

Dear Leader:

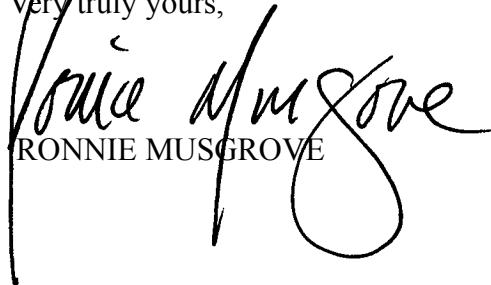
Measuring and evaluating your organization's success has intrinsic rewards, and your stakeholders benefit from those successes in many ways. An opportunity has been created to gain a high level of visibility for your accomplishments. Your achievement is linked in many ways to the overall success and reputation of Mississippi. The following four awards have been fashioned:

- Governor's Business Achievement Award – Large Business,
- Governor's Business Achievement Award – Small Business,
- Governor's Education Achievement Award – K-12, and the
- Governor's Education Achievement Award – Higher Education.

With the Mississippi Quality Awards (MQA) program, the Governor's Achievement Awards will provide special recognition for organizations that can demonstrate the most significant recent improvements. By sharing with the MQA Panel of Judges, an overview of your organization and the success achieved in either financial and market results or in student learning results, your achievements will be compared to others within your category from across the state. The winners will be recognized during a ceremony on March 26, 2004.

I invite all business and educational organizations in Mississippi to take this opportunity to receive some much-deserved recognition. Application information can be obtained from the programs and initiatives link at: <http://www.governor.state.ms.us> or by calling 601-359-3110 or 601-432-6480. Applications are due before December 31, 2003.

Very truly yours,



RONNIE MUSGROVE