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**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**DELBERT HOSEMANN**

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July 27, 2009

Mr. Don Allee  
Executive Director & CEO  
Mississippi State Port Authority  
P.O. Box 40  
Gulfport, MS 39502

Dear Don:

I know this is an exciting time for you and the Port Authority as you prepare for the renovation and restoration of the Port of Gulfport after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. The Port is vital to the continued economic recovery of the Gulf Coast. Your facility is Mississippi's transportation window to the Americas and the world.

The Secretary of State's office offers our whole hearted support to this project. Port restoration will allow future development and growth for the Coast and all of Mississippi. This will bring substantial employment opportunities and revenue to our State. As you know, we intend to feature the Port in the State's Statistical Book this year as an example of the opportunities and assets our State offers.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance in this major project for the Port Authority. I look forward to working with you in the support of this project and others along the Coast.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Delbert Hosemann  
Secretary of State

CDH, JR/me