

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, each year, Mississippi faces destructive forces from hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding, all of which carry the potential to cause serious damage – or, even worse, total destruction – to private property and homes; and

WHEREAS, following disasters, stressed and strained homeowners are vulnerable to well-rehearsed, predatory practices from dishonest persons fraudulently adding costs to repair or rebuild homes, and

WHEREAS, these predatory practices by some persons generally increase costs to rebuild for insurers and homeowners alike, ultimately driving up insurance premiums on consumers and forcing some insurers to reevaluate their exposure; and

WHEREAS, insurance fraud increases the cost of claims paid by insurers and consumers on average by 5 to 10%; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that an effective public outreach campaign highlight the various types of fraud schemes and provide methods in how consumers can identify and avoid such schemes; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau encourages Mississippians to get at least three written estimates, check contractor credentials, and work closely with insurers during the entire rebuilding process when hiring a contractor; and

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Crime Bureau, in collaboration with its local and state partners in Mississippi, including law enforcement, first responders, legislators, and state officials, are committed to educating Mississippians about predatory practices by dishonest contractors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tate Reeves, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the week of May 22 through 26, 2023 as

Contractor Fraud Awareness Week

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all Mississippians to participate in various programs to raise awareness of unscrupulous and predatory practices.



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

DONE in the City of Jackson on the 9TH day of May in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-three, and in the anniversary of the independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-seventh.

Handwritten signature of Tate Reeves in blue ink.

TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR