



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
SHAD WHITE
STATE AUDITOR**

To the Members of the Committee:

My understanding is that Brett Favre is testifying before you tomorrow about his ideas for reforming Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. I am told that, in his written testimony, he makes disparaging, false statements about me and my office.

Though I was not given a copy of his testimony or offered the chance to respond, I did want to provide some materials to explain, in part, how Mr. Favre fits into the Mississippi welfare scandal.

My office found in a 2020 audit that nearly \$100 million of federal welfare funds were misspent by the Mississippi Department of Human Services. Favre Enterprises received some of that money, and Mr. Favre knew he was seeking money for people in “shelters,” in his words.

He knew he was seeking “state money.”

And he wanted to keep this “confidential.”

Here is his 2017 text message with Nancy New, who has pleaded guilty to multiple felonies in this case:

university will figure out some things as well. As long as we can use the money any way we choose somehow. Will the public perception be that I became a spokesperson for various state funded shelters, schools, homes etc..... and was compensated with state money? Or can we keep this confidential

It will be confidential that you are accepting payment. Totally. Zach, my accountant, John Davis and I are the only ones that will have that information on this end.

2017-07-31 06:44:11

Ok perfect. I'll send you my CPA Bobby Culumber

Favre repeatedly asked about keeping the transactions “confidential.”

Thanks

2017-07-31 07:11:02

So if we keep confidential where money came from as well as amount I think this is gonna work

Favre also asked New, “If you were to pay me is there anyway the media can find out where it came from and how much?”

I thought you deserved to know these facts if Mr. Favre offers testimony contradicting his text messages. Moreover, I believe Mr. Favre should be asked why he wanted these transactions kept hidden.

Finally, I close by noting this case has not been easy on me or my family. Mr. Favre allegedly claims in his written statement that I am telling you about this scandal for my political benefit. I can assure you it's not convenient, socially or politically, to tell the public a hard truth about a Hall of Fame quarterback in my home state. I've received threats. Someone working for Mr. Favre came to my house to intimidate my wife. Mr. Favre's frivolous lawsuit against me has cost my family thousands of dollars.

But the information above is the truth, taken from Favre's own texts, and the truth is still important. Seven people have pleaded guilty in this case, and the public needs to know

everything that happened. I would be happy to discuss this case with the Committee at any time.
Thank you for your public service to our country.

Shad White
State Auditor of Mississippi