

Information for WTOK Television interview with Garrett Shehan –
Scheduled for today, October 17, 2000 from 5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. at the WTOK studio –
This total process should take no more than 30 minutes.

When you arrive at the Studio, Michael Bentley will be there to meet you. You will have a 5-minute interview, which will run on tomorrow's morning show.

They will then take you to another location at the studio to get a longer interview for a series they are running in the month of November on the budget process.

Notes on the budget –

- We are making sure that the people of Mississippi have strong schools quality health care options and safe communities and homes.
- We have made our people's priorities – our priorities.
- Good education, quality health care and public safety top the list of priorities in the executive budget recommendations we presented to the Legislative Budget Committee.
- For the first time, we presented our budget to the Committee at the beginning of the budget process
- We have taken a progressive approach to budgeting that includes more accountability and fewer excuses.
- We have given the Committee a complete budget that is accountable and meets the needs of our people.
- We have shared with them our priorities for funding, and we have given them a plan of action to implement the budget.
- We were disciplined in forming our budget, focusing on the greatest areas of need in our state.

- 8.25% growth rate – too optimistic for FY'01
- We must stabilize our budget.
- We must set our priorities.
- We must be responsible in our spending.
- We have the support of our agency directors.
- We will maximize federal funds.
- Working with the Legislature in the budgeting procedure lends our process credibility.
- We are focused on providing quality services for the people of Mississippi while placing an emphasis on efficiency.
- We intend on meeting the needs of our people so they can enjoy a good quality of life right here in Mississippi.