



# HINDS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Victor Mason  
*Sheriff*

Cheryl Matory  
*Undersheriff*

## Press Release

For immediate release: Thursday, June 23, 2016

Contact: 601-794-2901

### HINDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND HINDS COUNTY CHANCERY COURTHOUSE EVACUATED DUE TO BOMB THREAT

(Jackson, Miss.) At 9:48 a.m. today Hinds County Sheriff Victor Mason was alerted that the Hinds County Courthouse and the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse had been targeted in a bomb threat, called into Jackson television station WLBT-TV3.

According to Sheriff Mason, WLBT passed this information along to the Jackson Police Department, which then notified HCSO dispatch. The caller stated a bomb had been placed in the hallway near Hinds County District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith's office in the Hinds County Courthouse. The caller also stated a second bomb had been planted in the office of Special Magistrate Judge Faye Peterson's office in the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse.

Officials from a number of city, state and county agencies joined forces to address this threat. HCSO officials immediately evacuated and secured both courthouses. The JPD bomb unit was activated. Hinds County Emergency Operations officials arrived at the scene at 10:20 a.m. and made a visual sweep of the area. JPD and HCSO officers coordinated traffic and briefly shut down adjacent streets. Clinton PD bomb unit officers arrived at 10:50 with a bomb detecting K-9. A Mississippi Highway Patrol K-9 also searched for any explosives.

"My sincere thanks goes to all the officers from different agencies who assisted in this emergency," said Sheriff Mason.

"Going forward, investigators will work to determine the origin of the initial call. Anyone with information regarding this threat, please contact my office at 601-974-2900."

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