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## **Governor Musgrove Salutes Mississippi's Veterans**

(Jackson, MS) –Today, Governor Ronnie Musgrove paid tribute to veterans, the men and women of the United States Armed Forces, and members of the Mississippi National Guard.

“As Veterans Day approaches, it is important that we stop and recognize veterans and the men and women of our nation’s armed forces,” said Musgrove. “These men and women are answering the call of our country to defend the principles of freedom and justice that are the foundation of the United States.”

Celebrate America! is an event to honor our state’s veterans and current members of the armed forces. Tribute was paid to the seven Mississippi servicemen who have given their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Mississippi’s Congressional Medal of Honor recipients were also awarded the Mississippi Medal of Honor by Governor Musgrove for their heroism.

Governor Musgrove also paid tribute to Congressman G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery for his work and dedication to America’s veterans.

“Whether passing legislation in the House of Representatives or traveling to Vietnam to visit troops, Congressman Montgomery has been an unwavering friend to America’s servicemen and women,” said Musgrove.

Mississippi currently has approximately 4500 active national guardsmen and reservists. Of the 2200 active guardsmen, approximately 1500 are stationed in Iraq and Kuwait. Mississippi has more than 225,000 veterans living in the state.

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