

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E



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## **PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA GRANTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO THE RIVER PARISHES**

In March 2007, the Port of South Louisiana and the River Parishes –St. John, St. James, and St. Charles- formed an economic development coalition called the River Region Economic Development Initiative (RREDI) to develop strategies to further the economic growth and diversification of the river region. The economic development departments of the Port and the River Parishes have historically had a strong commitment and working relationship to attract and secure new industry and additional commerce to the area.

At the end of 2009, the Port of South Louisiana adopted a resolution to award each of the River Parishes \$15,000.00 for the specific purpose of promoting economic development. The grants were presented to each parish President during separate ceremonies at their respective council meetings.



*Commission President Louis A. Joseph presents award to acting St. John Parish President Pat McTopy*



*Executive Director Joel T. Chaisson presents award to St. James Parish President Dale Hymel*



*Commission Secretary Raymond Fryoux presents award to St. Charles Parish President V.J. St. Pierre, Jr.*

The Port of South Louisiana, a 54-mile port district on the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, is the largest tonnage port in the Western Hemisphere. The cargo it handles accounts for over 50 percent of all Louisiana imports/exports.

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For more information about the Port of South Louisiana or this particular topic, please contact Alexandra “Alex” Hernández, Public Information Director, at (985) 652-9278 or [ahernandez@portsl.com](mailto:ahernandez@portsl.com), [www.portsl.com](http://www.portsl.com).