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MS AG Fitch, U.S. AG Todd Blanche, and City of Jackson Announce More Than $63 Million in Federal Funding to Enhance Public Safety

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Lynn Fitch

(Jackson, Mississippi) Today, Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, together with U.S. Attorney General Todd Blanche and the City of Jackson, announced that Jackson was awarded more than $63 million through the U.S. Department of Justice's Model Cities Initiative (MCI), a flagship effort to reduce violent crime, restore law and order, and strengthen public safety in communities across the country.

"With this significant investment, the Trump Administration is demonstrating a commitment to the people of Jackson to help reduce criminal activity, restore law and order, and positively impact the quality of life for Jacksonians," **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. "We are proud to be a partner with the City of Jackson and all our local, state, and federal allies in this effort to make Mississippi's capital city stronger, safer, and more secure. A strong Jackson means a strong Mississippi."

"The Model Cities Initiative reflects the Trump Administration's commitment to reducing crime across the country and ensuring the safety of every American," **said Attorney General Todd Blanche**. "These cities are setting an example of proactive law enforcement that will strengthen the rule of law and improve public safety in their jurisdictions. As violent crime rates continue to fall to historic lows, the Department of Justice is redoubling our efforts to invest in local communities and keep American families safe."

"Through the Model Cities Initiative, we will continue making strides toward a safer, stronger, and more prosperous capital city. This funding will allow Jackson to build on the momentum already started by reducing crime and better supporting victims. When our neighborhoods are safer, families thrive, and communities grow stronger, not only here in Jackson, but across our State," **said Baxter Kruger, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi**.

"This is a tremendous win for Jackson and Mississippi. I'm grateful to President Trump and Attorney General Blanche for partnering with us to make our capital city a safer place," **said Governor Tate Reeves of Mississippi**. "Since day one, we've made enhancing public safety a top priority. We've invested in law enforcement, put more officers on the streets and held criminals accountable. This investment will provide additional resources to combat crime and help protect the people of this amazing city."

"This investment gives Jackson more resources to strengthen public safety and support the people who protect our city every day," **said Mayor John Horhn**. "I thank the Department of Justice for its support and our congressional delegation and state leaders for helping us get here. Funding is essential, but making Jackson safer takes all of us — faith leaders, neighborhood associations, educators, businesses, and neighbors working

together. We want every family to be able to raise their children, pursue opportunities, and enjoy life in Jackson without fear."

"True public safety requires us to address not only crime, but also the conditions that contribute to it. The MCI Grant provides an opportunity to strengthen our forensic capabilities, technology, and invest in the people who serve this community," **said Chief of Police Dr. RaShall M. Brackney**. "These investments are essential to building a police department that is not only better equipped to investigate and prevent crime, but also better positioned to address the complex challenges that shaped public safety in Jackson."

The Justice Department announced the Model Cities Initiative in June 2026 to build on early successes in jurisdictions like Memphis and Washington, DC in reducing violence, crime, and disorder. The initiative directs nearly $300 million in federal resources toward comprehensive public safety strategies that strengthen law enforcement, improve coordination among public safety partners, and address the factors contributing to crime and recidivism.

Several years ago, the Mississippi Legislature addressed surging crime rates in Jackson, utilizing the Capitol Complex Improvement District (CCID) to bring additional law enforcement and prosecutorial resources to Jackson. The Attorney General's Office successfully defended the laws establishing this framework in both state and federal courts, and now provides the prosecutors for the new CCID court. In 2025, the first year of its operation, her prosecutors secured nearly 300 convictions in that court, with a 98% success rate. This established state-local framework makes Jackson an ideal jurisdiction for the Model Cities Initiative, providing an opportunity that no other city can replicate to demonstrate that surging personnel and resources and working in partnership across federal, state, and local levels can reduce criminal activity, restore law and order, and positively impact the quality of life for residents in high crime jurisdictions.

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