

MS CIRCUIT JUDGE PLACE 2 DISTRICT 14 BRENDON ADAMS (R)

<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE LEFT</u>	<u>POTENTIAL HITS FROM THE RIGHT</u>
• Adams Previously Ran For District Attorney As A Republican. • Adams Has Used Aggressive Law-And-Order Rhetoric. • Adams Has Participated In Death-Penalty Prosecutions.. • A High-Profile FedEx-Driver Shooting Prosecution Was Dismissed With Prejudice During Adams’s Tenure..	• <u>N/A</u>

KEY FINDINGS INCLUDE:

- **Adams Is A Longtime Prosecutor And Current 14th Circuit District Attorney.** Adams served as an assistant district attorney in the 14th Circuit before being elected district attorney in 2023 and taking office in 2024.
- **Adams Previously Ran For Office As A Republican.** Adams won the Republican nomination for 14th Circuit District Attorney in 2023 before defeating Democrat Patrick Earl Beasley in the general election. The 2026 circuit court election is nonpartisan.
- **Adams Has Prosecuted Serious Violent-Crime Cases And Has Supported Severe Criminal Penalties.** Adams served on the prosecution team in the Willie Cory Godbolt mass-murder case, which resulted in four death sentences, and was involved in the prosecution of Marquis Flowers, where he said prosecutors could “very possibly” seek the death penalty.
- **Adams Has Used Tough-On-Crime Rhetoric As A Candidate And District Attorney.** During his 2023 district-attorney campaign, Adams said criminals would face a “HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT” and receive “no mercy in my courtroom.” In 2026, he said individuals distributing illegal narcotics would be “dealt with harshly.”
- **A High-Profile FedEx-Driver Shooting Case Was Dismissed During Adams’s Tenure, But The Discovery Problems Were Attributed To A Police Investigator.** The first trial ended in a mistrial in 2023, before Adams became district attorney. After Adams took office, his office continued the prosecution and planned a retrial. In January 2025, the charges were dismissed with prejudice because of repeated discovery violations

by a Brookhaven police detective, who was also found to have withheld evidence from prosecutors.

JURISDICTION SUMMARY

Mississippi's 14th Circuit Court District Is A Two-Judge Circuit Court District. The district currently consists of Lincoln, Pike, and Walthall counties and has two judgeships, designated Place One and Place Two. Beginning January 1, 2027, the district will consist of Copiah, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, and Lincoln counties. [Mississippi Legislature, HB 1544, 2025]

Circuit Courts Are General-Jurisdiction Trial Courts. Mississippi circuit courts hear felony criminal prosecutions and civil matters not exclusively assigned to another court. They also hear appeals from county, justice, and municipal courts and certain administrative boards and commissions. Circuit judges are elected in nonpartisan elections to four-year terms. [Mississippi Secretary of State, Judicial Section]

The District's Boundaries Will Change For The Term Beginning In 2027. Lincoln County will remain in the 14th Circuit Court District, while Copiah, Jefferson Davis, and Lawrence counties will join the district and Pike and Walthall counties will leave. The district will continue to have two judgeships. [Mississippi Legislature, HB 1544, 2025]

The Reconfigured District Leans Republican Based On Recent Presidential Results. In the 2024 presidential election, Donald Trump carried three of the four counties that will comprise the district beginning in 2027: Copiah, Lawrence, and Lincoln. Kamala Harris carried Jefferson Davis County. Trump received approximately 60% of the combined Trump-Harris vote across the four counties, compared with approximately 40% for Harris. Lincoln and Lawrence were the more Republican counties, while Jefferson Davis voted Democratic and Copiah was more closely divided. [Mississippi Secretary of State, 2024 General Election Results]

BACKGROUND

PERSONAL LIFE

Adams Is A Brookhaven-Based Attorney And Longtime Southwest Mississippi Prosecutor. [AVVO, accessed, 9/2/2026]

Adams Has Practiced Law In Mississippi Since 2005. [AVVO, accessed, 9/2/2026]

2002-2005: Adams Attended Mississippi College School Of Law.

Education



MC School of Law

Doctor of Law (JD)

2002 – 2005

[[LinkedIn](#), accessed, 9/2/2026]

Adams Has Publicly Discussed Being A Parent.

◆ Shared Concerns: Yet, amidst this hustle and bustle, no parent should constantly glance over their shoulder, worrying when their child is playing at the park or waiting for a class. I've felt that unease, the concern for the safety of my children, and I know many of you share that sentiment.

◆ A Personal Mission: This district isn't just where I campaign; it's where I've built my life, raised my kids, and planned for the future. It's OUR home. And as someone deeply rooted here, I am unwaveringly committed to transforming our district into a haven of safety, where children can play without fear and families can thrive without apprehension.

◆ A Vision of Prosperity: Beyond safety, I envision a district bustling with opportunities, businesses flourishing, and a community where prosperity is the norm, not the exception.

The drive to protect and elevate our community in Pike, Lincoln and Walthall Counties isn't a political goal—it's personal. Let's work together to create a district that serves as a beacon of both safety and success.

I ask for your vote for District Attorney on November 7th, 2023.

[#HomeSafeHome](#) [#AdamsForDA](#) [#OurFutureOurFight](#) [#BA4DA](#) See less



[[Facebook](#), Elect Brendon Adams, 10/17/2023]

Adams Has Publicly Referenced His “Wife.”

This is personal for me. My family lives here. My children go to school here. My home is built on family land here. So I'm not going anywhere.

I came back home right after I graduated law school, met my wife, had children, adopted dogs and cats, and built a home.

THIS. IS. MY. HOME.

THS IS YOUR HOME.

And I'm ready to fight for it.

Are you?

If you are, then vote for me to be your next district attorney, and let's fight together.

On Nov 7, 2023. Elect Brendon Adams. District Attorney.

[#JoinTeamBA4DA](#)

[#JusticeAndAccountability](#) See less

[[Facebook](#), Elect Brendon Adams, 9/12/2023]

PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC, LITIGATION, & PUBLIC SECTOR BACKGROUND

Adams Spent 17 Years As A Prosecutor Before Becoming District Attorney. “Mississippi Judicial District 14 has elected a new district attorney, with Dewitt ‘Dee’ Bates retiring at the end of the calendar year after 20 years in the office. Lincoln County Assistant DA Brendon Adams threw his hat in the ring early to take the prosecutor spot for Lincoln, Pike and Walthall counties. He survived the Republican Primary to face Democrat candidate Patrick Earl Beasley. Beasley is Chief Assistant DA in District 22, and a former police officer. Tuesday, Adams won the race with 59 percent of the total votes in Lincoln, Walthall and Pike counties. Adams won Lincoln County with 7,755 votes (69 percent) to Patrick Earl Beasley’s 3,463 (31 percent). Adams also took Walthall County with 58.7 percent. Beasley won in Pike County, with 50.3 percent of the vote there. ‘I am so humbled and so thankful for the outpouring of support I have been shown throughout my campaign, and at the polls today,’ Adams said Tuesday night. ‘I am grateful beyond words to be your next District Attorney. I promise to work every day for the next four years to make each of you proud,’ he said. ‘Let’s work together to see our district become a safer place, so together we can thrive. Thank you again! This would not be possible without each of you. Now, to continue the pursuit of justice and accountability.’ Adams has been a prosecutor in the district for 17 years. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and Mississippi College School of Law, where he earned a doctorate of jurisprudence. He and his wife Jessica have three children and live in Lincoln County.” [[Daily Leader](#), 11/20/2023]

Adams Served As An Assistant District Attorney Under 14th Circuit District Attorney Dewitt “Dee” Bates Before Succeeding Bates As District Attorney. “Mississippi Judicial District 14 has elected a new district attorney, with Dewitt ‘Dee’ Bates retiring at the end of the calendar year after 20 years in the office. Lincoln County Assistant DA Brendon Adams threw his hat in the ring early to take the prosecutor spot for Lincoln, Pike and Walthall counties. He survived the Republican Primary to face Democrat candidate Patrick Earl Beasley. Beasley is Chief Assistant DA in District 22, and a former police officer. Tuesday, Adams won the race with 59 percent of the total votes in Lincoln, Walthall and Pike counties. Adams won Lincoln County with 7,755 votes (69 percent) to Patrick Earl Beasley’s 3,463 (31 percent). Adams also took Walthall County with 58.7 percent. Beasley won in Pike County, with 50.3 percent of the vote there. ‘I am so humbled and so thankful for the outpouring of support I have been shown throughout my campaign, and at the polls today,’ Adams said Tuesday night. ‘I am grateful beyond words to be your next District Attorney. I promise to work every day for the next four years to make each of you proud,’ he said. ‘Let’s work together to see our district become a safer place, so together we can thrive. Thank you again! This would not be possible without each of you. Now, to continue the pursuit of justice and accountability.’ Adams has been a prosecutor in the district for 17 years. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and Mississippi College School of Law, where he earned a doctorate of jurisprudence. He and his wife Jessica have three children and live in Lincoln County.” [[Daily Leader](#), 11/20/2023]

2026-2027: Adams Served On Mississippi Bar Board Of Commissioners. [[Mississippi State Bar](#), accessed, 9/3/2026]

FedEx Driver Shooting Case

January 2022: Two White Men Were Accused Of Chasing And Shooting At Black FedEx Driver D'Monterrio Gibson While He Was Making Deliveries In Brookhaven. Gregory Case and his son, Brandon Case, were later charged with attempted first-degree murder, conspiracy, and shooting into Gibson's vehicle. Prosecutors alleged Gregory attempted to block Gibson's van while Brandon fired at the vehicle as Gibson drove away. [[Associated Press](#), 8/15/23]

August 2023: The First Trial Ended In A Mistrial After Police Failed To Turn Over Evidence, Before Adams Became District Attorney. Judge David Strong declared a mistrial after Brookhaven Police Detective Vincent Fernando acknowledged that he had not provided prosecutors or defense attorneys with a videotaped statement taken from Gibson. Contemporary reporting identified Dee Bates as the district attorney at the time; Bates remained in office through December 31, 2023. [[Associated Press](#), 8/17/2023; [WLBT](#), 10/2/2025]

2024: Adams Inherited The FedEx-Driver Prosecution After Becoming District Attorney. Bates's tenure ended December 31, 2023, and Adams became district attorney. Defense attorneys moved to dismiss the Case prosecution in March 2024. [[WLBT](#), 10/2/25]

September 2024: Adams Personally Questioned Fernando During A Hearing Over The Discovery Problems In The Case. Later reporting on the case identified Adams as the new district attorney and described his participation in a September 30, 2024 hearing concerning Fernando's handling and disclosure of evidence. Fernando subsequently disputed allegations that he intentionally withheld evidence. [[WLBT](#), 10/2/25]

January 2025: Judge Strong Dismissed The Charges With Prejudice After Finding Repeated Discovery Violations By Fernando. Strong dismissed all charges against Gregory and Brandon Case, preventing the case from being retried in the same court. Reporting on the ruling said Strong found repeated withholding of evidence constituted "egregious discovery violations," warranting dismissal with prejudice. [[Associated Press](#), 1/6/25; [SuperTalk Mississippi](#), 1/6/25]

The Evidence At Issue Had Not Been Provided To The District Attorney's Office Either, Limiting The Extent To Which The Discovery Failure Can Be Attributed Personally To Adams. Reporting said Fernando possessed a videotaped Gibson interview that had not been released to either the district attorney or defense attorneys. [WLBT](#) similarly reported that Fernando was accused of conducting an interview with Gibson and failing to turn it over to either side. [[SuperTalk Mississippi](#), 1/6/25; [WLBT](#), 1/7/25]

Adams Said Brookhaven Police's Actions Left The Judge With "No Choice" But To Dismiss The Case. Following the dismissal, Adams said, "I'm disappointed in the ruling but I think the actions of the Brookhaven Police Department left the judge with no choice." [[SuperTalk Mississippi](#), 1/6/2025]

January 2025: Brookhaven Aldermen Fired Fernando One Day After The Case Was Dismissed. Fernando submitted a resignation effective January 31, but the Brookhaven Board of Aldermen rejected the resignation and unanimously voted to terminate him immediately. [[WLBT](#), 1/8/2025]

August 2025: Fernando Publicly Denied Intentionally Withholding Evidence. Fernando later told WLBT that he had provided the district attorney's office with everything he had received and denied intentionally withholding evidence. WLBT reported that the city ultimately rescinded his termination and allowed him to retire with back pay and benefits. [[WLBT](#), 8/14/2025]

Former District Attorney Dee Bates Said The Criminal Justice System Failed D'Monterrio Gibson And "That's A Responsibility Of My Office." [[WLBT](#), 10/2/2025]

Willie Cory Godbolt: mass murder/death penalty

2017-2020: Adams Was A Trial Prosecutor In The Willie Cory Godbolt Mass-Murder Case, Which Resulted In Four Death Sentences. Godbolt was charged in connection with the May 2017 killings of eight people in Lincoln County, including Lincoln County Sheriff's Deputy William Durr. Following trial, Godbolt was convicted of four counts of capital murder, four counts of first-degree murder, two counts of kidnapping, attempted murder, and armed robbery. The jury imposed four death sentences, and Godbolt also received six life sentences and two 20-year sentences. The Mississippi Supreme Court's 2024 opinion identifies William Brendon Adams among the trial-court attorneys and affirmed Godbolt's convictions and sentences. [[Mississippi Supreme Court](#), 3/7/24]

Marquis Flowers: killings of two Brookhaven police officers

2019: Adams Said Prosecutors "Could Very Possibly" Seek The Death Penalty Against A Defendant Charged With Killing Two Brookhaven Police Officers. Marquis Flowers was charged with two counts of capital murder in the September 2018 shooting deaths of Brookhaven Police Cpl. Zach Moak and Patrolman James White. At Flowers's January 2019 preliminary hearing, an investigator testified that body-camera footage showed Flowers firing on the officers at close range. Assistant District Attorney Adams told the court that prosecutors "could very possibly" seek the death penalty. [[Associated Press/KSL](#), 1/8/19]

December 2019: Adams Asked The Mississippi Crime Lab To Expedite Ballistics And DNA Testing In The Flowers Capital-Murder Case. At a December 2019 status hearing, Adams told the court that prosecutors were waiting for ballistics and DNA results from the state crime lab and said prosecutors had contacted the lab and "had them put a rush on this." [[Associated Press/WLBT](#), 12/18/19]

Billy Joe Bueto: 85-year sexual-assault sentence

September 2024: Adams's Office Secured An 85-Year Sentence Against A McComb Man Convicted Of Sexual Battery And Other Sexual Offenses. A Pike County jury convicted Billy Joe Bueto of one count of sexual battery, two counts involving touching and handling a helpless person for gratification of lust, and three counts of filming another person without permission where there was an expectation of privacy. Authorities said investigators discovered videos posted online depicting the victim being sexually assaulted. Bueto was sentenced to 85 years in MDOC custody, with the first 50 years to be served day-for-day. [[WJTV/The Beat of the Capital](#), 10/1/2024]

POLITICAL AFFILIATION & ACTIVITY:

Ideology & Politics

2023: Adams Ran For District Attorney As A Republican “Mississippi Judicial District 14 has elected a new district attorney, with Dewitt “Dee” Bates retiring at the end of the calendar year after 20 years in the office. Lincoln County Assistant DA Brendon Adams threw his hat in the ring early to take the prosecutor spot for Lincoln, Pike and Walthall counties. He survived the Republican Primary to face Democrat candidate Patrick Earl Beasley. Beasley is Chief Assistant DA in District 22, and a former police officer.” [[Daily Leader](#), 11/10/2023]

2023: Adams Campaigned On An Aggressive Law-And-Order Message.

Adams Said He Wanted Criminals Seeking To “Set Up Shop” In The District To Know That His Administration Would Create A “Hostile Work Environment” And That They Would Be Shown “No Mercy In My Courtroom.”

Elect Brendon Adams. District Attorney Pike, Lincoln and Walthall County. 's Post

**Elect Brendon Adams. District Attorney Pike, Lincoln and Walthall County.**
September 12, 2023 · 🌐

I have a very important question for y'all this evening ?

What kind of community do you want for you and your family?

Let me tell you what I want, and am PASSIONATE about doing my part to create.

- I want new businesses to look at our cities and want to come. I want them to know their businesses will be safe with plenty of clientele.
- I want our schools to thrive, so in turn families WANT to move here. I want my biggest school concerns to be trying to figure out how to fix Stella's curly hair, Lillie meeting her AR points, and Paxton not forgetting his backpack at home. I don't want to constantly worry about violence or if my children are safe when they are outside.
- I want to see people out in our communities, churches, stores, and sidewalks happy and feeling a sense of security and safety.
- I want criminals looking to “set up shop” to KNOW this DA will make sure they have a HOSTILE WORK ENVIRONMENT and will be shown no mercy in my courtroom. I WILL make sure the criminal element has no doubt- I will take you to trial and I will prosecute you.
- I want to see the DA's office and all law enforcement join together and fight this pandemic of violent crime that is plaguing our district. Those who are working outside the confines of our laws will know- law enforcement has the full support of the DA's office to ensure the strongest case possible will be brought to trial. I have always been available 24/7 for any questions about searches, warrants, charges, investigations, etc. and I will make sure every law agency has my personal cell number.

I want to see our streets become a safer place.

[Facebook, Brendon Adams, 9/12/2023]

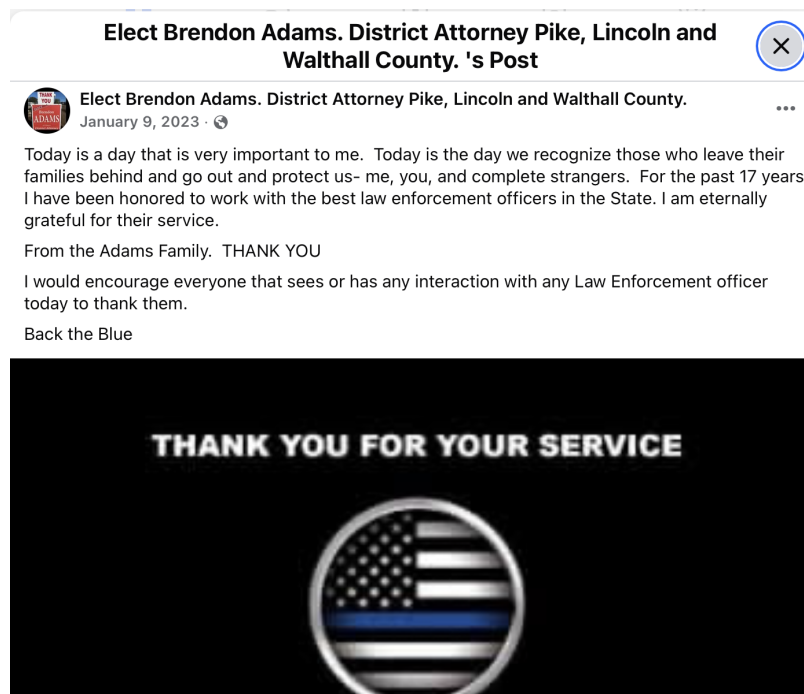
2026: Adams Continued To Use Tough-On-Crime Rhetoric As District Attorney.

2026: Following Pierra Jackson’s Drug And Firearm Convictions, Adams Said His Office Would Not Tolerate Drug Dealers Bringing “Poison” Into The Community And Said People Distributing Illegal Narcotics “Will Be Dealt With Harshly.” “A Lincoln County jury on Friday found Austin Pierre Jackson guilty of multiple drug trafficking and firearm charges, and a judge sentenced him to 40 years in prison, with the first 23 years to serve. Jackson was convicted in the Circuit Court of Lincoln County of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon;

possession of at least 10 but less than 30 grams of fentanyl with intent to distribute; possession of at least 10 but less than 30 grams of cocaine with intent to distribute; and possession of fewer than 10 dosage units of amphetamine with intent to distribute. All counts were enhanced by possession of a firearm. Judge David Strong ordered Jackson to serve the sentence in the custody of the Mississippi Department of Corrections. The case stemmed from a law enforcement detail conducted in Bogue Chitto involving the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Mississippi Highway Patrol. Authorities said a traffic stop and subsequent search of Jackson's vehicle led to the seizure of the narcotics. District Attorney Brendon Adams said the sentence sends a clear message. 'We will not tolerate drug dealers that continue to bring this poison into our communities,' Adams said in a statement. 'Those that bring these illegal narcotics into our community and distribute to our people and children will be dealt with harshly.' Adams thanked the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Mississippi Highway Patrol for their work in the investigation and said his office considers the safety of families, schools, churches and law enforcement a top priority. Assistant District Attorney Steven Waldrup prosecuted the case." [Darkhorse Press, 2/25/2026]

Affiliation with political figures/organizations:

Adams's 2023 Campaign Included "Back The Blue" Messaging.



[Facebook, Brendon Adams, 1/9/2023]

2023: Adams Publicly Thanked Republican Gov. Tate Reeves During His District-Attorney Campaign.

Elect Brendon Adams. District Attorney Pike, Lincoln and Walthall County. 's Post



Elect Brendon Adams. District Attorney Pike, Lincoln and Walthall County.

April 25, 2023 · 🌐

It is official. Thank you Gov Tate Reeves and all of our local Senators and Representatives The 14th District has gotten an additional Assistant DA.

With this announcement means my plans and goals as your next/new District Attorney are one step closer. CHANGE is coming !!!!!!! can now announce that when elected I will begin the formation of the 14th Judicial District (Pike, Lincoln, and Walthall Counties) Violent Crimes Trial Team and Task Force.

What does this entail...

We will have a dedicated team of Attorneys that will travel the District and work with other Assistant DAs with the sole purpose of prosecuting violent crimes. THIS WILL ENSURE THAT WE ARE WELL-PREPARED TO PROSECUTE VIOLENT OFFENDERS, WHICH WILL RESULT IN Less plea bargaining and more Trials. Holding those who break our laws accountable for their actions and seeking justice for the victims of crimes.

The creation of the Violent Crimes Task Force between our agencies- In our small counties one thing is a common thread. We all could use a helping hand, another set of eyes, or just someone to call and talk with. My plan is to do just that. Create an information sharing, crime scene, and prosecuting task force. Not a unit to take over, but to assist and to ADVISE. THIS WILL TAKE the stress out of already OVERWORKED agencies.

Increasing training between Agencies-

By working with Law Enforcement and partnering with other Agencies, as well the overwhelming amount of public support I am receiving from local Business leaders , we will bridge the gap between Law Enforcement, Prosecution , and most important the PUBLIC.

[Facebook, Brendon Adams, 4/25/23]

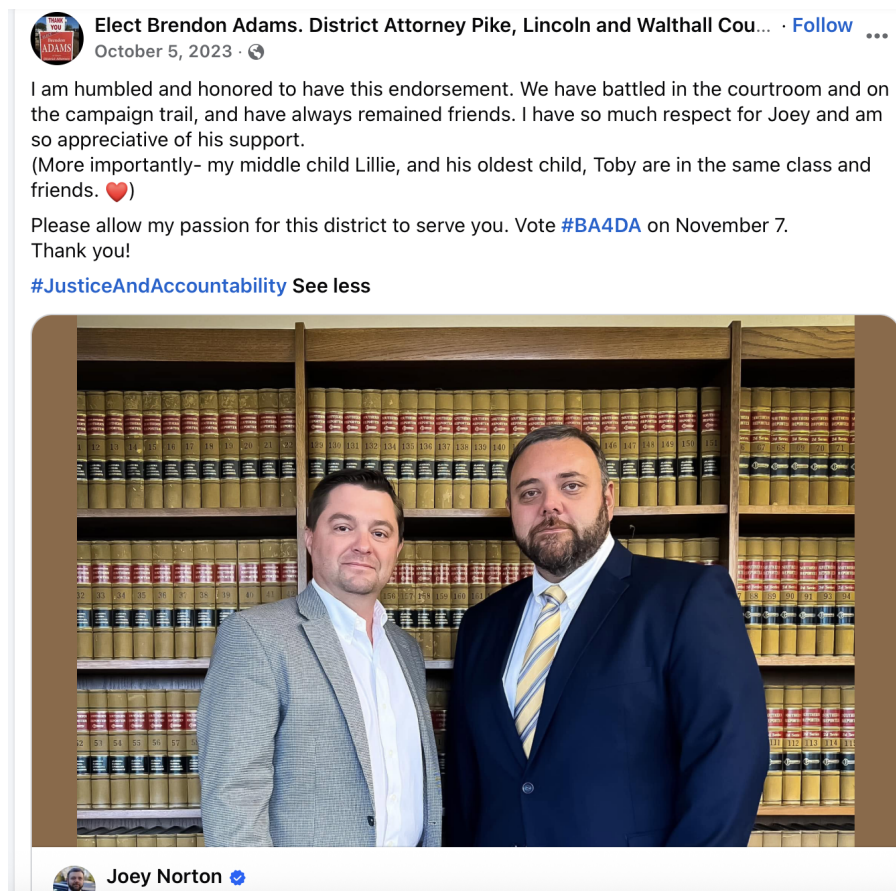
Campaign Background & Infrastructure

2023: Adams Won A Competitive Republican Primary For District Attorney Before Winning The General Election. Adams defeated Joey Norton in the Republican primary for 14th Circuit District Attorney and then defeated Democrat Patrick Earl Beasley in the November 2023 general election. Official Mississippi election records identify Adams as the Republican candidate for District Attorney, District 14. [[Mississippi Secretary of State](#), accessed, 9/3/2026]

2026: Adams Qualified For The Open District 14, Place 2 Circuit Court Seat In A Three-Candidate Nonpartisan Race. Mississippi Secretary of State records list Adams alongside Matt Kitchens and Albert Turnage for District 14, Place 2. [Mississippi Secretary of State, accessed, 9/3/2026]

Endorsements

2023: Former Republican Primary Opponent Joey Norton Endorsed Adams Following Their District-Attorney Primary.



[Facebook, Brendon Adams, 10/5/2023]

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

June 2026: Adams Reported \$9,225 In Year-To-Date Contributions And \$2,430.37 Cash On Hand. [[Mississippi Secretary of State](#), accessed, 9/2/2026]

July 2026: Adams Reported \$9,725 In Year-To-Date Contributions And \$2,930.37 Cash On Hand. [[Mississippi Secretary of State](#), accessed, 9/2/2026]

PERSONAL POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

No findings of note

WEALTH

No findings of note

ISSUES

DEMOCRACY & ELECTION STANCES:

No findings of note

IDEOLOGY, RHETORIC & EXTREMISM SIGNALS

No findings of note

POLITICAL POWER

No findings of note

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY & ABUSE OF POWER

No findings of note

CORRUPTION & LEGAL

No findings of note

GOVERNANCE & COMPETENCE

No findings of note

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

[Campaign Facebook- Circuit Judge](#)

[Campaign Facebook- District Court Judge](#)

[Personal Instagram](#)

PUBLIC RECORDS

No findings of note