



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

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 5, 2024**

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## **MALTB Investigators Recover Stolen Farm Truck in Claiborne County**

**JACKSON, Miss.** – The Mississippi Agriculture and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB) assisted in the recovery of a farm truck in Claiborne County, that led to the recovery of a tow truck stolen in Florida valued at \$92,000.

On July 27, 2024, Claiborne County Sheriff's Office took a report of a stolen 2002 Ford F350 farm truck with a fuel tank. MALTB received additional information on July 29, 2024, that stated that a Kubota tractor was damaged during the theft of the farm truck.

Claiborne County Sheriff Edward Goods advised MALTB investigators about the truck's possible location after several suspects had been identified. A search of that location recovered the truck abandoned on a rural county road near the Claiborne County and Jefferson County line. The inside of the truck had been set on fire by the suspects in an attempt to cover up the crime.

During the investigation of the stolen farm truck, a MALTB investigator spotted a grey 2022 Ford F-550 tow truck with no tag traveling along a street in Port Gibson, Claiborne County that matched the description of a stolen out of state vehicle. MALTB initiated a traffic stop assisted by Sheriff Goods. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the truck was a 2022 Ford F-350 tow truck that had been reported stolen by the Santa Rosa County Florida Sheriff's Office on July 18, 2024.

The Mississippi Agricultural & Livestock Theft Bureau Director Dean Barnard would like to commend all the MALTB investigators along with the Claiborne County Sheriff's Office for their continued effort in the recovery of the stolen farm equipment and out of state tow truck.

The Mississippi Agriculture 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. To report or provide information regarding an agricultural crime, call (800) 678-2660.

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**Photo attached.**



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