

**ORDER DECLARING SOLE QUALIFYING CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF TRUSTEE
FROM THE ADDED TERRITORY OF THE COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
AS THE ELECTED TRUSTEE WITHOUT NECESSITY OF A SPECIAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2025, the Trustees of the Columbus Municipal School District (CMSD) adopted an Order pursuant to *Section 37-7-203(1)* of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* instructing the Election Commission of Lowndes County, Mississippi to conduct a special election for a Trustee elected from the “added territory” of the CMSD with the election to be held on November 4, 2025.

WHEREAS, the Election Commission of Lowndes County, Mississippi set a qualifying period which expired at 5 p.m. on August 21, 2025, with only one individual, Dennis Dupree, qualifying as a candidate to run for the Trustee office to be elected from the “added territory”.

WHEREAS, *Section 37-7-211(3)* of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* states: “If after the time for candidates to file the petition and affidavit provided for in this section there should be only one (1) person to qualify for the office of trustee, then no election or notice of election shall be necessary and such person shall, if otherwise qualified, be declared elected without opposition.”

ACCORDINGLY, the Trustees of the Columbus Municipal School District find that pursuant to *Section 37-7-211(3)* of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*, only one individual, Dennis Dupree, qualified for the office of Trustee from the “added territory” of the Columbus Municipal School District; that Dennis Dupree is hereby declared as elected without opposition and shall take office on January 1, 2026 after being duly sworn in; and that the special called election is dispensed with in accordance with law.

SO ORDERED this 8th day of September, 2025.

ROBERT SMITH, SR., PRESIDENT

ATTESTED:

(S E A L)

DR. JOSIE SHUMAKE, SECRETARY
4897-5255-9715, v. 1