

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Lisa S. Mader

(601) 359-3227

Governor Appoints Five Member Parole Board

Jackson, Miss – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today appointed five members to the State Parole Board. The board has the exclusive responsibility for the granting of parole, the exclusive authority for revoking parole and investigates clemency recommendations upon the request of the Governor.

Parole Board appointees are Patricia Miller of Bay St. Louis, Donald “Pete” Pope of Gautier, Marilyn Starks of Shelby, Morris Scott of Hernando and Kareem West of Natchez. Pete Pope will serve as chairman of the board.

“I have great confidence in the men and women who will serve on the State Parole Board,” said Governor Musgrove. “Their job is to make fair and impartial decisions when granting parole or the revocation of parole for offenders, and I know they will make their decisions in the best interest of the people of our state as we work together to make our streets safer for all Mississippians.”

With the passage of House Bill 1383 this past legislative session, the parole board now also has the duty to review all cases where an offender was denied parole and any eligibility for reconsideration for parole for at least one year after denial. The board will also have the responsibility to grant parole to an offender diagnosed with a terminal illness subject to the approval and consent of the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections and the Medical Director of the Department of Corrections.

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