



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 4, 2025**

### **City of Ocean Springs Takes Legal Action Regarding License Plate Reader Program Funds**

**OCEAN SPRINGS, Miss.** - The City of Ocean Springs has taken formal legal action regarding funds received through the License Plate Reader Program operated by Securix, LLC, a Georgia-based for-profit company. The Ocean Springs Board of Aldermen voted to interplead the City's portion of those funds into *Divine v. Securix*, a federal class action lawsuit currently pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, the MacArthur Justice Center at the University of Mississippi School of Law, Public Justice, and the law firm of Chhabra, Gibbs & Herrington, PLLC raised concerns that Securix violated state and federal law and exposed the City to potential financial liability.

Although Ocean Springs contracted with Securix in 2021 with the intent of encouraging uninsured drivers to obtain car insurance, the City later determined that the program did not function as intended and terminated the contract in May 2023.

The Ocean Springs Board of Aldermen voted to interplead the total amount of \$468,681.13; the funds received from Securix and held in reserve by the City. If approved by the United States District Court, the City will transfer those funds into the Court's registry, after which the City should be released from any and all claims related to the Securix program. The Court will determine how the funds are to be distributed through the ongoing legal proceedings.

This action follows a thorough review of the concerns raised by multiple civil rights organizations and reflects the City's ongoing commitment to transparency, accountability, and compliance with state and federal law.

Mayor Bobby Cox stated: "This decision allows the City to do the right thing by ensuring these funds are handled fairly and lawfully through the federal court system. It reflects our commitment to accountability and to protecting the interests of our residents."

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