

THE RANGERS' TRAILBLAZING ALUMNA

Mississippi Attorney General *Lynn Fitch*



Story and Photos By Sarah Smith

On the road to paving a legacy,
Attorney General Lynn Fitch is actively taking part in making history for the state of Mississippi, for women, and for the future,

“The Attorney General’s Office is the people’s office,” AG Fitch said.

AG Fitch said her goal and hope is to be an office for the people. Her recipe for such a goal? Kindness and compassion in law and truth.

Hailing from humble roots in Holly Springs, AG Fitch is proud of her small-town roots. She attended Marshall Academy before graduating and attending Northwest Mississippi Community College. She graduated from the University of Mississippi first with her undergraduate degree, then from law school, in just five years.

Growing up, AG Fitch said she knew she wanted to be a lawyer, and she had many supportive teachers and instructors who helped her meet that goal. While she was a student, she had an instructor at Northwest who was also a high school teacher, who she said left her with an important message of always being yourself and being authentic.

AG Fitch credited a large part of being able to get through college so quickly to Northwest, which allowed her to take college-level classes as she attended high school. To her surprise in December of 2024, she was awarded her associate degree from Northwest through reverse transfer before she delivered the college’s commencement address to fall graduates.

During law school at the University of Mississippi, she served in various leadership roles as a student including law school student body treasurer, a foreshadowing to the future where she would serve as the state’s treasurer.

After graduating from law school at 23, AG Fitch took her first professional job as a special assistant attorney general at the Mississippi Attorney General’s Office. She said this was the best first job and learned a lot from that experience as it was pivotal for her.

“I loved it from the moment I got to work there,” said AG Fitch.

Being the attorney general is Fitch’s

greatest honor, and her goal is to be able to help others through this office. Two prominent ways she has accomplished this is through two campaigns headed by her office – one fights drugs and one is fighting against human trafficking. These initiatives work on informing people so they can be part of the solution.

“Knowledge is powerful if only we share it,” AG Fitch said.

“Be the Solution” is the anti-human trafficking initiative, focused on helping people understand the signs and training a task force to prevent human slavery as it continues to permeate our communities.

AG Fitch visited Northwest to talk to students and staff about her “One Pill Can Kill” campaign that highlights the struggle against fentanyl. During that time, AG Fitch and her team took time talking about the present dangers that drugs pose to our communities.

“Counterfeit pills are easily available – even to adolescents – through social media and other apps, and they are increasingly common throughout Mississippi,” said AG Fitch. “They can be intentionally contaminated with extremely potent fentanyl. There are no second chances with fake pills that are polluted. One pill is all it takes to kill, and we have lost too many of our loved ones.”

All these initiatives are aimed at making Mississippi safer and healthier for all its population. AG Fitch said serving the people is her greatest goal.



Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch talks with Northwest Pathfinder student ambassadors.

Photo by Sarah Smith



Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch speaking to Northwest students, staff, and faculty about her "One Pill Can Kill" campaign.

Photo by Sarah Smith

She's reminded that it's all worth it when she sees people who benefit from these programs.

"Every time we see someone we helped, that's so rewarding," AG Fitch said.

Another accomplishment for AG Fitch is her support of the women around her, and breaking barriers once held for women. As the first woman attorney general in the state, she has had quite the resume with breaking through stereotypes and barriers.

AG Fitch leads a majority woman-run office. Her chief of Staff, CFO, and deputy attorneys general, and many of the directors overseeing divisions in the Attorney General's Office are all women. Her mark as the first woman attorney general in Mississippi cannot be understated. She is proud to be a woman and to fight for other women as she's helped establish the Women's Bar Committee, the first of its kind.

Emboldened by Mississippi's first female elected to statewide office, Lt. Gov. Evelyn Gandy, who served as state treasurer from 1960 to 1964 before being elected lieutenant governor in 1976, Fitch was charged by her to create the Women's Bar Committee.

In Lt. Gov. Gandy's honor, AG Fitch helped create the Lt.

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Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch received her associate degree from Northwest President, Dr. Michael Heindl, during the fall Commencement Exercises Dec. 13.

Photo by Carly Fox

Gov. Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series for promoting women. The Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series honors Lt. Gov. Gandy's public service and mentorship.

In 2022, Fitch was named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People. Worth Magazine denoted her work for protecting women and children. She was acknowledged as one of Mississippi's Top 50 Most Influential People in 2017, 2022, and 2023. She also worked on the Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization that ultimately went to the Supreme Court and overturned a landmark decision.

Looking toward the future, AG Fitch is preparing for her second annual Mississippi Women's Summit in Flowood on Sept. 8-9. Over 400 women in business, politics, and other areas attended the event in 2024.