

Restrictions on the use of Wireless Devices July 1, 2006

- Before a wireless communication device may be assigned, issued or made available to an agency officer or employee, the agency head, or his designee, shall sign a statement certifying the need or reason for issuing the device.
- No officer or employee of any state agency, except for an officer or employee of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, shall be assigned or issued more than one such wireless communication device.
- No officer or employee of any state agency to whom has been assigned, issued or made available the use of a wireless communication device, the cost of which is paid through the use of public funds, shall use such device for personal use.
- A state agency shall not reimburse any officer or employee for use of his or her personal wireless communication device.
- Every state agency that, at the expense of the state agency, assigns, issues or makes available to any of its officers or employees a wireless communication device shall obtain and maintain detailed billing for every wireless communication device account.
- A list of approved vendors for the procurement of wireless communication devices and the delivery of wireless communication device services shall be developed for all state agencies by the Mississippi Department of Information Technology
- The department (*University*) shall promulgate a model acceptable use policy defining the appropriate use of all wireless communication devices. The acceptable use policy should specify that these resources, including both devices and services, are provided at the state agency's expense as tools for accomplishing the business missions of the state agency; that all those resources are for business use; and that more than incidental personal use of those resources is prohibited.
- The acceptable use policy should require that each official and employee issued one of the above devices or authorized to access one of the above services sign the policy and that the signed copy be placed in the personnel file of the official or employee.
- The acceptable use policy should also require that the use of these resources be tracked, verified, and signed by the official or employee and the supervisor of the official or employee at each billing cycle or other appropriate interval.
- All state agencies shall adopt the model policy or adopt a policy that is, at minimum, as stringent as the model policy and shall provide a copy of the policy to the department.
- All state agencies shall purchase or acquire only the lowest cost cellular telephone, pager or personal digital assistance device which will carry out its intended use.
- The State Auditor shall conduct necessary audits to ensure compliance with the provisions of this section.
- This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2006.