

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 867

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

WHEREAS, Deanna Elizabeth Wade, Mississippi Department of Corrections No.67366, was sentenced on February 17, 2000, in Claiborne County, Mississippi, to serve eight years for the crime of manslaughter, with credit for approximately five months served following her conviction and prior to posting bond during appeal; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Supreme Court reversed the conviction of Ms. Wade for murder for the reason that the circumstances demonstrated that Ms. Wade, involved in brutally abusive four year relationship with the victim Ralph Simpson, had been severely beaten by the drunken victim immediately prior to the shooting, and remanded the case for sentencing for the crime of manslaughter; and

WHEREAS, three Justices of the Mississippi Supreme Court dissented in an opinion by Justice Mike Mills from the imposition of what they considered an excessive sentence, eight years, stating that the facts of the case supported a verdict of self-defense; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wade has served three and a quarter years in the penitentiary, has been a model inmate who has successfully completed a series of courses and has served as a tutor to other offenders; and

WHEREAS, the ends of justice would be served through a commutation of the sentence of Deanna Elizabeth Wade to time served,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, under and by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of this State, do hereby grant unto Deanna Elizabeth Wade, Mississippi Department of Corrections No. 67366, a commutation of sentence to time served as of noon, December 24, 2002.

I do authorize and direct you, upon receipt of this Executive Order, to take notice and be governed accordingly.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Jackson, this the 23rd day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand and two, and of the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE