



**CITY OF HUNTSVILLE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
PRESS RELEASE**

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Trent Willis
Chief of Staff & Communications
Mayor Tommy Battle
City of Huntsville
256.427.5006 (Office)
256.783.4117 (Cell)
trent.willis@hsvcity.com

**Mayor Tommy Battle announces “historic” financial achievement for
City**

HUNTSVILLE, AL (January 28, 2009) Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle announced a historic achievement for his city today. Battle, alongside Director of Finance Randy Taylor, announced the City recently received the top AAA rating by the Standard and Poors and the next highest Aa 1 rating by Moody’s Investment Services. Huntsville becomes the first city in Alabama history to receive the AAA rating.

“This is a truly historic event,” said Battle. “Not just for Huntsville, but in all of Alabama’s history.”

Battle went on to say that the economic recession would likely result in more rating downgrades for local governments, noting that fact made Huntsville’s upgrade even more telling.

“This is confirmation by a nationally recognized third party that our plan is strong, and even in difficult times, that our future remains bright,” added Battle.

Battle noted that teamwork with Huntsville’s Director of Finance, Randy Taylor, Phil Dotts of Public FA, Inc., Councilmen Bill Kling and Will Culver, and several others all added to the success.

The AAA rating makes Huntsville one of only 21 cities with a population greater than 150,000 and one of only 82 in America to be rated so highly.

“Huntsville remains the star of Alabama,” Battle concluded.

###