



The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

August 20, 2026

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

When federal programs like Medicaid and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) are defrauded, taxpayers are cheated, and so are the vulnerable families that depend on these safety net programs to survive. Since I took office, we have recovered more than \$101 million in fraud to help restore these programs to their important purpose. And a few weeks ago, I joined FBI Director Kash Patel and Assistant Attorney General Colin McDonald to launch the new Southeast Regional Fraud Enforcement Partnership. This seven-state federal-state partnership is organized through President Trump's National Fraud Enforcement Division at the U.S. Department of Justice as a coordinated effort to fight this kind of waste, fraud, and corruption.

During the press conference, I also announced that my office was awarded over \$2.5 million to stand up a first-of-its-kind law enforcement partnership which will be known as Joint Task Force Vigilance. This effort will hire and equip 5 experienced prosecutors, a sworn law enforcement officer, and a legal analyst specifically tasked with fighting fraud, crimes by criminal aliens, human trafficking, and illicit drug activity in Mississippi. President Trump has challenged all of us to step up our efforts to fight fraud and protect American taxpayers from this gift. Partnerships like these show that we are bringing everything to the table in this work to fight con artists, grifters, fraudsters, and scammers.

May God Bless You,

SHARE ON SOCIAL

Since I launched One Pill Can Kill, fentanyl-related overdose deaths in Mississippi have dropped 63%. And our efforts to spread life-saving tools like fentanyl test strips, pill identification cards, and naloxone continue. This month, as students head back to college, we delivered 44 Emergency Overdose Boxes to Mississippi State University for their sorority and fraternity houses. So proud of these students for stepping up!



WHAT WE'RE READING

WHO - Iowa leads nation in federal addiction-recovery programs to prevent foster care placements

Iowa will be the first state to participate in a federal expansion of addiction-recovery programs aimed at preventing children from entering the foster care system.

At a press conference at the MercyOne House of Mercy in Des Moines, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. announced states can now be reimbursed for Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and family-based recovery, two programs aimed at helping parents combat addiction.

WRAP uses trained peer facilitators to help people suffering from addiction or mental health challenges. Family-based recovery provides in-home treatment for parents struggling with addiction if they have kids who are six years old or younger.

“We are giving states new tools to address addiction and strengthen families, and Iowa is once again leading the nation in putting those tools to work,” said Secretary Kennedy.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

Fox News - Operation Muddy Waters arrests 70 for alleged child exploitation in Mississippi

Seventy people were arrested across Mississippi during a two-week Homeland Security Investigations operation targeting child exploitation offenders and previously

convicted sex offenders, including illegal immigrants, federal officials announced.

The two-week operation, Operation Muddy Waters, was the work of several federal, state and local agencies and generated new child exploitation charges ranging from illegal immigrants who allegedly crossed state lines to abuse minors to others accused of trading child sexual abuse material.

Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch told Fox News Digital in a statement that one child was saved from a sextortion scheme in progress.

WDAM - AG Fitch secures 40-year sentence in child exploitation case

Attorney General Lynn Fitch announced the recent sentencing of Kenneth Dewayne Loveless for one count of distribution of child sexual abuse material.

Loveless, 54, of Hattiesburg, received a 40-year sentence on Aug. 6, 2026. The case was investigated and prosecuted by the **Attorney General's Office** with assistance from the Illinois Office of Homeland Security, the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

“Predators who exploit children will be held accountable for their crimes,” said **Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. “Our investigators and prosecutors – along with all our partners in law enforcement – are committed to protecting children and together, we will make the Internet a safer place for all.”

Picayune Item - AG Fitch secures settlement to lower drug costs

Attorney General Fitch joined a coalition of 43 states and territories announcing a \$400 million settlement in principle with Sandoz Inc. to resolve allegations that the generic drug manufacturer engaged in widespread, long-running conspiracies to artificially inflate and manipulate prices, reduce competition, and unreasonably restrain trade with regard to numerous generic prescription drugs.

“Generic drugs are supposed to be a more affordable alternative, and through this litigation and settlement, we are holding the companies that have kept prices artificially high accountable for taking advantage of families. We are committed to taking action to lower your drug costs and we will continue to pursue transparency, accountability, and affordability for Mississippi consumers,” said **Attorney General Lynn Fitch**.

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