

April 9, 2026

## A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

This month, the Attorney General's Office joined the Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi (CACM) and the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services, recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and touring CACM's Child Advocacy Training Institute, which provides hands-on training for students and professionals to recognize, react, and respond appropriately in situations where child abuse may be present. Its simulation-based training equips frontline workers for the worst, so they are prepared to be their best for a child in need.

Together, we also unveiled new resources for parents to use to protect their children, offering tips for safe online gaming. This is the third in a series of resource cards created by the Attorney General's Office and CACM to help end child abuse and exploitation. We are grateful for the leadership that the Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi and the Department of Child Protection Services have demonstrated throughout our partnership.

May God Bless You,





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## SHARE ON SOCIAL

As the 2026 Legislative Session draws to a close, three bills from our legislative agenda have already been signed into law. Together, they demonstrate our commitment to caring for and protecting our most vulnerable, and I am grateful to the Legislature for being such a strong partner on these Attorney General's Office priorities.

Two of the new laws address human trafficking. [HB 1131](#) increases the penalties on the buyers in the illicit human trafficking market. Without demand, human trafficking cannot exist, so this is an important step in disrupting this criminal industry. [HB 1546](#) allows victims to expunge non-violent crimes from their records, clearing a pathway to a better future.

[SB 2369](#) ensures that if a parent wins at a casino and owes child support, that support will be paid first. This legislation is a crucial step in strengthening child support enforcement and making sure children come first.



## WHAT WE'RE READING

### **[Magnolia Tribune - Jury finds Instagram and YouTube liable in landmark social media addiction trial](#)**

A jury found both Meta and YouTube liable in a first-of-its-kind lawsuit that aimed to hold social media platforms responsible for harm to children using their services, awarding the plaintiff \$3 million in damages.

After more than 40 hours of deliberation across nine days, California jurors decided Meta and YouTube were negligent in the design or operation of their platforms.

The jury also decided each company's negligence was a substantial factor in causing harm to the plaintiff, a 20-year-old woman who says her use of social media as a child addicted her to the technology and exacerbated her mental health struggles. This is the second verdict to come in this week against Meta after a jury in New Mexico determined the company harms children's mental health and safety, violating state law.

### **[Supertalk - Tuition-free community college courses to boost workforce approved by Mississippi lawmakers](#)**

Mississippi could soon offer tuition-free community college to adults looking to receive workforce-based education.

As lawmakers begin to wind down the 2026 session, the state legislature unanimously passed a measure called the UPSKILL Mississippi Grant program aimed at eliminating financial barriers for those looking to refine their occupational capabilities. Creating the program was a pre-session priority for Republican Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann, along with workforce development leaders in Mississippi, as it's expected to help meet a growing need for skilled labor.

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## ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

### **WLBT - Social media companies strike out twice in Mississippi Supreme Court**

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**Attorney General Lynn Fitch** filed suits against TikTok and its related companies in 2023. She sued the parent companies of Facebook, Instagram, and its other related platforms in 2024.

...  
"TikTok is conducting a dangerous experiment with our children's developing minds and our children are suffering for it," the attorney general said in an October 2024 news release. "TikTok knows it maximizes profit by addicting children to its platform, and it knows that feeding them increasingly extreme and disturbing videos keep children hooked."

...  
In the state's 93-page amended complaint against Meta and its related companies, **Fitch** contends Facebook and Instagram are not safe for young users, pointing to instances of bullying seen and experienced on both.

### **Pontotoc Progress - AG Fitch welcomes eighth MS college as One Pill Can Kill Partner**

Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch welcomed William Carey University as the latest partner to join One Pill Can Kill, her public awareness campaign to educate, support, and empower Mississippians with information on the dangers of fentanyl, how to identify it, and what to do if a student or friend is overdosing.

"With counterfeit pills becoming increasingly common in Mississippi, it is time that we step up, be bold, and demand action in this fight against opioids," **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. "I am grateful for William Carey University's willingness to partner with my office to educate and protect students. Thank you, Dr. Burnett and Dr. Yeager, for your leadership and commitment to raising awareness of the dangers of fentanyl."

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