

For Immediate Release

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Governor Makes Appointments To State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove appointed Raymond Dearman of Hattiesburg, James Kopf of Jackson, Shannon Tidwell of Ripley, and Bill Waters of Tupelo to the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors for an unexpired term ending April 8, 2006.

"Our investment in Mississippi's infrastructure demands strict oversight from qualified professionals, and these individuals are professionals in the strongest sense of the word," said Musgrove. "Their commitment to both their profession and state will be demonstrated by their service on this board."

Dearman is the President of Shows, Dearman, and Waits, Inc. of Hattiesburg. He received his bachelors of science degree from the University of Mississippi in Civil Engineering. He received his commission as Second Lieutenant upon graduating and retired from the Mississippi National Guard after 20 years with the rank of Major. He has 40 years of experience in all phases of civil engineering projects and serves as County Engineer for Forrest County. Dearman is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, American Consulting Engineers Council, American Water Works Association, and the Mississippi Engineering Society. He and his wife Lee, have three children.

James H. Kopf is the Chief Engineer/Deputy Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation. He has served MDOT for 35 years. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He is a licensed Professional engineer and a licensed Professional land surveyor in Mississippi. He serves on various national transportation committees including the American Association of State Highway Officials' Standing Committee on Highways and the ASSHTO Study Committee on Quality. Kopf is also a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers and the Mississippi Engineering Society. He is married to the former Susie Smith of Banner, Miss., and they have one daughter.

(Tidwell)

(Waters)

The duties and responsibilities of this board include to safeguard life, health, and property and to eliminate the practice of the unfit; to process and act on application for registration; to hold written examinations; to publish roster of registrants; to adopt rules,

policies, and a Code of Conduct; and to take appropriate disciplinary actions against persons violating the statutes of the Code of Conduct.