Re: Uninsured Motorist Enforcement Initiative

Dear Judge Taylor:

I hope all is well with you today.

I am enclosing an informational packet that we put together with regard to the Mississippi statutory and case law regarding the Uninsured Motorist Enforcement Initiative that Ocean Springs has enacted.

As of this writing, it appears three other Mississippi cities are going to join Ocean Springs in this program. Four others have indicated that they will be joining in the near future. Several of the municipal judges I have spoken to have asked if you have entered an Order into the Minutes with regard to this program. Essentially, they want to copy your Order. I do not know if you have entered an Order or not yet but an Order following Section 8 of the enclosed Memorandum would be all that is necessary to be placed in the Court Minutes.

I believe everything is set for the first plea date of March 1, 2022. It is my understanding that the Municipal Clerk, Peter Rigby, handles these plead dates. Someone from my office will be present at the plea date day as well as representatives from Securix. I do not know how big of a crowd is going to show up. If there are more than a handful of people present, it may be beneficial for someone to tell the individuals if they did not have insurance on the date of the ticket they will be found guilty and their license will be suspended unless they chose to enter the Diversion Program. You certainly have so much more knowledge and experience on these type matters than I do, but several of the municipal judges that we have spoken with across the State have indicated that maybe the way they handle these initial plea dates.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter. If I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Wilkinson

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