



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Vincent Recognized as "Top Cop" by Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce recently recognized Sonny Vincent of Meridian as their "Top Cop." The Mississippi Center for Police and Sheriffs, the Central Mississippi Crime Stoppers Board, along with many private supporters, collaborated with Jackson metro and state law enforcement agencies to memorialize and honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty and honor those who serve today. Vincent and others were recognized during a luncheon held in Jackson where many area and state agencies named their "Top Cop." Robert Jordan, Director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau stated, "Our Agency looks forward to this opportunity each year to recognize one of our investigators who has done an outstanding job. Sonny Vincent has demonstrated time after time that he is not only capable of facing the challenges of the job, but he is also sensitive to the Mississippians who have fallen victim to agricultural crime."

Agriculture Commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith added, "The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau is a vital part of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce as they protect our farmers and rural communities. Due to the expertise and commitment of Sonny Vincent and our other investigators, the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau continues to successfully have a farm theft recovery rate twice that of the nation's average."

Vincent has served with the Agricultural Theft Bureau since 2000 and has a combined 28 years experience in law enforcement. Vincent is responsible for investigating agricultural-related crimes in the Agency's District 6 which is comprised of nine counties in East Central Mississippi. The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau is responsible for enforcing state laws pertaining to the theft of livestock, agricultural and aquacultural products, and implements and for investigating these violations.

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Photo attached.

Cutline for photo:

Sonny Vincent (center) was recently recognized as the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau "Top Cop." Recognizing him was Cindy-Hyde Smith, Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, and Robert Jordan, Director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau.



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