

**For Immediate Release**

June 27, 2003

**Contact:** John Sewell

601-359-2916

## **Governor Musgrove Awards Grant to Carthage**

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove has awarded the City of Carthage a grant in the amount of \$249,146 through the Mississippi Rural Impact Fund (RIF) program. The funds will be utilized by HiSAN, Inc.

“I will continue to fight for jobs in every part of Mississippi,” said Musgrove. “By investing in the infrastructure of our communities we are building a stronger economy and a better way of life for all of our citizens.”

The Mississippi Rural Impact Fund is supported by the issuance of up to \$10 million in general obligation bonds. Funds will be used to provide grants or loans to rural communities in support of economic development efforts, and to guarantee loans on behalf of rural businesses.

Under Musgrove’s leadership and during a national recession, more than 2,000 new and expanded facilities have opened, creating more than 50,000 jobs and a total business investment of over \$14 billion. Mississippi has been listed as one of the top ten states for new and expanded facilities and as one of the top ten states for small business survival. The January 2003 issue of *Expansion Management* magazine ranked four Mississippi cities in its survey of America’s 50 hottest cities for business expansions.

###