Serial: **265402**

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

FILED
NOV 04 2026
LANCE C. REID
Chancery Clerk

Jacob Stevens and Christopher Puckett — Plaintiffs

v.

No. 2026-AP-01258

City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi;
Toby Barker, the Mayor of Hattiesburg;
Hardy Sims, the Chief of Hattiesburg Police Department; Robert Wayne Wilkinson;
Alexander Wilkinson and Intellisafe, LLC — Defendants

FILED
NOV 04 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS

No. 2025-cv-0525-SM; In the Chancery Court of Forrest County, Mississippi

ORDER APPOINTING SPECIAL CHANCELLOR

THIS MATTER is before the Court upon request by the Chancellors for the Chancery Court of Forrest County, Mississippi, for the appointment of a Special Chancellor to preside over the proceedings in the above numbered and styled cause. This request was necessitated by the recusal of the Chancellors for said Court evidenced by Orders of Recusal executed in said case on October 21, 2026, and October 29, 2026.

Having fully considered the matter, the Court finds that the request is proper pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. Section 9-1-105.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that ***Honorable Sanford R. Steckler***, Senior Status Judge, be, and he is, hereby specially appointed Special Chancellor to preside and conduct proceedings in the above referenced case pursuant to and by authority

of Mississippi Code Ann. Section 9-1-105; which states that the Chief Justice may, with the advice and consent of a majority of the Justices of the Mississippi Supreme Court, appoint a Special Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court transmit copies of this order to the Honorable Sanford R. Steckler, Special Chancellor, the Honorable Renee M. Porter, the Honorable Rhea Hudson Sheldon, the Honorable Sheila Havard Smallwood, the Honorable Michael Chadwick Smith, Judges for the Chancery Court of Forrest County, and, to the Clerk of the Chancery Court of Forrest County, who is directed to file this Order and deliver copies to all counsel of record in said case and to parties not represented by counsel.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon the conclusion of this case in the trial court the Special Chancellor shall promptly forward a copy of the final judgment or other order of final disposition by mail or email to the Court Administrator, Supreme Court of Mississippi, P.O. Box 117, Jackson, MS 39205, rnations@courts.ms.gov.

SO ORDERED, this the 4th day of November, 2026.

LESLIE D. KING,
PRESIDING JUSTICE

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