

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

MAYOR JOHNNY L. DuPREE, Ph.D.

Johnny L. DuPree has over 30 years of experience in public service. In 1987, he was appointed to the Hattiesburg Public School Board, where he served as secretary and president. Following his School Board appointment, Mayor DuPree was elected in 1991, 1995, and 1999 as Forrest County Supervisor in District 4. Mayor DuPree's tenure as supervisor paved the way for being elected as the first African American Mayor in 2001. He is currently serving in his fourth term as Mayor of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. In 2007, he was elected to serve as President of the Mississippi Municipal League.

During his fifteen years as Mayor, he has helped bring over \$30 million of federal and state funding to Hattiesburg for housing and infrastructure development. Other projects Mayor DuPree has implemented are programs such as the Mayor's Financial Education Initiative, which has brought in more than \$5 million for low to moderate income families, the Municipal Workers Program, the Hattiesburg Behavioral Court, the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council and the Employee Health Clinic.

Mayor DuPree holds a bachelor and master's degree from The University of Southern Mississippi in Political Science. He received his doctorate degree in Urban Studies from Jackson State University. Mayor DuPree is a member of the Gamma Beta Phi Society and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

He and his wife, Johniece, have been married for 44 years and have two daughters, April and Monica. They have two grandsons, Chandler DuPree Taylor and Chesney DuPree Taylor, and son-in-law, Coustaur Taylor.