## Mississippi Public Service Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## PSC CENTRAL DISTRICT COMMISSIONER DE'KEITHER STAMPS ENCOURAGES CITIES, COUNTIES AND RESIDENTS TO PREPARE FOR WINTER STORMS BY ELIMINATING DEAD TREES

JACKSON, MS (January 8, 2024)— As colder temperatures are upon us, Central District Public Service Commissioner De'Keither Stamps is urging cities, counties and residents to take proactive measures in ensuring their safety and the safety of their communities. One of the most effective ways to prepare for winter storms is by identifying and eliminating dead trees on private properties.

Dead or decaying trees pose a significant risk during severe weather conditions, such as heavy snowfall or high winds. These trees are more susceptible to falling or losing branches, which can cause damage to homes, vehicles, power lines and infrastructure. By removing dead trees, residents can greatly reduce the risk of accidents and property damage during winter storms. Common indicators include bare branches, loose or hanging bark, cracks in the trunk and fungal growth. If any of these signs are present, it is recommended to consult with a professional arborist for further evaluation and guidance on tree removal.

"I emphasize the importance of early action and encourage cities, counties and residents to inspect their properties for any signs of dead or dying trees," Commissioner Stamps said. "Our goal is to prioritize their safety and the safety of others before the onset of winter storms. Together, we can create safer and more resilient communities throughout our state."

For media inquiries or to schedule an interview with Commissioner De'Keither Stamps, please contact: (646) 671-2229 or email <u>dekeither.stamps@psc.ms.gov</u>.

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