

## AG Fitch Announces 25-Year Sentence in Child Exploitation Case



These crimes rob a child of their innocence and the images can cause a lifetime of trauma, re-victimizing the child over and over again. And when the perpetrator is someone in a position of authority, they violate a covenant with the parents who entrusted them with their children. We will not tolerate such abuse.

*Lynn Fitch*

**(Olive Branch, Mississippi)** Today, Attorney General Lynn Fitch announced the sentencing of former teacher and preacher Kyle Michael Hilleary, 32, of Olive Branch, Mississippi, for one count of child exploitation following a jury trial. This case was investigated and prosecuted by the Mississippi Attorney General's Office, with assistance from the Olive Branch Police Department. This case originated from a 2023 AGO undercover operation, Operation Toil and Trouble.

"These crimes rob a child of their innocence and the images can cause a lifetime of trauma, re-victimizing the child over and over again," **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch.** "And when the perpetrator is someone in a position of authority, they violate a covenant with the parents who entrusted them with their children. We will not tolerate such abuse."

On May 26, 2026, 23rd Circuit Court **Judge Celeste Wilson** sentenced Hilleary to 35 years, with 25 years to serve day-for-day without possibility for parole in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) and 5 years on probation. He was ordered to pay \$1,000 to the Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund and \$1,000 to the Mississippi Children's Trust Fund. Hilleary must also register as a sex offender.



*Kyle Michael Hilleary*

If you have information about a child being sexually exploited online, please report it to 1-800-843-5678. You can also make a report online at [www.cybertipline.org](http://www.cybertipline.org). The

hotline is manned by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and tips are reported to the Attorney General's Office, which runs the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force for Mississippi.

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