



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TRUDY D. FISHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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MDEQ STAFF RECEIVE EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT AWARD

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Executive Director Trudy Fisher and Human Resources Director Terri Torrence received an Excellence in State Government Award today from Governor Phil Bryant. The Excellence in Government Awards are presented by the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

“Our state is fortunate to have 30,000 men and women dedicated to making Mississippi a better place for all of us. They are the public servants that provide public safety, make sure our air is healthy to breathe and our waters safe for fishing and swimming, they teach us boating safety, protect our public health, build our bridges and highways, and protect the most vulnerable in our society. The list is endless.

“Every one of these men and women is an asset to our state. Too often it seems Mississippi’s work force is viewed as an ‘expenditure’ rather than an ‘asset.’ Not only is our work force an asset, it is our only renewable resource.

“One of our state’s employee who falls into this category is MDEQ’s Human Resources Director, Terri Torrence. While I am honored to receive an award today, I am more excited for Terri. She has

launched many innovative initiatives at MDEQ including the ATLAS staff training program launched in 2007 which has grown to four classes. Success truly breeds success as our training programs for new employees grew out of that program--Onboard and 3G. I owe Terri a huge debt of gratitude for having the courage to walk into the office of a new director and start a meeting with one of my favorite phrases, 'I have an idea.'

“Providing our employees opportunities for leadership development, growth as a people, and renewing the mind, soul and body is the right thing to do. And, I couldn't be more proud that these efforts are recognized and can serve as models for other public servants,” said Trudy Fisher.

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