November 6, 2025

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

This National Adoption Month, we celebrate the families made complete by adoption. I am proud that as of this week, our office has legally cleared over 600 children in foster care for adoption in 2025. While this milestone is exciting, we also recognize that too many children are still waiting for their forever homes. That's why we are committed to streamlining and improving foster care and adoption systems as a key pillar of **The Empowerment Project**. The road to a forever home can be a long and emotional journey for both the child and the foster family, and I am grateful for the support of the Mississippi legislature in passing many of our legislative goals to improve Mississippi's foster care and adoption systems. And I look forward to continuing our mission in the 2026 legislative session. Together, we can work to ensure that each Mississippi child grows up knowing they are valued and loved. Every life has purpose, and every story matters. If you are interested in learning more about adoption and other life-affirming options, you can find resources available to you **here**.

May God Bless You,

SHARE ON SOCIAL



I recently joined North Carolina Family Policy Council's *Family Policy Matters* podcast to discuss the important work of Mississippi Access to Maternal Assistance (MAMA). A free website and app, MAMA connects pregnant women and mothers with private, public, and faith-based resources across the state. It is my hope that states across the nation will join us in empowering families of all phases and stages with programs like MAMA.

Listen to the full episode **HERE**. And remember, MAMA, you are not alone.



WHAT WE'RE READING

<u>WLWT - Chef giving back to kids in foster care system during National Adoption Month</u>

It's National Adoption month, a time to shine a light on the thousands of children waiting for a forever home. A local chef knows exactly what it's like to grow up in foster care and how one act of kindness can change a child's future. Chef Vitor Abreu says every dish tells a story, and his story began long before his restaurant, in a system where stability wasn't always on the menu.

29 News - Newborn surrendered in Safe Haven Baby Box for first time in state's history

A newborn was safely surrendered in a Safe Haven Baby Box for the first time in Wisconsin state history. According to officials, the baby was placed in the Safe Haven Baby Box at a fire department in Racine on Oct. 16. Division Chief Joshua Weber said in the release obtained by the Racine County Eye that the infant was in good health and immediately cared for by on-duty firefighters.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

WAPT - Mississippi's fight against human trafficking: inside a sting operation

Mississippi law enforcement agencies are cracking down on human trafficking through initiatives like sting operations that offer help to victims instead of arrests. In a recent operation led by the **Attorney General's Office**, an undercover officer sat in a Jackson hotel room while a network of officers from agencies across the state took watch or lured victims in through ads on the dark web. When victims showed up, they were offered help instead of being met with an arrest.

"We want [traffickers] to know, if you come to Mississippi, we are going to go after you, and send a message that if you are a victim in any way, we are going to come help you," **Fitch** said.

<u>Action 5 News - Miss. courts rule against gender policies introduced</u> <u>by Biden Admin.</u>

Mississippi **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** and Tennessee Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti announced a victory in a multistate lawsuit that challenged a Biden-era HHS rule that would have pressured healthcare providers to provide sex-change procedures. The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi agreed with the 15-state coalition by ruling that these policies overstepped their authority by redefining unlawful "sex" discrimination under the Affordable Care Act to include discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation" and "gender identity."

WJTV - Ex-Mississippi substitute teacher sentenced for child sex crimes

Attorney General Lynn Fitch announced the sentencing of Jakalyn Moore of Southaven for one count of Sexual Battery by a Person in Position of Trust and Authority and one count of Child Exploitation. Moore is a former West Tallahatchie School District substitute teacher.

"Exploiting children that you are responsible to care for is a serious violation of trust," said **Attorney General Fitch**. "I am grateful to my team for their hard work investigating and prosecuting this predator, as well as the FBI for their partnership on this case. It is my hope that closing this chapter will help the victims and their families on their journey to healing and recovery."

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