## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## GOV. PHIL BRYANT APPOINTS PELICIA HALL COMMISSIONER OF MDOC

JACKSON – Gov. Phil Bryant announced today that he has appointed Pelicia Hall commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Corrections.

Hall replaces Marshall Fisher, who was recently appointed commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety.

Hall has served as interim MDOC commissioner since late January. Previously, Hall served as Fisher's chief of staff.

In her role as commissioner, Hall will oversee more than 2,200 employees, three state prisons, three private prisons, 15 regional facilities, 10 community work centers, three technical violation centers and four restitution centers.

"Pelicia's previous experience within the Department of Corrections has made it clear that she is the perfect choice to lead the agency," Gov. Bryant said. "I know she will continue her outstanding service to the people of Mississippi, and I am delighted she has agreed to accept this appointment."

Hall is former lead counsel for the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics. She has 15 years of legal experience in the government and private sectors in a wide variety of disciplines.

She has litigated cases in federal and state courts and served as both a special assistant United States attorney and as a special assistant attorney general with the Office of the Mississippi Attorney General. The MDOC was one of the agencies she represented during her nearly three years as a state attorney.

Hall assumed the state position after six years with the private Jackson law firm of Page, Kruger & Holland, where she litigated cases involving personal injury claims, employment discrimination, contract disputes, products liability, premises liability, insurance coverage and general tort litigation.

She learned about both civil and criminal matters as a law clerk for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi and Hinds County Circuit Court.

Hall clerked two years for Circuit Judge Tomie Green.

A graduate of Mississippi College School of Law, Hall was the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award in Real Estate Finance & Development.

She earned her bachelor of arts degree from Alcorn State University, where she graduated cum laude in political science.

Hall is admitted to practice in Mississippi and before the United States Court of Appeals and the United States District Court.

She is a member of the Mississippi Bar Association, National Bar Association, Magnolia Bar Association, Capital Area Bar Association, Mississippi Women Lawyers Association and the American Bar Association.