



— DEPARTMENT OF —  
**REVENUE**  
— STATE OF MISSISSIPPI —

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Pike County Woman Indicted on Fifteen Counts of Fraudulent Statements and One Count of Computer Fraud**

**MCCOMB, Miss.** – On September 16, 2024, Lashotta Smothers, 40, of McComb, was indicted by a Pike County Grand Jury on charges of fraudulent statements and representations (MS Code 97-7-10) and Computer Fraud (MS Code 97-45-3) for fraudulent tax returns she filed for tax years 2021-2023.

Smothers was served with her indictment and taken into custody by Agents with the Department of Revenue and Officers with the McComb Police Department. Smothers is currently in the Pike County Jail awaiting bond.

As with all cases, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

Mississippi residents who abide by the law can rest assured knowing the Department of Revenue investigates and helps prepare criminal cases for prosecution of individuals who willfully defraud the state of monies that should lawfully go toward funding our schools, roads, counties, cities and more.

About the Mississippi Department of Revenue

The Mississippi Department of Revenue is the primary agency for collecting tax revenues that support state and local governments in Mississippi. The Department of Revenue is responsible for titling and registration of motor vehicles; monitoring ad valorem assessments throughout the state to ensure consistent appraisal and valuation of properties among the municipalities and counties of the state; enforcement of Mississippi's Prohibition and Local Option Law; licensing, regulating, and enforcing the law for medical cannabis dispensaries; and operating as the wholesale distributor of alcoholic beverages. For more information, visit [www.dor.ms.gov](http://www.dor.ms.gov).

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