

# Department of Revenue 181-00

# Strategic Plan 2020-2024

## **1. AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Department of Revenue is to be the mechanism for the citizens of the State of Mississippi to fund their public services through accurate collection of revenue, the efficient administration of revenue and licensing systems, and the fair and equitable enforcement of all Mississippi tax laws, rules and regulations.

**Statement of Purpose:** The objective of DOR is to ensure that revenue is available to fund government programs. The Department of Revenue is required by law to:

Administer the Revenue Laws; Ensure Equalization of Property Values; Administer Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Laws; Administer the State's Motor Vehicle Registration and Title Laws.

## 2. STATEMENT OF AGENCY PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Revenue is accountable to all in the collection of revenue according to the provisions of Mississippi law. We will not assess or collect any tax or fee that is not lawfully due. We strive to work with our taxpayers (customers) to achieve the highest level of voluntary compliance.

**Values and Principles:** We strive to efficiently and effectively accomplish the mission with integrity while demonstrating courtesy toward those we serve.

# Efficiently and Effectively:

Demonstrating professionalism, competence, resourcefulness, accountability and taking responsibility for our actions and performance.

# Accomplish the Mission:

Be the mechanism through which the citizens of the State of Mississippi fund their public services.

With Integrity:

Committing ourselves to honest and ethical behavior.

Demonstrating Courtesy:

Honoring diversity and treating all people with respect.

## To Those We Serve:

The citizens and taxpayers of the State of Mississippi.

## 3. RELEVANT STATEWIDE GOALS AND BENCHMARKS

The Department of Revenue indirectly supports **all** of the state's goals through revenue collection for the General Fund and Special Funds. DOR collects 94% of general fund revenue and 42.3% of the special fund revenue collected each fiscal year. These revenues are utilized by other agencies to provide services to the citizens of Mississippi.

All of the core functions of DOR support the state's goal of creating "an efficient government."

### **STATEWIDE GOAL #1 Economic Development:**

To develop a robust state economy that provides the opportunity for productive employment for all Mississippians

#### Relevant Benchmark #1:

State business tax climate (comparison of more than 100 variables across five major areas of taxation: business taxes, individual income taxes, sales taxes, unemployment insurance rates, and property taxes)

DOR activities include taxation, licensing, registration, administration of business incentive legislation, property valuation equalization, audit of county property rolls, industrial exemption review, regulatory duties, technical assistance to county offices, and training of county tax assessors.

### STATEWIDE GOAL #2 Education - Public Schools:

To make available a quality K-12 public education for all Mississippians that prepares them, upon high school graduation, to either enter the labor force with an employable skill or to successfully complete a higher education program

#### **Relevant Benchmark #2:**

Cost

The FY16 state budget appropriated 40% of the General Fund to public education. In addition, DOR collected special funds including more than \$326 million for the Education Enhancement Fund, \$46 million for the School Ad Valorem Fund, \$20 million for the Public School Building Fund and \$5 million for local school districts.

## STATEWIDE GOAL #3 Education – Higher Education:

To make available an accessible, quality public higher education at an affordable cost that prepares Mississippians to become productive, financially self-sufficient members of society while meeting the human resource needs of Mississippi and its employers, including the creation of new jobs through the commercialization of university-based research

#### Relevant Benchmark #3:

Cost to Taxpayers The FY16 state budget appropriates 14.4% of the General Fund to higher education.

## STATEWIDE GOAL #4 Public Safety and Order:

To protect the public's safety, including providing timely and appropriate responses to emergencies and disasters and to operate a fair and effective system of justice

## **Relevant Benchmark #4:**

### Incidence of Crime

A primary component of the mission of ABC Enforcement includes reducing the opportunities for underage people to possess and consume beer and alcohol through an effective enforcement program.

## **Emergency Preparedness**

ABC Enforcement are first responders to emergencies resulting from natural or man-made disasters.

### Judiciary

1.3% of the General Fund is appropriated for the Judiciary.

### Correctional System

6.0% of the General Fund is appropriated for Corrections.

### **Highway Safety**

1.1% of the General Fund is appropriated for the Highway Safety Patrol.

### STATEWIDE GOAL #5 Health:

To protect Mississippians from risks to public health and to provide them with the health-related information and access to quality healthcare necessary to increase the length and quality of their lives

#### **Relevant Benchmark #5:**

Access to Care

.66% of the General Fund is appropriated for Public Health, and 4.0% is appropriated for Hospitals and Hospital Schools. DOR also collected \$7.9 million in special funds related to Hospitals and Hospital Schools and \$11.3 million in special funds for Trauma Care.

## STATEWIDE GOAL #6 Human Services:

To ensure that Mississippians are able to develop to their full potential by having their basic needs met, including the need for adequate food and shelter and a healthy, stable, and nurturing family environment or a competent and caring system of social support.

#### **Relevant Benchmark #6:**

Protective Services Food Assistance Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Vocational Rehabilitation 18.6% of the General Fund is appropriated for Social Welfare. DOR supports services to needy families in Mississippi through recovery of court ordered child support by intercepting tax refunds of those delinquent in child support.

## STATEWIDE GOAL # 7 Natural Resources:

To ensure that current and future generations have access to the state's abundant natural resources through restoration, protection, conservation, and wise development of those resources

### **Relevant Benchmark #7:**

Water Air Quality Land State Parks Wildlife and Fisheries 1.0% of the General Fund is appropriated to Conservation. DOR also collected \$43.4 million in special funds related to Conservation.

### **STATEWIDE GOAL #8 Infrastructure:**

To ensure the construction and maintenance of infrastructure (including roadways, waterways, railways, airports, water and sewer systems, pipelines, electricity lines, broadband connections, public buildings) adequate to meet the needs of citizens and the business community and to foster economic growth

### **Relevant Benchmark #8:**

Transportation State Buildings Public Utilities DOR collected more than \$536 million in special funds for Transportation and State Aid Road.

## STATEWIDE GOAL #9 Government and Citizens:

To create an efficient government and an informed and engaged citizenry that helps to address social problems through the payment of taxes, the election of capable leaders at all levels of government, and participation in charitable organizations through contributions and volunteerism

#### **Relevant Benchmark #9:**

- Administrative efficiency: expenditures on state government administrative activities as a percentage of total operational expenditures
- Average wait time for state government services
- Number and average cost of regulatory actions taken, by regulatory body and type of action
- State dollars saved by providing government services online (e.g. document retrieval, issuance of new business permits, license renewal)
- Percentage of state employees leaving state service within five years of employment

DOR collected over \$8.0 billion in FY 18, including general fund and special funds, designated for the support of state and local government services in Mississippi.

DOR expenditures are less than one cent for each dollar collected (.008 in FY 2018). DOR collected 87.3% of tax dollars electronically and 68% of tax refunds were made by direct deposit.

## 4. OVERVIEW OF THE AGENCY 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Mississippi Department of Revenue is responsible for the majority of revenue generation and collection activities for the State, including taxation, licensing, registration, and the wholesale distribution of alcoholic beverages and enforcement of these activities.

Tax revenues collected by DOR provide support for state operations by funding programs and services that benefit all citizens of Mississippi.

- DOR collected 94% of the State's General Fund for Fiscal Year 2017 and 42.3% of the Special Funds appropriated. More than \$719 million collected by DOR is also paid directly to the municipal and county governments in the state. DOR collected and accounted for \$8.0 billion in total tax revenue derived from over 45 taxes from which collections were transferred to 75 Treasury Funds.
- The Department of Revenue has a relationship with every citizen and corporate entity of this state. Whether paying taxes or registering a vehicle, DOR's customer base is one of the largest of Mississippi's governmental agencies with more than 2 million taxpayers. All persons and corporate entities with tax responsibilities to our state are customers, whether located within our borders or across the nation.

Over the course of the next five years, DOR will focus on a few main priorities:

- Reduce the cost of collecting tax dollars due to internal efficiencies:
  - Explore cost/benefit for outsourcing some DOR functions;
  - Continue to expand services and information offered electronically;
  - Increase voluntary compliance and collections of tax revenue;
- Research and implement new methods to target tax refund fraud;
- Recruit and retain a skilled workforce:
  - Request salary realignment;
  - Request funding for reclassifications;
  - Implement knowledge transfer and training program;
- Continue to implement best known practices to enhance the security of electronic data and systems.

## Reduce the cost of collecting tax dollars due to internal efficiencies

## Explore cost/benefit for outsourcing some DOR functions

DOR is preparing a request for proposal to outsource mail processing in FY2019 and exploring whether outsourcing of the ABC warehouse function would provide a lower cost and operational efficiencies. DOR will move forward with new solutions for both functions if vendor(s) can provide a better process and better results. DOR is also planning a reduction of space in our district offices and removal of the public service counters in each office.

## Continue to expand services and information offered electronically

We will continue implementing best practices to improve our technology platforms, will attempt to increase online availability of property information and continue implementation of strategies to improve taxpayer assistance. This expansion typically reduces costs due to the manpower required to respond to any type of written or telephonic request. If we can provide an effective answer or a way for the taxpayer, permittee or their representative to be able to serve themselves 24/7, we reduce our costs and hopefully have a happier customer.

### Increase voluntary compliance and collections of tax revenue

Increasing voluntary compliance and collections of tax revenue can be accomplished through an increase in taxpayer education and an increase in the presence of DOR. Both Revenue Officers, Auditors and support staff help educate taxpayers through their interactions. When taxpayers see auditors or officers working to increase compliance or when they have a positive experience with other staff in person or over the phone, there is likewise a positive effect on voluntary compliance. This helps DOR collect more tax revenue, whether from existing debt or from new taxpayers. DOR is constantly looking for ways to use data to efficiently collect revenue and locate taxpayers underreporting their tax liability. Communication efforts through social media, applications, website, in person training and printed media will continue to evolve as we find ways to better disseminate information to taxpayers and other stakeholders. DOR is also actively seeking to obtain voluntary collection agreements from online retailers who may not be required by state law to collect sales tax.

## Research and implement new methods to target tax refund fraud

Combatting tax refund fraud has been a focus for DOR for years. We unfortunately expect targeting refund fraud will always need to be one of our objectives. Fraudsters continue to develop new schemes, and we must do our best to keep up with them. Most of the data breaches you see in the news, and many that never receive that type of publicity, offer fraudsters with that data the potential for a tax refund from one or multiple states. DOR regularly meets with other state tax administrators and the IRS to develop and share best practices and works to implement those practices. We analyze the data we receive to discover new fraud schemes.

## Recruiting and retaining a skilled workforce

## **Request salary realignment**

With the FY2020 budget request, DOR plans to make a case for funding the salary realignment recommended by SPB for FY2020 for the DOR specific job classifications. We believe those realignments are needed to recruit and retain a skilled workforce. DOR has implemented performance measures for its employees and is using those measures as we should to monitor employee performance and development.

## **Request funding for reclassifications**

A salary realignment will help us in recruiting employees and retaining the ones we have. To continue to retain those good employees, we also need funding in future years for reclassifications for the employees who have met or exceeded their performance measures. Performance measures will not work long-term if you do not reward productivity.

#### Implement knowledge transfer and training program

To further assist with creating that skilled workforce, DOR plans to develop a comprehensive employee training and knowledge transfer program. As part of this initiative, DOR requested and received approval from SPB in FY2016 to offer educational benchmarks for courses in five tax areas vital to tax collection: Corporate Tax, the Oilfield Service Industry, the Construction Industry, the Manufacturing Industry and Mass Retail. Part of retaining good employees is getting them engaged in the agency's mission. We need to equip employees with the information

and resources they need to do a good job. We expect the training program will become crucial because we have expanded remote working capability.

## Continue to implement best known practices to enhance the security of electronic data and systems

In FY 2015, the position of Chief Security Officer was created at DOR. This change was made to provide better focus and direction for the effort we put toward keeping data secure. Security is everyone's job, but the agency needed someone to lead the effort. There are data breaches in the news almost daily. Because of the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) stored at DOR, we consider ourselves a target, and we must act accordingly. We attempt to take every precaution to protect information in our systems. Due to budgetary limitations, DOR has been unable to procure an intrusion detection and protection monitoring service that we believe is necessary to do the best job of safeguarding taxpayer data. We hope to receive adequate funding for the service in FY2020.

### Implement an Offer in Compromise program for taxpayers

DOR is working to implement an Offer in Compromise program for taxpayers. The program would assist DOR in collecting liabilities for taxpayers who otherwise would not be able to pay their debt and provide a fresh start for those taxpayers.

### **Create Quality Assurance program for employees**

To support the DOR mission, values and principles a robust quality assurance initiative will enhance delivery of agency services and strengthen accountability for actions and performance. The agency is accountable to internal and external customers for efficient and effective service. Our Quality Assurance initiative will enable the agency to focus efforts to deliver superior customer satisfaction. Consistent delivery of superior service requires: trained associates dedicated to continuous improvement, focused management practices, effective communications, objective evaluation of customer's experiences, and expeditious corrective action where appropriate.

To ensure we were focusing on the areas where we needed the most work, we started with a survey conducted in FY2017 by the Stennis Institute of Government. The survey included 5 sets of stakeholders: Legislators, Counties, ABC Permittees, Business Taxpayers and Tax Professionals. The full results have been published on our website http://www.dor.ms.gov/Pages/John-C--Stennis-Customer-Satisfaction-Executive-Report.aspx . The agency is responding by addressing the points in the survey with more than 25% negative feedback first, and will continue to make improvements based on the survey responses. In some cases, the item creating negative responses has already been corrected, but we still need to focus on communicating that information to taxpayers, permittees or other affected parties. We have also developed a 13-point program for managers to help them and their employees focus on the weaknesses identified and emphasize their strengths. DOR hopes to repeat the customer satisfaction survey in 2020 with even better results. In a separate effort to monitor ongoing performance, DOR has implemented a post-audit survey for taxpayers to complete. The feedback received in those surveys will be used in our audit training courses and audit procedures.

## 5. EXTERNAL/ INTERNAL ASSESSMENT:

The management of the MS Department of Revenue is aware of both external and internal influences affecting our ability to reach performance goals. These concerns are based on circumstances outside our control: political conditions, economic conditions, and increased criminal activity.

- The biggest risk to our mission and collection of general and special fund money for the state is whether DOR receives adequate funding and the approval to spend part of that funding to realign or reclassify employees that meet their performance measures.
- Technology has transformed how we conduct business. Effectively and efficiently accomplishing our mission requires us to pursue electronic solutions, modern tools, and technologies. Regardless of how the information is received, either by paper or electronically, the information maintained by this agency must be secured. Security and privacy must be maintained and protected throughout the entire life cycle of the data/information.

There are an increasing number of fraud and criminal cases, a national trend also affecting this state. Criminals are utilizing technology and/or information obtained through identity theft to steal millions from the state each year.

- Once we have funding for them, we will hire for any vacancies in the priority positions of Revenue Officers and Auditors as well as replacing any who leave. These positions will continue to be the priority, but if we do not have funding for them, the result will be lost state revenue and reduced service to the public.
- Legislative raises are important to DOR's ability to retain trained staff. Without legislative raises, an employee who is at the highest reclassification level for their job and for one reason or another has no opportunity for a move to management only has the prospect of receiving a raise if there is a realignment for their job class. Likewise, newer employees still at the first level could potentially have 1-3 years of experience performing a job and would receive the same salary as a new employee. Both of these scenarios lead good employees to look for a new job.
- Strategies to improve compliance require experienced professional and support staff; however, DOR cannot retain enough people to fill the gaps created when experienced people leave. Failure to retain employees once trained directly impacts results. There are too few advancement opportunities for professional staff; we are unable to match or compete with salaries of other State of Mississippi agencies and especially the private sector. This creates difficulty attracting and retaining accountants, information technology personnel, attorneys, revenue officers, and investigators. Inadequate number of persons performing the work adversely affects operational efficiency and effectiveness.

## Independent audits or reports regarding performance goals:

- DOR is required to report annually to the Internal Revenue Service concerning compliance with record keeping, physical security, and systems security of the federal tax information maintained and utilized. On-site review by the IRS occurs every three years. The next on-site review is scheduled for November 2018. The findings from the last review in 2015 were very good for both technical and procedural safeguards. Any failure of this review can result in IRS no longer providing federal tax information. Use of this information provides millions in state tax revenue each year.
- In 2018, DOR contracted with a vendor to perform a System Vulnerability Scan and Penetration Testing. Our overall security posture was rated as good, but that does not mean there wasn't

room for improvement. We will remedy the issues identified and continue to have this type of test performed yearly.

- IFTA (International Fuel Tax Agreement) and IRP (International Registration Plan) audits DOR on five-year cycles for our compliance with the agreements. Both organizations perform comprehensive program reviews of DOR's performance with regard to Clearinghouse reporting, registration compliance, refusing/canceling credentials, and taxpayer audit requirements. Failure to meet mandatory targets can result in sanctions, including withholding Federal Highway Trust Funds.
- The Federation of Tax Administrators Performance Measurements Benchmarking project works to define and evaluate best practices of tax agencies. DOR routinely participates and utilizes this valuable information.
- The Office of the State Auditor performs an annual financial audit of accounting records and tax administration processes for agency performance with regard to internal controls, financial disclosure, and Mississippi law. Additionally, OSA performs an information system audit and a security and contingency planning audit related to DOR performance regarding access and use of its information systems and security of data. In FY2018, OSA also performed a compliance audit.
- The Mississippi Department of Information Technology Systems requires DOR to follow the Enterprise Security Plan and submit an Information Technology Plan annually.
- The Mississippi Department of Finance requires GAAP reporting for the annual Mississippi Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Office of Financial Management requires the annual Internal Control Risk Assessment which is a comprehensive review of transaction controls and process controls throughout the agency.

# 5(A). The agency's internal management system utilized to evaluate performance achievement:

The agency has worked with PEER staff to create an inventory of accountability programs and meaningful performance measures for those programs. The measures, costs and FTEs for those programs were reported to PEER beginning with FY2016 and will continue to be reported annually. The agency also requested high level performance measures in the appropriation bill along with a budget by program hoping to provide more accountability and transparency as to how the agency spends it appropriation.

- Collecting data is the key component to development of performance measurements and the subsequent reporting of outcomes. DOR employs several methods for collecting performance data, primarily electronic tracking and, to a lesser degree, self-reporting by employees.
- MARS (integrated tax management system) is providing more information to track performance. This information not only measures outputs, but helps improve efficiencies with regard to time management and expenses. DOR employees manually collect data when automated systems lack reporting functionality. MARS reports are routinely created by the system and emailed to agency supervisors. Program data is consolidated into a Key Performance Measures Executive Summary each month.

- The Executive Team establishes key performance measurements using information systems data and manual data reported by each program. For our stated program goals, we set objectives or benchmarks we wish to attain. We make sure we have in place the strategies to achieve those objectives and that there are clear measurements that can be monitored to ensure we have the outputs, efficiencies and outcomes needed to determine if our program is functioning at its maximum. If not, we adjust and monitor to arrive at the best possible use of our resources.
- To ensure a focused and cooperative effort, measurable goals/targets are incorporated into employee evaluation standards. Individual duty statements were reviewed and measurable goals established where possible. MARS generates management reports that provide the number of items by task type performed by each employee assigned that duty. The reports also assist supervisors making work assignments or identifying areas where we may need to shift resources.
- Executive and Senior management monitor programs for efficiency and effectiveness through routine reporting and meetings:
  - Weekly Executive Staff meetings are held to discuss areas that are holding up progress or causing a lag in the work process;
  - o Quarterly, extended staff is included in the meetings;
  - IT steering committee meetings are held to ensure continued progress in projects undertaken by DOR; email updates are sent weekly;
  - Executive Staff regularly meets with their management team to review the successful areas and the problem areas, identify what makes the successes, and work out solutions to correct the problems.
  - Month-to-date and year-to-date expenditures reports with budgetary comparisons are created monthly and sent to Executive Staff members for their review.

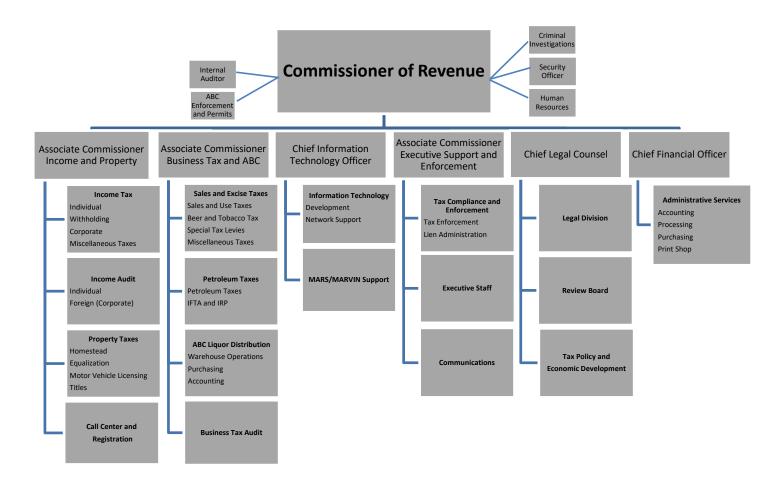
## 5 (A)(3) Organizational Structure:

The Commissioner of Revenue is the Executive Director of the Department. He is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to serve a term of six years. Assisting the Commissioner in administering the duties of the agency are the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Legal Counsel, Associate Commissioner for Executive Support and Enforcement, Associate Commissioner of Income and Property Tax, Associate Commissioner of Business Taxes and ABC, Chief Information Technology Officer, Chief Security Officer, Internal Auditor, Criminal Investigations, Human Resources and ABC Enforcement.

DOR accomplishes its mission through various programs focused on implementing tax laws, processing tax revenue, and providing services to state government and the general public. The agency is an interconnected organization dedicated to continuous improvement.

## **ORGANIZATION CHART**

The following organization chart identifies the basic functional areas that complete the work of the agency:



#### 6. AGENCY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, AND MEASURES BY PROGRAM:

### STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR GOALS:

MCA §27-3-1, et al, creates the Department of Revenue. Authority to perform its functions is found throughout the Code. The more important of those sections that set forth DOR requirements include, but is not limited to, the following:

	Sales Tax §27-65-13	Propane Education §75-57-119
	Use Tax §27-67-5	Compressed Gas §27-59-307
	Amusement or Admissions Tax §27-65-22	Compressed Gas §27-59-49
	Contractor's Tax §21-65-21	Locomotive Fuel §27-59-307, §27-59-321
	Casual Auto Sales §27-65-201	Sea Wall §65-33-47
	City Utility Tax §21-33-201	
	Motor Vehicle Rental Tax §27-65-231	Compressed Gas §27-59-11(3), §27-59-11(4)
	Occupancy Tax, various	International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) §27-61- 20
	Tourism and Economic Development Taxes (78 Levies)	Titles Motor Vehicles and Manufactured Homes §63-21-3
	Waste Tire Disposal Fee §17-17-423(1)	International Registration Plan (IRP) §27-19-143
	Income Tax §27-7-5	Road and Bridge Privilege Tax §27-19-1
	S Corporations §27-8-7	Private carrier of passengers §27-19-5, §27-19-5
	Franchise §27-13-5, §27-13-7	Church or School Bus §27-19-9
	Withholding §27-7-305	Trailer Tags §27-19-17
	Estimate Payments §27-7-319	Dealer Tags §27-19-309(7)
	Withholding Gaming Winnings §27-7-901, §27-7- 903	Registration §27-19-43(3)(a) and (b) Alcoholic Beverages Excise Tax §27-71-7
	Estate Tax §27-9-5	Alcoholic Beverages Permit Fees §27-7-5
	Gasoline §27-55-11	Alcoholic Beverages Mark-up §27-7-11
	Aviation Fuel §27-55-11	Native Wine §67-5-13
	Un-dyed Diesel §27-55-519, §27-55-521	Beer and Light Wine §27-71-307
		Beer Permits §27-71-303
	Dyed Diesel §27-55-519	Tobacco, Cigarettes §27-69-13(a)
	Aircraft Fuel §27-55-519	Other Tobacco Products §27-69-13(b)
	Compressed Gas/Motor Fuel §27-59-11	Non-Settling Tobacco Manufacturers §27-70-5
	Compressed Natural Gas /Motor Fuel §27-59-11	Insurance Premium §27-15-103
	Lubricating Oil §27-57-11	State Fire Academy Tax §45-11-5(1)

Environmental Protection Fee §49-17-407(2)

2020-2024 Five Year Strategic Plan and Measurements

County and Municipal Volunteer Fire	
Department Tax §45-11-5(3)	Installment Loan (Finance Privilege) §27-21-3
Fireman and Police Tax §21-29-229	Non-hazardous Waste §17-17-219
Gaming §75-76-183	Municipal Gas Utility §77-11-201
License Fee (Gaming Manufacturer, Seller or Distributor) §75-76-79	Railroad Regulatory §77-9-493
, -	Statewide Privilege Tax Telephones §27-15-153
License Fee Based on Number of Games §75-76- 191	Statewide Privilege Tax Railroad §27-15-157
Gross Revenue Fee §75-76-177	Statewide Privilege Tax Pipeline §27-15-165
Municipal/County Fee §75-76-195	Statewide Privilege Tax Electrical Company §27- 15-155
City/County Gross Revenue Tax (14 local levies)	
Gas Severance §27-25-703	Utility Regulatory Tax §77-3-87
	Homestead Exemption §27-33-1
Oil Severance §27-25-503	Industrial Exemptions §27-31-101
Timber Severance §27-25-1	
E- 911 §19-5-357	Nuclear in lieu Tax §27-35-309
	Rail Car in Lieu §27-35-515
Prepaid Wireless Charge §19-5-343	Legislative Tag Credit §27-51-101
Fantasy Contest Act Fee §97-33-317	
Henerdeus Meste 647 47 52	TVA in lieu §27-37-30
Hazardous Waste §17-17-53	

# **GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES BY PROGRAM**

## PROGRAM 1: GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

**GOAL A:** Provide legal representation and advice to DOR, human resources support service, administer the tax review board, issue letter rulings and declaratory opinions and provide public relations for DOR

**OBJECTIVE A.1.** Keep DOR positions filled *Outcome:* Percent of positions filled

A.1.1. STRATEGY: Assist DOR managers in hiring and retaining employees

Output: # filled positions

*Efficiency:* Average cost per filled position

**OBJECTIVE A.2.** Hold Review Board hearings as quickly as possible

*Outcome:* Time from appeal to review board hearing <4 months

*Outcome:* Time from review board hearing to order issued <6 months

**A.2.1. STRATEGY:** Provide taxpayers with prompt appeal reviews of DOR actions

Output: Review Board orders issued

*Efficiency:* Average cost per order issued

- **GOAL B:** Provide technology support, return and payment processing, financial reporting and related support services for the agency
- **OBJECTIVE B.1.**Distribute revenues timely and accurately to provide funding for public servicesOutcome:Average days to post return after receivedOutcome:Average days to post a payment after received
  - Outcome: ROI Revenue collected per dollar of expense
  - B.1.1. STRATEGY: Process payments and returns as quickly as possible
    - *Output* : Total number of returns processed
    - Output: Total number of payments processed
    - *Output:* Total amount of payments deposited
    - *Efficiency:* Average cost per return processed
    - *Efficiency:* Average cost per dollar deposited
- **GOAL C:** Provide cost effective facilities, maintenance and resources necessary for agency personnel to properly serve the DOR in accomplishing its mission
- **OBJECTIVE C.1.** Ensure employees have facilities, resources and tools needed to efficiently and cost effectively fulfill the agency's mission

*Outcome:* Maintain rate of growth in costs at or below the growth in tax accounts

C.1.1 STRATEGY: Manage contracts and expenditures to locate cost effective products and solutions *Output:* Number of tax accounts served by DOR *Efficiency:* Cost per tax account

# PROGRAM 2: TAX ADMINISTRATION

**GOAL A:** Fairly and equitably administer the revenue laws that fund state and local government operations.

- **OBJECTIVE A.1.** Improve voluntary compliance with all Mississippi tax laws, rules and regulations by promoting correct and timely reporting and payment of taxes *Outcome:* Average number of days to finish work item/case
  - *Outcome:* Percentage of phone calls answered
  - A.1.1. STRATEGY: Actively manage work item load and shift staff focus when needed *Output:* Work items/cases completed and phone calls answered
    - *Efficiency:* Cost per unit of work (item/case/call)
  - A.1.2. STRATEGY: Actively manage call queues and shift staff focus when needed
    - *Output:* Call Center number of phone calls answered
      - *Efficiency:* Cost per call center call answered

# PROGRAM 3: AUDIT

**GOAL A:** Ensure that taxpayers are accurately reporting and paying their taxes, provide discovery of under-reporting and non-reporting taxpayers and increase voluntary compliance with all Mississippi tax laws, rules and regulations

OBJECTIVE A.1 Identify unreported taxes using best practices from our agency and other states and use technology when possible to find areas or industries who under-report tax due *Outcome:* % of audit goal

*Outcome:* % of audit production goal

**A.1.1.STRATEGY:** Maintain an ongoing program of audit activities that provide a sufficient level of audit coverage

Output: Number of audits conducted

*Output:* Audit Production

*Efficiency:* Cost per audit

*Efficiency:* Production per audit

# PROGRAM 4: TAX ENFORCEMENT

**GOAL A:** Enforce the tax laws administered by the Department of Revenue relating to taxpayers filing returns and paying liabilities, and identifying non-registered taxpayers

**OBJECTIVE A.1:** Employ best practices in revenue officer actions and in use of technology to collect finally determined liabilities by determining the most collectible debts and best collection action to take based on the age, timing and taxpayer for the debt

*Outcome:* Recovery per dollar expended

- *Outcome:* % phone calls answered
- *Outcome:* % of bill items resolved

A.1.1. STRATEGY: Maintain percent of bill items closed above 4.6% of total bill items

- Output: Dollars collected in recovery actions
- *Output:* Number of phone calls

Output: Number of bill items resolved

- *Efficiency:* Cost per dollar collected in recovery actions
- *Efficiency:* Dollars collected per bill item closed

# PROGRAM 5: PROPERTY AND MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES

**GOAL A:** Ensure equalization of property values through the state and ensure all motor vehicle registration and title information is accurate

**OBJECTIVE A.1.** Accurately report property values and homestead exemptions

*Outcome:* Percent of homestead applications denied based on review by DOR staff

A.1.1. STRATEGY: Review Homestead application data for compliance

Output: Number of homestead applications received

*Efficiency:* Cost per homestead application

**OBJECTIVE A.2.** Ensure the integrity, security and availability of vehicle information *Outcome:* Average number of titles issued per day

A.2.1. STRATEGY: Process title applications as quickly as possible

Output: Number of titles issued

*Efficiency:* Cost per title issued

# PROGRAM 6: ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL

- **GOAL A:** Administer the Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Laws providing the state with an effective regulatory system for alcohol
- **OBJECTIVE A.1.**Ensure timely and accurate delivery of alcoholic beverages to permitted businesses*Outcome:*Shipping error rate*Outcome:*ROI GF dollars returned per dollar of cost

A.1.1 STRATEGY: Keep shipping errors to less than 2%Output:Number of cases shippedOutput:Number of cases receivedOutput:Total amount of payments depositedEfficiency:Cost per case shipped

OBJECTIVE A.2.Process permit applications as quickly as possible<br/>Outcome:Outcome:Average number of days to issue permitA.2.1 STRATEGY:Keep average days to issue permits below 40<br/>Output:Output:Number of permits<br/>Efficiency:Enforcement and Permitting cost to issue permits