

Benton County residents cast votes in controversial race for sheriff

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Election Day in Benton County meant a local fire department was a very busy place...not putting out fires, but serving as one of five county polling centers. Ballots in Benton County included a hot sheriff's race that has landed one candidate for the position behind bars.

"I think it's a disgrace!"

Clint Moffit wasn't talking Tuesday, but his mother was. Moffit was arrested last week, accused of voter fraud, and hiring at least nine others to go around the county offering cash for votes.

"We are still trying to win an election," she said. "We're out here trying to get an election won."

Investigators with the Mississippi State Police monitored elections all day in Benton County, keeping an eye on the election process and an ear out for any complaints.

Moffitt supporters said the candidate is being set up, and that this is just another case of what they called "dirty Benton County politics."

Moffitt's opponent, incumbent Sheriff Arnie McMullen, was not available for comment.

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to email Syan Rhodes.



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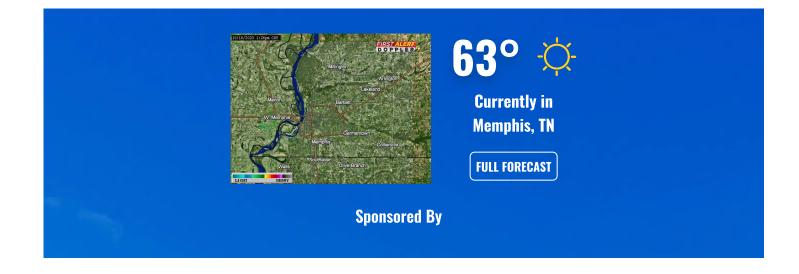
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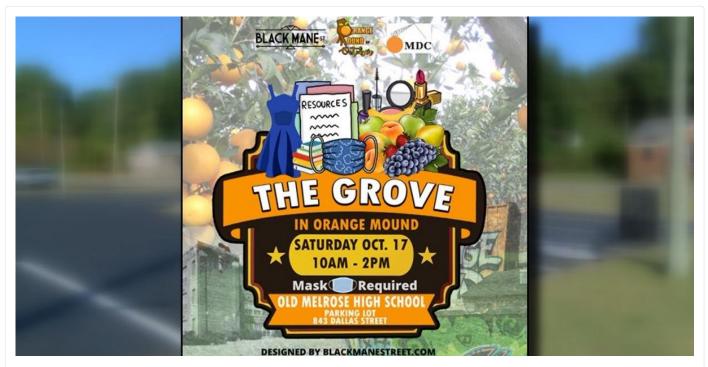
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