



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 23, 2023**

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## **MALTB Investigators Recover Stolen Property in Hinds County**

**JACKSON, Miss.** – The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) recovered a stolen skid steer, with an estimated value of \$50,000, in Hinds County last week.

On October 15, 2023, MALTB investigators started an investigation after receiving anonymous information of possible stolen equipment. Three days later, investigators located and recovered a stolen 2018 Model 289D Caterpillar Skid Steer. The skid steer had been reported stolen from Hinds County in the City of Jackson in July 2022. The property recovered was valued at an estimated \$50,000.

MALTB Director Dean Barnard praised investigators for their quick action and recovery of the equipment and thanked the anonymous caller for providing the information. “We encourage anyone who might have information of stolen agricultural equipment to please contact your local law enforcement, Crime Stoppers at 601-355-TIPS, or our MALTB tip line at 1-800-678-2660. All callers can remain anonymous,” said Barnard.

Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson said, “I applaud our investigators’ swift response and hard work to recover the valuable property in this case. Our investigators are the first line of defense when it comes to thefts in Mississippi’s ag community, and we are dedicated to protecting and serving our producers throughout the state.”

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau, the law enforcement division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, enforces state laws pertaining to the theft of cattle, horses, swine, poultry, fish, farm equipment, chemicals, timber and all other farm or agriculture-related crimes. Visit <http://msagtheft.org/> to learn more about the MALTB.

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**Photo attached.**



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