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State Fire Marshal

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Mississippi Insurance Department  
Jackson, Mississippi  
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2/19/09 A Pettigrew: The cost benefit study contract is expected to be awarded next week, and it is expected to be completed in 90 days. Using lessons learned from a similar program in Florida, it will identify things we can do around our homes that will pay for themselves with cost savings from insurance premium reductions.

## **MID Receives \$1 Million Grant for Wind Mitigation Study**

Jackson –The Mississippi Insurance Department’s (MID’s) Wind Mitigation Program took a major step forward today with Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney’s announcement that the department has been awarded a \$1 million grant from the Mississippi Development Authority and Governor Haley Barbour’s office.

The grant will be used to fund a hurricane home mitigation study that will pave the way for \$25 million in hurricane home mitigation assistance for Gulf Coast homeowners.

“The key to recovery on the Mississippi Gulf Coast is jobs. Without jobs we don’t have people and without people we don’t have homes and without homes we don’t have an economy. The coast must build to codes, have proper land use and mitigate homes to withstand hurricanes. This grant is the first step,” Chaney said.

Chaney credits Governor Haley Barbour, Rep. Michael Janus (R-Biloxi), and the Gulf Coast Legislative Delegation for their assistance in helping MID obtain the grant.

The study will begin shortly and is expected to be completed by hurricane season.

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