

April 3, 2025

Melissa S. Scott, Esquire  
General Counsel  
The Mississippi Bar  
Post Office Box 2168  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2168

Re: Robert W. Wilkinson - Bar Complaint  
Ellen Hall and Joseph Jewell

Dear Ms. Scott:

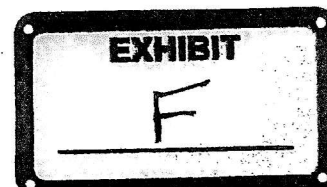
1. My name is Ricky Authement, and I am an Alderman for the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi. I am currently serving my second term as an Alderman.

2. During 2022 I was an Alderman when Chief Mark Dunston proposed that the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi enter into a new program that dealt with UNINSURED MOTORIST IN THE CITY. The new program also had the ability to significantly increase the number of automatic license plate readers in the City that would provide the police department with notifications of certain alerts including BOLO's and Amber alerts. City Attorney Robert Wilkinson advised the Board, in executive session, that if the City was interested in doing this program he believed it was necessary to obtain an Attorney General's Opinion regarding the legality of said program.

2. Ultimately Mr. Wilkinson advised the City that the Attorney General had given a verbal approval to this Program. Mr. Wilkinson also advised the Mayor and Board that he was representing Securix and had a conflict in providing the City any legal advice on this matter. The City subsequently entered into a contract with Securix, LLC. The contract was reviewed and the City received legal advice from attorney Amy St. Pe' with regard to the contract. Mr. Wilkinson recused himself from involvement on behalf of the City with Securix, LLC.

3. At all times during the short duration of the Securix, LLC contract, I was aware, as well as all other members of the Board, that Mr. Wilkinson was representing/involved with Securix. At no time did I ever ask or see him provide the City with any legal advice with regard to the Securix Program. Numerous times during the Program, individuals would appear at the Board of Aldermen meeting complaining about the Securix Uninsured Motorist Program. If Wilkinson was present at any such meeting the Mayor would direct him to respond to any complaints.

The City ultimately decided to cancel the contract with Securix, LLC. The first discussion, which was held in executive session, did not include Mr. Wilkinson or any member from his firm. This was done because of the Board's knowledge that he had involvement with Securix, LLC. In the next meeting wherein the City decided to cancel its contract with Securix,



LLC, neither Mr. Wilkinson nor any member of his firm attended the executive session, and the Board did not request nor receive any legal advice from Mr. Wilkinson regarding Securix, LLC. In fact, the Mayor contacted outside legal counsel for legal guidance in the cancellation of the Securix, LLC contract.

4. Robert Wilkinson was open with the Mayor and Board of his involvement with Securix, LLC and the only legal advice with regard to this is when the City instructed him for an Attorney General Opinion on whether or not the Program was legal.

5. I have absolutely no knowledge whatsoever of Robert Wilkinson engaging in any type of improper or unethical conduct as it relates to anything to do with the Securix, LLC contract.

6. I am advised that Ellen Hall submitted a document wherein she states that I had agreed to come to Jackson, Mississippi and offer testimony against Mr. Wilkinson. I never had any such discussion with Ms. Hall.

Please let me know should you need any additional information or if you need me to be present at any hearings that may occur in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Authement', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Rickey Authement