



BOB RILEY  
Governor

BILL NEWTON  
Acting Director of Finance

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE  
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

RSA UNION  
100 North Union Street, Suite 220  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2602  
Telephone (334) 242-7050  
FAX (334) 242-2440

MICHAEL G. HUDSON  
Acting State Comptroller

August 28, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: Chief Fiscal Officers

From: Michael G. Hudson *MGH*  
Acting State Comptroller

Subject: Open Checkbook on Open.Alabama.Gov

In compliance with the Governor's Executive Order 46, and in anticipation of compliance with Act 2009-750, beginning September 1, 2009 all expenditures (account type 22 and 23 only) will be posted in a searchable database on the internet at <http://open.alabama.gov/spending.aspx>. The website will initially contain all expenditures since October 1, 2007, and will be updated daily.

The website will allow searching by agency, category (major object), and payee. The public will also be able to drill down to see the sub-category (sub-object), date paid, and transaction number of the individual documents. At the detail transaction number level the fund name, purchase order, budget year, and accounting year will be displayed as well. The information selected at any level may be downloaded to an Excel spreadsheet or a PDF report.

This unprecedented level of transparency will lead to an increase in the number of requests for information. The Comptroller's Office can answer questions concerning the operation of the website but will not attempt to answer questions about agency finances nor the individual expenditure transactions posted. Questions about the expenditures posted will be directed to each agency. Sufficient detail about the individual transactions is available on the website to enable your agency to research and answer any questions which arise.