



The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

February 26, 2026

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

This month, my office partnered with Ring (an Amazon company) and the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV) to launch a new community initiative to support domestic violence survivors in Mississippi. Through this partnership, 1,000 Ring X Line Devices will be distributed to survivors – at no cost – with a subscription for the lifetime of the device. These cameras are an important part of a safety plan. Instead of fearing every knock or doorbell ring, a survivor can know exactly who is on the other side of the door. This partnership is about giving survivors important tools, support, and added peace of mind as they work toward healing. We are so thankful to Amazon and the MCADV for their commitment to protecting survivors in Mississippi and ensuring that we can hold offenders accountable.

May God Bless You,



L to R: Sean Riley, Amazon Public Policy, Attorney General Lynn Fitch, Terreta Rodgers, Head of Community Engagement for the Mississippi Region at Amazon, Joy Jones, Executive Director at MCADV, and Raquel Medrano, Amazon Public Policy



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Trump Accounts make it easier than ever to begin saving for your child's future. Every American child born between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2028, receives \$1,000 from the U.S. Treasury to start their Trump Account with the completion of just one form. Accounts grow until your child turns 18, and then it is fully theirs to use to fulfill their dreams. To learn more about the Trump Accounts and financial resources for families in your area, visit MAMA.MS.GOV and click the "Money" tab.



WHAT WE'RE READING

Supertalk - Mississippi rolls out new OB System of Care to improve maternal outcomes

Mississippi health officials have launched a new statewide system to ensure pregnant women, especially those with high-risk pregnancies, get to the right hospital as quickly as possible.

The Mississippi State Department of Health announced Wednesday that the state Board of Health approved final rules for the Obstetrics System of Care, which took effect Feb. 13, creating a framework to coordinate emergency response and hospital care for expectant mothers and their babies.

The OB System of Care is the state's fourth coordinated medical network, joining existing systems for heart attacks, strokes, and trauma. According to MSDH, Mississippi is the first state in the U.S. to operate four such systems.

Magnolia Tribune - Mississippi public school graduation rate rises to over 90%, dropout rate falls to 7%

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) announced the state's 2024-25 school-year graduation rate was 90.8%, exceeding the latest national rate of 86.6%

from the 2021-22 as reported by the National Center for Education Statistics.

The statewide dropout rate was 7% for the 2024-25 school year.

Compared to the prior school year in 2023-24, the graduation rate increased by 1.6 percentage points while the dropout rate decreased by 1.5 percentage points.

FOX13 Memphis - Shelby County's first Safe Haven Baby Box to be unveiled

Shelby County is marking a new milestone Wednesday with the installation of its first Safe Haven Baby Box.

It gives parents in crisis a safe, legal option to surrender a newborn.

In Tipton County earlier this year, an infant was safely surrendered at the Atoka Fire Department. It was the first time the box had been used since being installed in November 2024.

Tennessee now has 26 Safe Haven Baby Box locations, which have been used a combined four times.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

Darkhorse Press - Fitch Joins Bipartisan Call for Congress to Pass Kids Online Safety Act

Mississippi **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** joined a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general Tuesday in urging Congress to pass the federal Kids Online Safety Act, warning that social media platforms pose growing threats to children’s physical and mental health.

“Social media platforms promise connectivity, but that is not without consequences,” **Fitch** said in a statement. “These platforms pose serious physical and mental health risks to our children. Parents are desperate for help because they are up against the best digital engineers with the unlimited resources of their social media cartel employers.”

WJTV - Biloxi man sentenced for child exploitation after undercover operation

Attorney General Lynn Fitch announced a Biloxi man was sentenced for distribution and possession of child sexual abuse material.

She said Steven Dessino, 46, was sentenced on February 18, 2026, to 12 years and seven months in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, with post-release supervision. Dessino was also ordered to pay \$37,000 in restitution and will also have to register as a sex offender upon release.

According to **Fitch**, Dessino’s arrest was the result of an undercover operation initiated by **her office**.

The Yazoo Herald - AG Fitch Joins 21-AG Coalition, Challenging Biden-Era Abortion Rule

Attorney General Lynn Fitch joined 20 States in filing a brief in support of Louisiana’s lawsuit challenging a Biden-era rule that expanded access to abortion drugs through mail and telehealth, without any safeguards to protect the health and life of the woman.

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