



United States Department of Agriculture

**Farm Service Agency  
Mississippi State Office**

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# BIOGRAPHY



In 2009, Okolona's Mike Sullivan became the State Executive Director of the USDA Farm Service Agency. That appointment followed 40 years of experience as a full-time farmer, operating a 2,000-acre row crop, poultry, cattle and timber business with his brother. He has experience in real estate for agricultural and other uses, holds a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from Mississippi State University and is a member of the Mississippi Farm Bureau, Mississippi Cattlemen's Association and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

Mr. Sullivan's background, however, extends beyond agriculture. From 1990-1996, he worked in a variety of senior management roles at the Tupelo Furniture Market, where he was responsible for the daily management and market development of what was then the nation's second largest furniture showplace. He returned to that business from 2000 to 2006 as Executive Director of National Furniture Market Centers of High Point, North Carolina, and managed the company's growth and development into new business lines and multiple states. Mr. Sullivan served as a Director of the Tombigbee River Valley Water Management District in the '80s and was called back by the Board to serve as Executive Director from 1996 to 2000, primarily to assist in the Army Corps of Engineers' implementation of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Project.

Mr. Sullivan has served a number of civic and charitable organizations over the years, and was honored in 2005 for his efforts in rising over \$2 million for the City of Hope Cancer Research Hospital in Los Angeles.

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