

“President Saunders is responsible to the Board of Trustees for every facet of institutional operations”

“A chain of command clearly lays out the responsibility and authority of an organization. There should be no doubt in anyone's minds as to who they report to and who is in charge.” ([Click here](#) to read more.)

And that's exactly what the Institutions of Higher Learning [impose on the President](#) of The University of Southern Mississippi.

“Appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), the President of The University of Southern Mississippi is charged with serving as both the chief executive officer and principal educational officer. In general terms, the President is responsible to the Board of Trustees for every facet of institutional operations.”

Note that “the President is responsible to the Board of Trustees for every facet of institutional operation.” It does not say, “the President is responsible to the Board of Trustees for every facet of institutional operations, **except for Samsung Tablets transactions.**”

President Saunders certainly enjoyed the public relations kudos when she handed out the Samsung Tablets to chosen students and university personnel. Now, she wants to disown her behavior as if she never participated in the decision to purchase or take credit for the “gifts.”

Mr. Bounds, if the misconduct and incompetence related to the Samsung Tablets transactions is serious enough to oust Provost Robert Lyman, Chief Information Officer Homer Coffman, and Procurement/Contract Services Director Mike Herndon from their administrative positions, the misconduct and incompetence is serious enough to retire President Saunders, too. The chain of command at USM ends with President Saunders and she is “responsible to the Board of Trustees for every facet of institutional operations.”