

making what is arguably a leisure visit to Atlanta seem more like a legitimate, work-related trip. Of course, the presence of Bailey supports the leisure argument, as does sources' hypothetical where Saunders and Bailey travel by USM plane to Minneapolis to watch a "National Football League production" by another prominent USM alum (i.e., Brett Favre). Most anyone would, of course, judge a trip by Saunders and Bailey to Minneapolis to watch the Minnesota Vikings, and former USM quarterback Brett Favre, play a football game as leisure, not work. By Saunders' apparent logic, a Saunders-Bailey (air) trip to Las Vegas to watch former USM Chi Omega sorority member, Trishelle Cannatella, also [one of USM's most prominent former students](#), participate in a World Poker Tour event would also qualify for USM (Mississippi taxpayer) financial support. Of course, not recording the name of the "prominent alum" in the invoice above only adds fuel to the arguments made here by USMNEWS.net sources.

To some, at least, the USM plane is clearly being used by Saunders to keep the proverbial home fires burning, [much like](#) the **\$330,000** taxpayer-funded [renovation](#) to *the master bedroom suite* of the USM president's mansion on Jamestown Road. Using the plane [for visits](#) to Pensacola, where Saunders and Bailey have [a beach home](#), also raise the eyebrows of many in the USM community. As many have remarked over the past several months, leasing an airplane on the eve of a national economic crisis, that ultimately brought with it some of the worst fiscal difficulties in recent Mississippi history, revealed a lack of acumen on the part of the USM administration. Revelations like those via official invoices only serve to show, according to sources, how selfish that same administration can be at times.