

Mississippi Development Authority
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MCLAIN CERTIFIED BY AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Monticello, Miss. – Paul McLain, Executive Director of the Lawrence County Community Development Association and Chamber of Commerce in Monticello, earned the designation of Certified Economic Developer (CED) at the March 31, 2001 administration of the exam in Baltimore, Maryland.

With six years of economic development experience, McLain has assisted in the location of six new industries, three industrial expansions and four major commercial development projects in Lawrence County. He received the Ray and Jimmy Heidel Leadership Award from the Mississippi Economic Development Council in January 2001. He is also a Certified Community Developer (CCD) and a graduate of the Community Development Institute at the University of Central Arkansas and the New South Economic Development Course at the University of Southern Mississippi. McLain is Vice Chairman of Building Organizations for Leadership Development (BOLD) and Co-Chairman of Habitat for Humanity, Lawrence County.

The CED designation recognizes the professional economic developer and sets the standard for excellence within the profession of economic development. Candidates must pass a rigorous three-part certification examination which tests knowledge, proficiency and judgment in key areas of economic development. An individual must have at least five years of full-time professional employment in economic development, plus credits for professional activities, higher education or accredited courses, to qualify to sit for the examination. There are currently more than 700 CEDs throughout the United States and Canada.

The American Economic Development Council is the largest and oldest international economic development society serving more than 3,000 economic development professionals worldwide.

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