



The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

October 22, 2026

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

October is Domestic Violence Prevention Month, and I'm proud to announce that my office and the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV) have been awarded a three-year, \$1 million federal grant to provide local law enforcement with the equipment, resources, and training they need to improve their response to domestic violence incidents, particularly in rural communities.

Domestic violence calls are among the most frequent and dangerous situations our law enforcement officers face. Ensuring officers have access to the right tools is critical to protecting everyone involved. My office created an [officer flip book](#) on domestic violence law and developed online tools like the [Domestic Violence Registry \(MSDVR\)](#) and [Protection Order Registry \(MS POR\)](#), the nation's first registry for both criminal and civil protection orders. However, limited equipment and resources, especially among small and rural law enforcement agencies, can make accessing these tools more difficult.

This grant will help bridge that gap by ensuring law enforcement officers have what they need, when they need them, to respond to domestic violence calls and ultimately better protect the communities they serve. And remember, if you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence and need to speak with an advocate, please contact our office at 1-800-829-6766 or victimassistance@ago.ms.gov.

May God Bless You,



WHAT WE'RE READING

USA Today- Susie Wiles: I'm cancer-free, but the fight is unrelenting
Fighting cancer is brutal and unrelenting.

From the moment you wake in the morning – sometimes even while you sleep – it occupies the conscious and subconscious mind. Treatment. Side effects. Test results. Is the treatment working? What is the prognosis? What comes next?

...

The approach I took will not be right, or possible, for everyone. I have profound respect and empathy for every person enduring treatment for this disease. It drains you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.
For me, work provided something critically important: a mission larger than myself.

Cancer can make your world very small. It can reduce life to chemotherapy appointments, blood tests, scans, medications and side effects. Even surrounded by family and friends, cancer can be desperately lonely. There is a temptation to measure each day by how sick you feel.

I worked hard not to let breast cancer become the center of everything. Instead, I directed as much of my energy as I could toward doing my job. People depended on me to be strong and clear-eyed, and I was determined not to let them down.

Supertalk - Mathews: Finding hope in the people who serve Mississippi

I was invited to speak at Attorney General Lynn Fitch's all-hands meeting last week. My new book, "Finding Hope: 25 Lifelines for Life's Storms," was just published, and I spoke on hope. What has stayed with me since last Monday was not the speech I gave. It was the people I met.

The Mississippi Attorney General's Office is a large organization of nearly 300 public servants. Investigators, prosecutors, victim advocates, and support staff handle cases involving children, trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, the elderly, and online predators. They also help victims navigate the system and do the civil work that keeps state agencies honest. On any given day, they either pull someone out of the worst moment of their life or carry a case that will stay with them long after the file closes.

These are people who fight for others' hope every day. Meeting them touched me deeply.

I shared the central message of my book with them: Hope isn't just found. It's fought for. Then you have to pass it forward. In the book, I describe hope as moving through stages. Ember is the small beginning of hope that is already in us, even if we don't always feel it. Forge is where hope is tested.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

WLOX - Inside the Mississippi AG's Cyber Crime Lab: How investigators uncover child predators, crack skimmers, and fight predatory AI

Behind secure doors at the **Mississippi Attorney General's Office**, state investigators are engaged in an escalating digital arms race against high-tech syndicates and online predators.

Attorney General Lynn Fitch led a tour of the state's Cyber Crime Lab on Tuesday, offering an inside look at how state investigators are utilizing specialized forensics

tools, custom hardware, and elite detection dogs to combat digital crime syndicates operating across Mississippi.

During the tour of the Digital Forensics Lab Unit, state investigators demonstrated specialized extraction techniques and walked through case studies spanning emerging cyber threats — including cryptocurrency scams, business email compromise, ATM jackpotting, skimmers, “SMiSHing” text schemes, artificial intelligence, and child exploitation CyberTips.

Darkhorse Press - Five sentenced in Mississippi Medicaid fraud cases involving more than \$120,000

Five people have been sentenced in Mississippi fraud cases involving more than \$120,000, according to **Attorney General Lynn Fitch**.

“These convictions serve as a reminder that here in Mississippi, we are taking fraudsters head on,” **Fitch** said.

The sentencings were connected to cases included in the U.S. Department of Justice’s National Health Care Fraud Takedown earlier this year.

WAPT - Mississippi man sentenced to 40 years for possession of child sexual abuse material

A Mendenhall man has been sentenced to 40 years in prison, with seven years to serve without parole, for possessing over 500 images and videos of child sexual abuse material.

On Oct. 1, Simpson County Circuit Court Judge Stanley Sorey sentenced Anthony James "A.J." Brownell to 40 years in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections for one count of possession of child abuse material. Brownell will serve seven years day-for-day without the possibility of parole, followed by five years of supervised probation and 10 years of unsupervised probation.

The case originated from a Cybertip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and was investigated and prosecuted by **the Attorney General's Office**.

"Predators who exploit children in Mississippi will be held accountable for their crimes," said **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** in a statement. "Our investigation in this case uncovered more than 500 images and videos of child sexual abuse material. Each time an image or video is viewed, a child who has suffered unthinkable abuse is revictimized. If you suspect a child is being exploited or abused, please report it to my office. Your tip could save a life."

Magnolia Tribune - Mississippi Joint Task Force Vigilance to use \$2.5 million from Justice Department to fight fraud

The **Mississippi Attorney General's Office** will hire five more prosecutors and associated staff as part of a partnership between federal and state agencies to more aggressively protect Magnolia State residents from various forms of fraud.

The Mississippi Joint Task Force Vigilance, the first in the nation, is being funded through \$2.5 million provided by the U.S. Department of Justice. That funding, announced in July, will be used to hire five prosecutors experienced in prosecuting instances of fraud, crimes committed by undocumented aliens, the sale and distribution of illegal drugs, and human trafficking. The funding will also cover the cost of hiring the necessary support staff.

“Partnerships like this show that we are bringing every available tool to Mississippi to fight fraud and make Mississippi safer,” **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** said. “The Department of Justice made Mississippi’s Joint Task Force Vigilance the first of its kind, a model for bringing together federal and state agencies to fight con artists, grifters, fraudsters and scammers.”



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