



# OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## CREDIT REPORTING REFORM BENEFITS MISSISSIPPIANS

As a result of Attorney General Jim Hood's investigation into credit reporting agencies, the three major credit reporting agencies have agreed to institute significant reforms in Mississippi. Those include:

**Free and Unlimited Credit Reports:** Mississippi consumers may access an unlimited number of free credit reports for three years from two of the major credit reporting agencies. Consumers are also eligible to obtain one free FICO score annually for three years.

- Beginning in early November, consumers can get their free credit reports at [www.TransUnion.com/mississippi](http://www.TransUnion.com/mississippi) and free credits reports and FICO scores at [www.mississippicreditreportsettlement.com](http://www.mississippicreditreportsettlement.com)
- Consumers may receive an email from "inquiries@MississippiCreditReportSettlement" with details about the benefits. This email is not spam.
- TransUnion will promote the free credit reports through advertising in print, social media, and digital radio platforms.

**"Feel Good About Credit" Campaign:** Equifax has launched a new campaign to educate consumers about credit and help to improve their financial life, [www.feelgoodaboutcredit.com](http://www.feelgoodaboutcredit.com)

**End to Public Records Reporting:** Unless they can develop standards to protect against errors in public records reporting, the agencies will:

- **stop** reporting civil judgments and tax liens against Mississippi Consumers
- **purge** all existing civil judgments and tax liens from Mississippi Consumers' reports

**Focused Reviews of Worst Debt Collectors:** Each agency will conduct annual reviews of the debt collectors with the highest consumer dispute rates in Mississippi and address any problems identified during the review. Debt collectors who fail to correct problems may be prohibited from continuing to report information on Mississippi consumers.

**Accurate Reporting of Extinguished Mississippi Debt:** The agencies will work to implement new procedures for accurately reporting debts that are extinguished under Mississippi law.

**Specialized Handling of Mixed Files:** A mixed file is a consumer credit report in which some of the information pertains to a consumer or consumers other than the consumer to whom the report relates. The agencies will escalate mixed file disputes to specialized agents with substantial experience processing this type of dispute.

**Accurate Reporting of Bankruptcy Discharges:** The agencies will take steps to ensure that bankruptcy discharges are accurately reported.

**End to Deceptive Marketing Practices:** Experian will obtain Mississippi consumer's express consent before they are automatically enrolled in a credit monitoring subscription after a free trial period. TransUnion will ensure that their marketing practices comply with federal and state laws.

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