

TOWN OF MATHISTON
P.O. BOX 178
MATHISTON, MISSISSIPPI 39752
662-263-4898

April 14, 2025

Senator Trent Kelly

Dear Senator Kelly,

I am Mayor Jimmy Carden of Mathiston, Mississippi. My letter today is in response to our current water crisis in Mathiston. Our system is made up of two elevated water tanks and two deep wells. Currently one of our wells is inoperable and is not able to be repaired. This has caused us to have no other choice but to declare a State of Emergency for the Town. We serve about 550 meters in the city limits and we sell water to a neighboring community system with 100 meters.

We are not financially able to afford even the band-aid solution much less funding for a new well at this time. Not to mention being able to address our full need of two wells because our other well is over 40 years old. We also have one of our elevated tanks that will lose its acceptable status in two years and due to its lead paint content will have to go out of service.

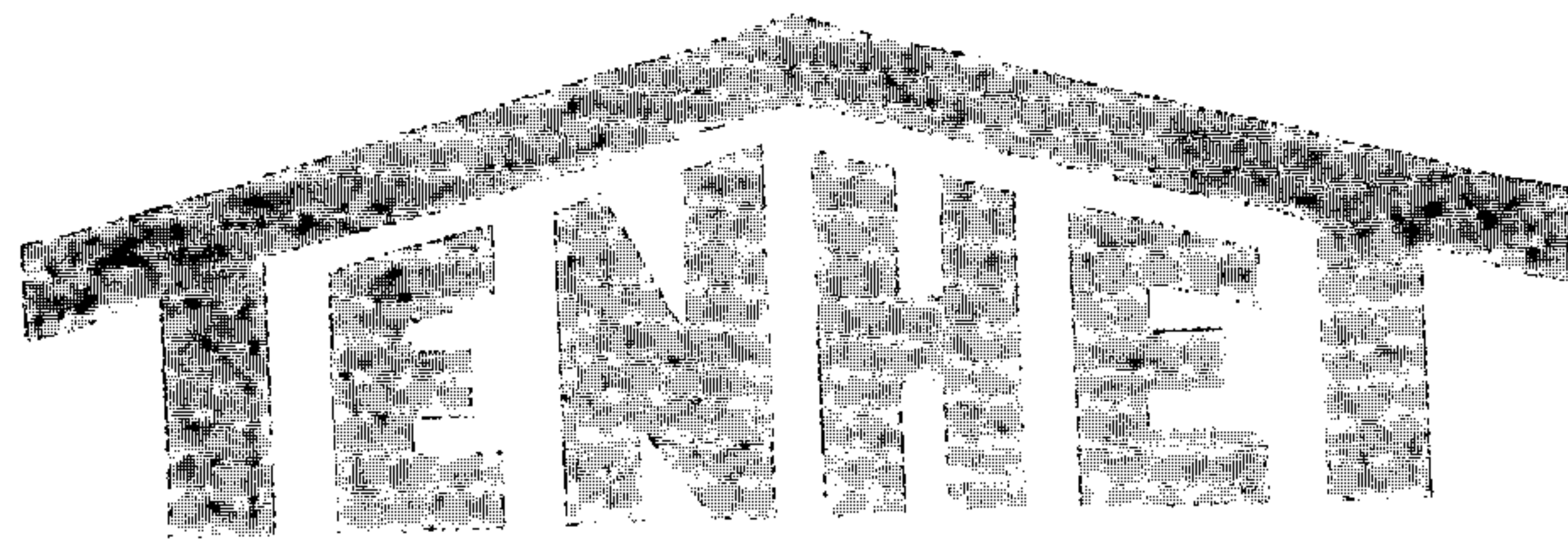
We are asking for your help in this matter and trust that you will certainly hear our cry and do all that is possible to help meet the needs of a small rural town of 1000 people in North East Mississippi.

All of your help will be greatly appreciated in this very serious situation.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jimmy P. Carden". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jimmy P. Carden
Mayor



APPRAISALS • REAL ESTATE

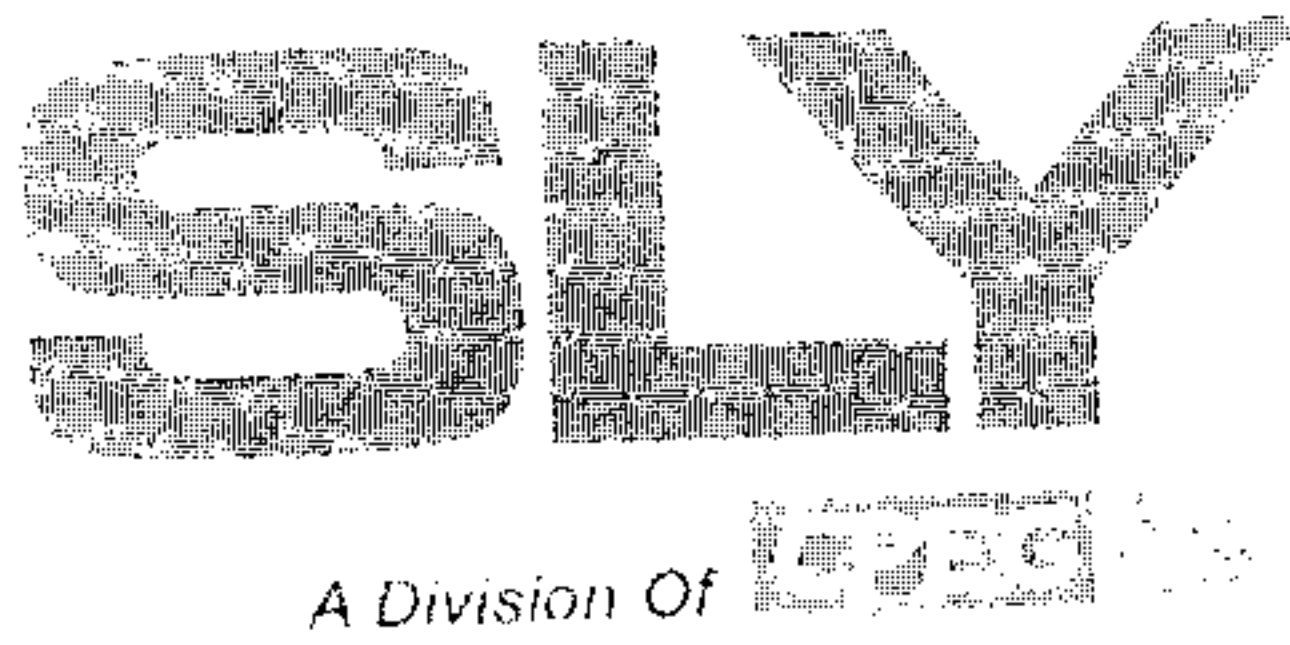
*P.O. Box 286
Mathiston, Mississippi 39752
Office (662) 263-8202 • Fax (662) 263-8230
tenhetrealestate@bellsouth.net*

4/14/2025

To whom it may concern:

My name is Vince Tenhet. I have lived, attended school, and worked in Mathiston and the surrounding area my entire life. We are currently in a very dire situation in regards to our public water system in Mathiston. I recently learned that only one of our two water wells that supply the town with water is in working condition. Basically, if something happens to the one working well, pumps, etc., the Town of Mathiston and surrounding areas would immediately be in a public health crisis. We've heard all the clichés..."hanging by a thread," "ticking time bomb," amongst others. These would adequately describe our current water situation. I'm concerned not only for myself and my family, but also for the many people and businesses that are the lifeblood of our small rural town. I own the Mathiston Apartments L.P. apartment complex in town, which houses 24 elderly and disabled tenants, many of which don't know about or understand the fragility of our water system. I have a deep concern for their well-being, a lot of which are shut-in and in declining health. Something we all take for granted, clean water, could be taken from us in an instant. Numerous businesses would also cease to function in our area if our only working water well faltered. We do not have the resources of a major metropolitan area, but need clean, running water just the same. Please accept this letter as our plea for help on the repair of this dilapidated water system that has limped by until it has seemingly reached its limit. As an American and Mathistonian, I feel we should all have access to clean water and I've never been as concerned as I am now for our little town. We are truly on the brink of the unthinkable and my prayer is that whoever reads this letter, will sense the sincerity and desperation of the contents within.

Sincerely,



4/14/2025

Open Letter to Public Officials

Re: Constituent support; seeking State and/or Federal funds for the Town of Mathiston for needed upgrades to its current water supply and infrastructure.

To whom this may concern,

It is with great fervor that I write to you today and request your consideration and support in securing the financial means required to improve the Town of Mathiston current water supply and infrastructure.

I am writing to you today as a proud representative of a, 100% Employee-Owned Business, that has operated within the incorporated limits of Mathiston since 1960. SLY LLC (Formerly SLY INC.), a manufacturer of Air Pollution Control Equipment, with a near 150-year history and global market presence, currently employees over 50 people in our Mathiston location. For the past several years our Company has been enjoying year over year, double digit growth. This growth has led our Company to seek additional manufacturing space for our operation in Mathiston, as well as additional space for a potential consolidation of manufacturing operations that currently are based outside of Mississippi.

Our target, coupled with this existing growth trend, has our Company projected to double from its former size, by 2026. Although this growth trend is a blessing, it does provide small rural based Companies like ours, significant challenge in simply supporting this growth with respect to securing both Human Capital and needed Industrial Space.

It is in this aforementioned endeavor that I have learned of the concerns of our Local Officials and Town Leadership of potential water supply issues, for both safety and consumption, should we look to expand our current facility due to aging water infrastructure and the need for a new, dependable, water source to merely maintain the current consumption demands of Mathiston residents.

It is my hope that you will strongly consider supporting The Town of Mathiston's efforts, financial or otherwise, and help secure the necessary means to provide a reliable water supply for both the residents of Mathiston and growing Employers like ours.

Please support our local economic growth, and I thank you, for your consideration.

Regards,

Michael A. Still
Director, Manufacturing Operations

First Baptist Church

POST OFFICE BOX 260 • MATHISTON, MISSISSIPPI 39752 • TELEPHONE (662) 263-5323

April 14, 2025

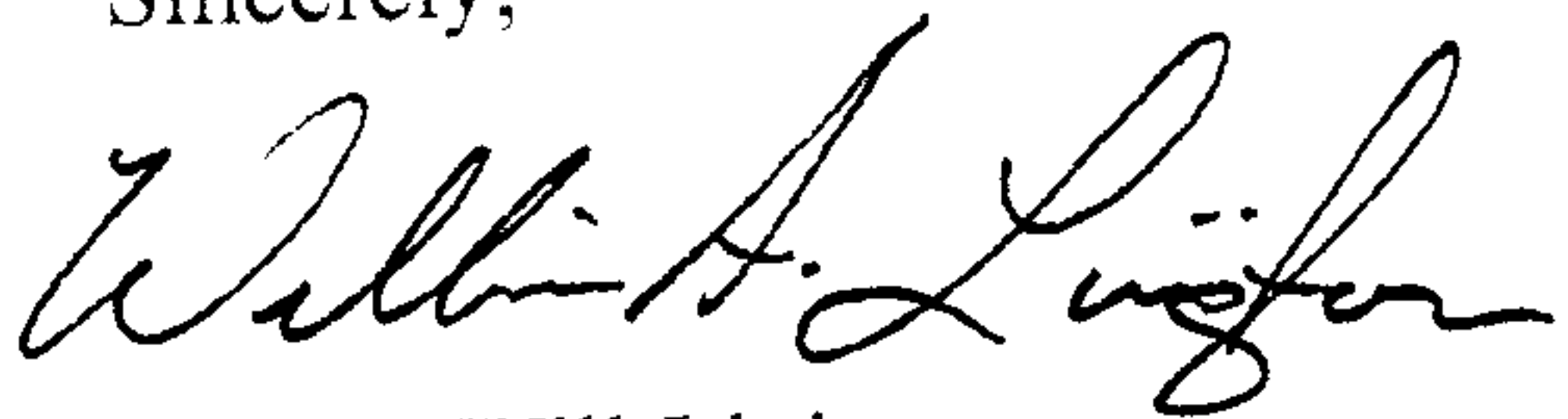
To whom it may concern,

Proper water supply is extremely important to the residents, businesses, and churches within the supply district of the Town of Mathiston. While the town has previously had two water wells to maintain proper supply, they currently only have one well causing a strain on water pressure supply to those within their district.

It would be beneficial to all within this district to have an additional water well to the one the town currently has. However, we understand this is not a cheap investment. Thus, it would be helpful to receive aid via grant money available to assist the town in this project in order to supply those within its district with the appropriate water pressure without straining the system.

Any help is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Will A. Livingston".

Brother Will Livingston
Pastor, First Baptist Church Mathiston

04/15/2025

Gilliland's Of Mathiston, Inc
DBA Piggly Wiggly
P.O. Box 156
Mathiston, MS 39752

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to address the needs of a 2nd water well for the Town of Mathiston. We have been doing business in the same location in Mathiston since 1964. We have seen many improvement through the years. I do consider that reliable water source and pressure, instrumental to my business and home. We are quickly becoming a city of interest among our neighboring as people want to live in our great growing little town. It is a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

I consider the redundancy of back up and available infrastructure necessary for future success. People will not live and grow in a place that will not meet their basic needs. I consider water to be one of these. I am and have been on the board of director for our local electric coop for some 30 plus years. My goal has been to help in the decisions to provide better way of life for our neighbors by working to make electricity affordable and reliable. We are now offering rural internet service to our small town.

Please consider helping us with securing a ample water to our community by way of a 2nd well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay Gilliland".

Jay Gilliland

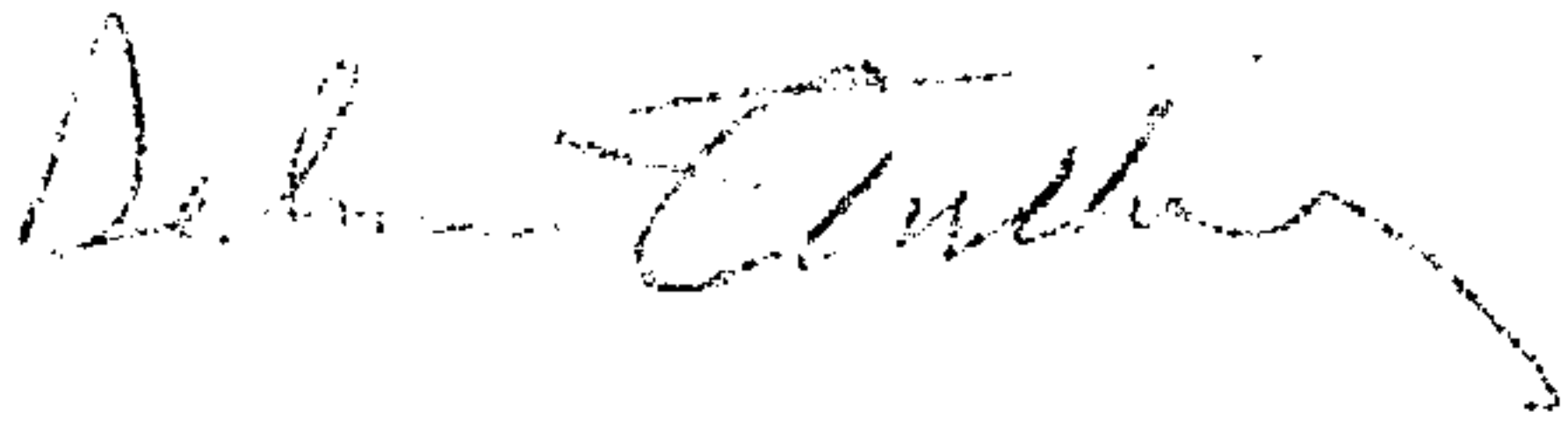
**MATHISTON CLEANERS
P.O. BOX 292
24829 MS HWY15
MATHISTON, MS 39752
662-263-5341**

04/15/2025

To whom it may concern,

My name is Delmon Anthony. I own and operate Mathiston Cleaners in Mathiston, MS. In my business, we use an extremely large amount of water. A clean and unlimited supply of water is a must for my business as well as our community. Any assistance you could give our town for a new well would be greatly appreciated by me , my customers, and the citizens of our community.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Delmon Anthony", written in dark ink.

Delmon Anthony

**MATHISTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
101 CHURCH STREET
MATHISTON, MISSISSIPPI 39752**

April 14/2025

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing you today to express concern regarding our town's water supply. The Town is at this time running with only one water well. This is greatly concerning to me as Fire Chief. The strain of repeated fill ups for our tankers in the event of a structure or grass fires is a true threat to the water supply for the town. It is my understanding that the town has reached out in the hope of assistance by way of a possible grant. I ask that you please consider the need and assist us if you possibly can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee Gilliland".

Lee Gilliland – Fire Chief