commissioners will receive training and insight to the legal, ethical and political nature of the planning commission. The session will include legislative requirements and the history of planning in Mississippi.

### **5:00-6:30 PM**

*On-site registration (Lobby)*

### **5:00-7:00 PM**

*"Student Poster Presentation" at the Tupelo Automobile Museum facilitated by Joan Wesley, Ph.D. (1 Otis Boulevard)*

### **6:00-8:00 PM**

*Social Networking Reception at the Tupelo Automobile Museum (1 Otis Boulevard)*

### **8:00 PM– until**

*Dinner on your own*





# THURSDAY NOVEMBER 13

## at the Bancorp South Center

### 7:00-8:30 AM

Grab & Go Breakfast; Registration (Lobby)

### 8:30-8:45 AM

Welcome by the Honorable Jason Shelton, Mayor of the City of Tupelo (Sweet Gum)

### 8:45-10:00 AM

"Planning for Economic Success" by Ellen McNair, CECd & David Rumbarger, CECd, FM (1.25 CM) (Sweet Gum)

### 10:15-11:15 AM

A: "Commercial Development Incentives for Municipalities" by Ronald Farris, J.D. (1 CM) (Poplar)

B: "Old Stuff = New Dollars: Historic Preservation as Economic Development" by Philip Walker, AICP (1 CM) (Elm)

C: "The Redevelopment of Fairpark & Downtown Tupelo" by Debbie Brangenberg & Trey Hess, P.E. (1 CM) (Sweet Gum)

### 11:15-12:15 PM

A: "Stadiums: Planning a Grand Slam!" by Russ Blount, AIA, & Leigh Jaunsen, AIA (1 CM) (Elm)

B: "A Primer on Municipal Annexation" by Chris Watson, AICP (1 CM) (Poplar)

C: "What Makes Neighborhoods Great?" by Corinne Fox, FAICP & Virgi Lindsay (1 CM) (Sweet Gum)

### 12:15-1:45 PM

Lunch: "50th Anniversary Program & Overview of CPAT Quitman" by Moe Chowdhury, Ph.D, AICP & Donovan Scruggs, AICP (1 CM) (Arena, North Hall); "Awards Ceremony" facilitated by Joan Wesley, Ph.D. (Arena, North Hall)

### 1:45-2:45 PM

A: "You Want to Do What?: Making a Place for Non-Traditional Businesses" by Andy Bauer, AICP & Kelvin Jackson (1 CM) (Poplar)

B: "Comprehensive Plans in Mississippi & Alabama" by Mike Slaughter, P.E., AICP (1 CM) (Sweet Gum)

C: "Tupelo's Resilience: Recovering from the 2014 Tornadoes" by Pat Falkner, Renee Newton, CFM, & David Wammack (1 CM) (Elm)

### 3:00-4:00 PM

A: "Community Resilience & Revitalization through Disaster Recovery" by Denise Bell, Brandon Bias, AICP, & Amber Courtney (1 CM) (Poplar)

B: "Planning for an Aging Community" by Bob Barber, FAICP & Whit Blanton, FAICP (1 CM) (Sweet Gum)

C: "Climate Adaptation: What Can Planners Do? Part 1" by Jay Estes, AICP, Marian Hanisko, & Nikki Pace, J.D. (1 CM) (Elm)

### 4:00-5:00 PM

A: "Presentation Skills for Planners: The Dos and Don'ts of Getting Your Message Across" by Thomas Gregory, AICP (1 CM) (Sweet Gum)

B: "Is Your Planning Commission Doing Its Job?" by Bob Barber, FAICP & Dallas Breen, Ph.D. (1 CM) (Poplar)

C: "Climate Adaptation: What Can Planners Do? Part 2" by Jay Estes, AICP, Marian Hanisko, Nikki Pace, J.D., & Elaine Wilkinson (1 CM) (Elm)

### 5:30-7:30 PM

Reception at the Elvis Presley Center (306 Elvis Presley Drive)



# FRIDAY **NOVEMBER 14**

## *at the Bancorp South Center*

### **8:00-8:30 AM**

*Grab & Go Breakfast; Registration (Lobby)*

### **8:30-10:00 AM**

*"Ethics Case of the Year" by Valerie Hubbard, FAICP (1.5 CM -Ethics) (Arena, North Hall, Rooms 3, 4 & 5)*

### **9:00-10:00 AM**

*"Finding Common Ground: Electronic Message Centers" by David Hickey (1 CM) (Arena, North Hall, Rooms 1 & 2)*

### **10:00-12 NOON**

*"Mobile Workshop: Walking Tour of Fairpark & Downtown Tupelo" by Debbie Brangenberg & Trey Hess, P.E. (2 CM) (Meet in Lobby)*

### **10:15-11:30 AM**

*"Form Based Codes that Work" by Chad Emerson, J.D. & Buddy Sanders (1.25 CM) (Arena, North Hall, Rooms 3, 4 & 5)*

### **10:15-11:45 AM**

*"The Legal Relationships for Community Development: A Case Study of Jackson's Midtown Neighborhood" by Matthew McLaughlin, J.D. (1.5 CM-Law) (Arena, North Hall, Rooms 1 & 2)*

### **12:00-1:00 PM**

*Lunch and Closing Remarks (Arena, North Hall)*

### **1:00 PM**

*Conference Adjourns*

\*Please note: Conference session topics, speakers, and times are subject to change without notice. Certification Maintenance pending for AICP members is 28.5. Credits may be available for other professional organizations although they may be self-reporting.



# CONFERENCE **SPEAKERS**

**BOB BARBER, FAICP**

Bob is a planner and founding partner of Orion Planning Group and is the Region III representative on the AICP Commission.

**ANDY BAUER, AICP**

Andy is the director of planning & zoning for Gulf Shores, Alabama and is chairman of the board for the Alabama Working Waterfront Coalition.

**DENISE BELL**

Denise is the floodplain administrator for the City of Birmingham, Alabama, and formerly worked for the Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments.

**BRANDON BIAS, AICP**

Brandon is a planner for the City of Birmingham, Alabama and currently serves on the Your Town Alabama Board of Directors.

**WHIT BLANTON, FAICP**

Whit is a founding principal of Renaissance Planning Group in Orlando, Florida, and currently represents Region III on the APA Board of Directors.

**DEBBIE BRANGENBERG**

Debbie is the executive director of the Downtown Tupelo Main Street Association and helped orchestrate the master plan for downtown Tupelo.

**DALLAS BREEN, PH.D.**

Dallas is the associate director of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development at Mississippi State University.

**MOE CHOWDHURY, PH.D., AICP**

Moe is an assistant professor of urban and regional planning at Jackson State University and serves APA Mississippi as professional development officer.

**AMBER COURTNEY**

Amber serves as assistant to the mayor in the Department of Community Development for the City of Birmingham, Alabama.

**CHAD EMERSON, J.D.**

Chad is the CEO of Downtown Huntsville, Inc., and previously served as the director of city development for Montgomery, Alabama.

**JAY ESTES, AICP**

Jay is a senior principal planner with Allen Engineering in Hattiesburg, specializing in grant writing and environmental planning.

**PAT FALKNER**

Pat is a city planner and is head of the planning division for the City of Tupelo's Department of Development Services.

**RONALD FARRIS, J.D.**

Ron is an attorney with Farris Law Group and serves as the Mississippi Government Relations Chair for the International Council of Shopping Centers.

**CORINNE FOX, FAICP**

Corinne has fifty-one years of experience in public and private sector planning, most recently serving as the planning director for Jackson, Mississippi.

**THOMAS GREGORY, AICP**

Thomas is the chief administrative officer for the City of Greenwood, Mississippi and currently serves as public information officer for APA Mississippi.

**BETSEY HAMILTON**

Betsey served as chairman of the GM&O rails-to-trails recreational district, which developed the 44.5 mile Tanglefoot Trail in northeast Mississippi.

**MARIAN HANISKO**

Marian serves the NOAA Office for Coastal Management through her position as a coastal management specialist for The Baldwin Group.

**TREY HESS, P.E.**

Trey is the chief of the groundwater assessment and remediation division for the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

**DAVID HICKEY**

David is vice president of government relations for the International Sign Association, and previously worked in various positions on Capitol Hill.



# CONFERENCE **SPEAKERS**

**VALERIE HUBBARD, FAICP**

Valerie is the director of planning services for Akerman, LLP in Tallahassee, Florida and currently serves president-elect of the AICP Commission.

**KELVIN JACKSON**

Kelvin is a planner for Harrison County, Mississippi and formerly worked as a planner for the City of Gulfport, Mississippi.

**LEIGH JAUNSEN, AIA**

Leigh is an architect with Dale Partners in Jackson, Mississippi and is a LEED accredited professional in building design and construction.

**SEAN JOHNSON**

Sean is the director of marketing and tourism for the City of New Albany, Mississippi, and began his career in tourism with the City of Tupelo in 2009.

**SHELLY JOHNSTONE, AICP**

Shelly is a planning consultant with Johnstone & Associates and is the former director of community development for Hernando, Mississippi.

**TIM KENT**

Tim is currently serving his third term as mayor of New Albany, Mississippi, and is a former investigator for the New Albany Police Department.

**VIRGI LINDSAY**

Virgi is the executive director of the Greater Belhaven Neighborhood Foundation in Jackson, Mississippi, a position she has held for 13 years.

**MATTHEW McLAUGHLIN, J.D.**

Matthew is an attorney with Baker Donelson in Jackson, Mississippi, specializing in federal, state and local economic development incentives.

**ELLEN McNAIR, CEcD**

Ellen is the senior vice president of corporate development with the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce in Montgomery, Alabama.

**NIKKI PACE, J.D.**

Nikki is a senior research attorney with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program based at the University of Mississippi.

**WILL REED**

Will is the owner of Native Son Farm in Tupelo, Mississippi and serves as the board president for the Mississippi Sustainable Agriculture Network.

**DAVID RUMBARGER, CEcD FM**

David is the president and CEO of the Community Development Foundation in Tupelo, Mississippi and has served on the board for the CREATE Foundation.

**MARY JENNIFER RUSSELL**

Mary Jennifer is the owner of Sugaree's Bakery in New Albany, Mississippi, whose mission is preserve the heritage of Deep South baking traditions.

**BUDDY SANDERS**

Buddy is the director of community development for the City of Starkville, Mississippi, where he previously served as a city planner.

**DONOVAN SCRUGGS, AICP**

Donovan is the city planner for the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi, where he serves as director of the planning and building department.

**MIKE SLAUGHTER, P.E., AICP**

Mike is the owner of Slaughter and Associates in Oxford, Mississippi, specializing in annexation, redistricting, and comprehensive planning.

**PHILIP WALKER, AICP**

Phil is a principal planner with The Walker Collaborative in Nashville, Tennessee, and is certified by the National Charrette Institute.

**CHRIS WATSON, AICP**

Chris is a partner in the planning consulting firm of Bridge & Watson in Oxford, Mississippi, specializing in annexation, zoning, and eminent domain.

**ELAINE WILKINSON**

Elaine is the executive director of the Gulf Regional Planning Commission, which serves as the MPO for the urbanized areas of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

# CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Shelly Johnstone, AICP (Chair)  
Moe Chowdhury, Ph.D., AICP  
Sherrie Cochran  
Pat Falkner  
Thomas Gregory, AICP

Kelvin Jackson  
Grant Meyer  
Jon Milstead  
Donovan Scruggs, AICP  
Ed Shambra, AICP

## ANNUAL SPONSORS

### BLUE SUEDE SHOES (PLATINUM)

Orion Planning Group



### ALL SHOOK UP (GOLD)

Allen Engineering & Science



### AMERICAN TRILOGY (SILVER)

Bridge & Watson, Inc.

Neel-Schaffer

Slaughter & Associates, Inc.



### BURNING LOVE (COPPER)

The Brick Industry

Engineering Solutions, Inc.

Johnstone & Associates

Mid South Sign Association



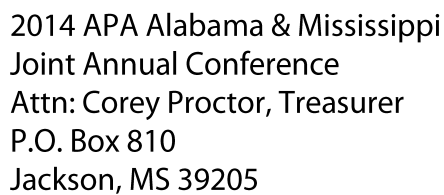
JOHNSTONE & ASSOCIATES



# NOTES







REGISTRATION FORM	Early Registration (before November 1)	On-Site Registration (after November 1)	Amount Enclosed (please fill in below)
APA Mississippi Members	\$130	\$150	
Allied Association Members	\$140	\$160	
Non-Members	\$150	\$170	
Students/Commissioners/Retired Planners	\$35	\$35	
Elected Officials	\$50	\$50	
Mobile Workshop: Tanglefoot Bike Tour	\$20	\$20	
Guest Ticket for Receptions	\$30	\$40	
TOTAL ENCLOSED			\$

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit registration forms to Corey Proctor, APA Mississippi Treasurer, as follows: Fax: 601.583.3575  
Mail: PO Box 810, Jackson, MS 39205 Email: [cproctor@co.forrest.ms.us](mailto:cproctor@co.forrest.ms.us) Online: [www.msplanning.org](http://www.msplanning.org)