AG Fitch Announces 2024 Human Trafficking Victims Fund Application Period



Human trafficking is real and it is here in Mississippi. Working together, we can put an end to this dangerous enterprise. I am pleased to announce that the Legislature has appropriated another \$2.5 million for the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund, and organizations that are helping human trafficking victims recover and heal are invited to apply. Applications must be received by December 13.



(Jackson, Mississippi) Attorney General Lynn Fitch announced that starting today, November 18, 2024, applications for funding from the Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund are available through the Office of the Attorney General and service providers are welcome to begin the application process.

"Human trafficking is real and it is here in Mississippi. Working together, we can put an end to this dangerous enterprise," **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. "I am pleased to announce that the Legislature has appropriated another \$2.5 million for the Victims of Human Trafficking Fund, and organizations that are helping human trafficking victims recover and heal are invited to apply. Applications must be received by December 13."

Originally created during the 2020 Legislative Session to provide funding to direct service providers for trafficking victims in Mississippi, the Fund is managed by a seven-member committee, including appointments by the Attorney General, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, and Commissioner of Child Protection Services, and one representative of a services provider. The Fund is administered by the Attorney General's Office. By statute, funding comes from assessments for convictions of certain crimes, donations, and legislative appropriations.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. CT on December 13, 2024. Visit <u>https://www.ago.state.ms.us/human-trafficking-fund/</u> to learn more and apply.

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