

Mississippi Development Authority  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VICKSBURG CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU AWARDED TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

JACKSON, Miss., January 8 – The Vicksburg Convention and Visitors Bureau has been awarded a \$69,388.29 tourism development grant for their 2001 media campaign, announced J.C. Burns, Executive Director, Mississippi Development Authority today.

Applications submitted by Mississippi Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce with a designated Tourism Council or Commission, or established tourism Councils with the primary objective of promoting tourism were reviewed by a five-member Tourism Advisory Council Grants committee. The committee is composed of the President or their representative for the Hotel/Motel Association; Mississippi Restaurant Association; Mississippi Travel Association plus two additional members recommended by the Chairman and appointed by the Director of the Mississippi Development Authority.

“The matching grants program empowers local communities to partner with the State in promoting Mississippi,” said Renee Ebner, Grants Coordinator for the Tourism division.

Projects are awarded funds that must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the applicant. The next deadline for submitting grant applications will be September 1.

The goal of the matching grants program is to generate increased travel into and/or within Mississippi. Projects must have a broad appeal, targeting markets beyond the local area and make an economic impact on the area through tourism promotion.

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