



Mississippi Counseling Association  
A Branch of American Counseling Association  
Serving Mississippi since 1950

MCA  
PO BOX 353  
LONG BEACH, MS 39560

ELECTION 2020 SPECIAL ISSUE

## MCA Officer Candidate Process:

This year we are voting on candidates for **President Elect -Elect** and **Treasurer**.

- The **President Elect** is responsible for coordinating conference programs and has the opportunity to shadow the President and Strategic Planning Committee in order to learn the role and continue the forward progress towards MCA's mission and goals.
- The **Treasurer** works closely with the Executive Director and accountant to manage the day to day checks and balances of MCA finances. This position requires a good mind for detail and numbers.

The MCA Executive Board approved electronic voting to allow all members the opportunity to vote for state officers. I will post a link to review the candidate's pictures and credentials by August 15th for your convenience.

On September 1, 2020 members will have the opportunity to sign in and vote for President Elect-Elect and Treasurer. Voting will be open until 5:00 p.m. on September 30, 2020. The winners will be announced at opening general session of the MCA Virtual Fall Conference on Wednesday morning.

Please make sure you take the opportunity to select your choice for MCA's future leadership.

*Carolyn Anderson*

Executive Director

**Now for a look at this year's candidates!**

THE COMPASS

## Candidate for President Elect-Elect

### Juawice McCormick



Juawice McCormick has practiced as a professional counselor for over 25 years and has been extremely fortunate to have had the opportunities to practice in different realms. She has practiced as a professional school counselor, worked as a counselor in community mental health and in the college counseling setting.

Dr. McCormick has worked as a Counselor Educator and served as a Board-Qualified Supervisor for Mississippi licensure and as a university site supervisor for counselors-in-training. She is the Assistant Director of the University Counseling Center at The University of Mississippi. Her current counseling and supervision practice is online and she is a Board Certified Telemental Health provider.

Juawice currently serves as Treasurer for MCA. As she nears the end of the first year of her term as Treasurer, it has been a year of learning more about MCA and working to be a good steward of the association's resources. It has been a meaningful experience working alongside members to provide the best services possible to the counselors of Mississippi. She is also a member of MSCA, MACES, and MLPCA. Dr. McCormick has also served as a member of the Mississippi Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors, ultimately serving that body as Chair during her final two years on the Board. These ultimate service experiences, along with her practice experiences, have affirmed her identity as a professional counselor.

Dr. McCormick believes she can continue to be of service to the counselors of Mississippi as President Elect-Elect. Her counseling service experiences, along with her professional counseling experiences, will inform her practice as President in the 2022-23 year and in the next two years, as she learns and prepares for the office. Juawice has always believed in collegiality and relationships, which are defining, central elements of the MCA culture.

2020 has been a year of challenges and changes for all of us and the years to come will bring even more challenges and changes. Juawice believes that together we will navigate these challenges and changes. She believes that together we will embrace a hopeful, bright future for the counseling profession and for us individually as professional counselors, and for the Mississippi Counseling Association.

## Candidate for President Elect-Elect

### Heather Norton



Heather Norton is passionate about how school counselors improve and encourage student success by addressing personal, social, academic, and career development, which provides an excellent educational opportunity for all students. This educational opportunity is a product of dedicated teachers, administrators, counselors, parents, and community stakeholders. Mrs. Norton is currently the school counselor at Sumner Hill Junior High School in the Clinton Public School District. She has 25 years' experience, seven as a math teacher, with a degree in Math Education from Mississippi State University, and 18 as a school counselor. She is currently pursuing her P-LPC License.

Heather Norton is a National Certified School Counselor and a National Certified Counselor. She received the 2017-2018 Mississippi School Counselor of the Year. In 2016, her school counseling program was awarded RAMP status for delivering a comprehensive, data-driven program based on the American School Counseling Association National Model: A Framework for School Counseling Programs.

Realizing how school counseling makes an increasingly positive impact in our schools, she earned her Master's in Education in Guidance and Counseling from Mississippi College and an Educational Specialist in School Counseling from Delta State University. She believes that as a school counselor, it is our professional and ethical obligation to continue to learn how to serve our current student needs with an ever-changing culture. Mrs. Norton considers herself a leader at her school that promotes and enhances a positive learning environment for all students to succeed and also understands the need to advocate for the school counseling profession. She has had the opportunity to give several presentations to faculty, parents, students, and fellow counselors and educators.

To promote the school counseling profession, Mrs. Norton writes a blog titled *Growing School Counselors*, with the focus of helping other school counselors understand the role they play in the success of all students. She has served as the Mississippi School Counseling Association's Secretary in 2015 and is currently serving as the Mississippi School Counseling Association's President. Her other interests consist of spending time with family and their two dogs. Heather is married to Clay Norton, a teacher and coach at Clinton High School and Adjunct Professor at Mississippi College and Belhaven University. Their daughter, Breana, is a Junior at Mississippi State University.

## Candidate for Treasurer

### Ebonee Dorsey



Dr. Dorsey is a school counselor in the Lawrence County School District. Currently, providing services at 2 schools: Rod Paige Middle School (main school), and Monticello Elementary. Dr. Dorsey has a PASSION for working with students.

Dr. Dorsey attended Mississippi College and earned her Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication, Master of Education in School Counseling, Education Specialist in Counseling and in December of 2017, She earned her Doctorate in Professional Counseling.

After receiving her bachelor's degree at Mississippi College, Dr. Dorsey followed her calling into counseling. Before joining the Lawrence County School District, Dr. Dorsey worked for Tougaloo College and Clinton Public School District.

Dr. Dorsey has been a school counselor since 2013. She is currently serving as the Middle/Junior High Vice President of the Mississippi School Counselor Association, MCA Conference Awards Chair, past secretary of the Magnolia Region, 2018-2019 MCA Emerging Leader, and 2019 MCA School Counselor of the Year. She is also a member of the American Counseling Association (ACA), American School Counseling Association (ASCA), and Board of Directors for Mississippi Association of Middle Level Education (MAMLE).

Dr. Dorsey truly believes that she was called to be a School Counselor. She loves working with students and helping them become productive and well-rounded citizens. Dr. Dorsey is extremely honored to run for Treasurer in order to continue to serve MCA and the counseling profession.

## Candidate for Treasurer

### Kendall Daniels



Kendall Daniels is excited to have the opportunity to run for the position of Treasurer for the 2021-2023 term. She wouldn't be the counselor she is today without the Mississippi Counseling Association.

When she started graduate school at The University of Southern Mississippi in May 2016, MCA was one of the first topics on the first day of class by her professors. Kendall was (and still is) so excited to be a part of such a wonderful professional organization. During her first year of graduate school, she joined the Mississippi Counseling Association, along with the Mississippi School Counselors Association, and the Pine Belt Counseling Association.

After attending her first MCA Conference that year, Kendall was hooked and knew that she wanted to be a bigger part of the organization and be more than just a member. By the end of her first year as a graduate student, she was elected as the Student Liaison for the Pinebelt Region and the Membership Chair for MCA. During her second and final year of graduate school, Kendall was selected as the Editor of The Compass.

After Kendall graduated with her Masters in 2018, she started working at Puckett High School in Rankin County. Looking back, she is so thankful that she was an active part of our wonderful organization during graduate school. Kendall gained so much knowledge during conferences and several new friends and colleagues. MCA and its members helped push Kendall to ensure that Puckett received the best counseling program possible, and in 2019, she was nominated and selected as MCA's New Counselor of the Year. Being selected was such an honor and it continued to fuel my passion of being more than just a member of the Mississippi Counseling Association.