

Justice Graves to teach at Millsaps and participate in Lovett Elementary program

January 14, 2005

Mississippi Supreme Court Justice James E. Graves Jr. will serve as an adjunct professor at his alma mater, Millsaps College, this semester.

Justice Graves will also be a participant in the "Man to Man" breakfast at Lovett Elementary School in Clinton at 7 a.m. Jan. 25. Justice Graves attended Lovett Elementary when he was growing up in Clinton.

Justice Graves will teach a class titled "Law and Society" at Millsaps College. The first session met Wednesday, Jan. 12. The evening class is filled. About 35 students registered, Justice Graves said.

The course is designed to be an examination of the relationship between law and society, or the interaction of legal and social variables.

Justice Graves said, "I hope to give students some insight into and understanding of law and its application in the everyday lives of citizens in our democracy."

It is Justice Graves' first time to teach at Millsaps College. He has previously served as an adjunct professor at Jackson State University. He has taught at Harvard Law School and at Syracuse University College of Law.

Justice Graves received a B.A. degree in sociology from Millsaps College. After working at the Department of Public Welfare for almost two years, he enrolled at Syracuse University College of Law, where he received his law degree. He also holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

He worked as a staff attorney at Central Mississippi Legal Services, and as a special assistant attorney general. He headed the Human Services Division of the attorney general's office, where he served as chief legal counsel to the Mississippi Department of Human Services. He later was director of the Division of Child Support Enforcement of the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

He was appointed by Gov. Ray Mabus in February 1991 to serve as Circuit Court Judge of the 7th Circuit District. He was appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court by Gov. Ronnie Musgrove on Oct. 29, 2001. He was elected to a full eight-year term on Nov. 2, 2004.

#####

Media Contact: Beverly Pettigrew Kraft, Administrative Office of Courts, 601-354-7452