



PRESS RELEASE

June 27, 2008

Laura Davis Chandler is stepping down as the President and CEO of the Gulf Coast Renaissance Corporation. Chandler was hired in March 2007 after a nationwide search by the corporation's founding organization, the Gulf Coast Business Council. As Renaissance's first president, Chandler took on the formidable task of creating a comprehensive strategy to help remove obstacles to making housing affordable for the workforce of South Mississippi.

"I have been honored to be a part of such a visionary group with an unparalleled commitment to South Mississippi," said Chandler. "This experience has been phenomenal and I wouldn't trade it for the world, but it is time for me to follow a new path that God has put before me and I look forward to the challenge."

Over the course of the last 15 months, Chandler has overseen the development the REACH Mississippi program, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Development Fund and the Renaissance Builder & Developer Guild - all of which are set to launch within two months

"Laura is a tremendous asset and we have been thrilled with the passion and creativity she has lent to Renaissance," said Renaissance Chairman Anthony Topazi. "She showed brilliance in putting these programs together. It is a testament to her forward thinking and ability to see all the intricacies involved in programs of this magnitude that we will be able to move forward as scheduled."

Renaissance's Board of Directors will begin a search for Chandler's replacement immediately.

Chandler was married last week and will spend some time settling in with her new husband and his two children, but will continue to provide support to Renaissance to ensure a smooth transition in leadership.

