

**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact:** John Sewell

601-359-2916

## **Governor Musgrove Appoints Graves and Carlson to Supreme Court**

Jackson, MS – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today announced his appointments to fill vacancies on the Mississippi Supreme Court created by the resignations of Justice Mike Mills and Justice Fred Banks. The resignations of both Mills and Banks are effective October 31.

Musgrove has appointed James E. Graves, Jr., of Jackson to the seat vacated by Banks. George C. Carlson of Batesville will replace Mills on the court.

“I want the people of Mississippi to receive the justice promised by the Constitution, and these two men will ensure that justice is provided,” Musgrove said. “Each of them has built distinguished judicial careers. They will serve the citizens of this state well.”

Graves comes to the bench from the Circuit Court of Hinds County, where he has served since his appointment in February 1991. A graduate of Millsaps College and Syracuse University College of Law, Graves also has a masters of public administration degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse.

Carlson has served as Circuit Judge for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District since 1983. Prior to serving as a judge, he had been in private practice for ten years. Carlson received his undergraduate degree at Mississippi State University and his law degree at the University of Mississippi.

“The qualifications of Judge Graves and Judge Carlson are impeccable. Their commitment to the judicial system and fairness from the bench is evident,” said Musgrove. “This is a good day for the people and the justice system of this state.”

The appointments were well-received around the state. Former Supreme Court Justice Reuben V. Anderson stated that Musgrove had “responded effectively with his appointments.” Bill Yates, of W. G. Yates & Sons Construction in Philadelphia, commented that the appointments sent “a very positive signal beyond our borders.”