

For Immediate Release

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Governor Musgrove Requests Disaster Declaration, Public Assistance for People of Mississippi

(Jackson, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove today sent a letter to President George Bush requesting a major disaster declaration for Mississippi as a result of storms that affected certain areas of the state last month. Musgrove specifically requested Public Assistance for Coahoma, Quitman, Tallahatchie and Panola Counties, to help rebuild roads and bridges damaged by flooding and damaging winds.

“I want to ensure we are able to rebuild the damaged roads and bridges as soon as possible, so the people of the affected counties can get their lives back to normal,” Musgrove said. “The severe weather we’ve experienced this spring has dramatically affected our resources for recovery and rebuilding.”

Musgrove’s letter stated that the May storms “exacerbated flooding already helped along by prior rainfalls that had saturated the ground, therefore increasing runoff into area streams and rivers. Overall, the northern portion of Panola County, central portion of Coahoma County, northern section of Quitman County, and nearly all of Tallahatchie County received 250 percent above normal rainfall during May 2003.”

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