

# Legal clinic to offer help with expungements

Greenwood Common-wealth/By Gerard Edic - Staff Writer

Citizens next week will have the opportunity to get free legal assistance clearing up their criminal records as well as handling various family matters and potential foreclosures.

Eligible crime convictions generally include misdemeanors two years after all terms and conditions have been completed (including fines paid), or if the misdemeanor is someone's very first offense, that could be immediately considered for expungement, said Seira Wil-

liams, an attorney with MVLP who sets up legal clinics.

Various felony convictions can also be expunged, although not violent or excluded felonies, Williams said.

When potential clients show up to the legal clinic, they will fill out intake forms and provide documents needed to determine if an expungement is possible. For misdemeanor offenses, appropriate documents include an abstract or proof of payment of fines; for felonies, this includes an indictment, sentencing order or discharge order. A client must also bring a valid proof

of identification. If an attorney determines a client is eligible to have a conviction expunged, they will fill out paperwork that the clients themselves file with the appropriate court since they will be representing themselves — although MVLP attorneys will still be available for technical assistance. A grant from the Delta Health Alliance covers the costs of the court filing fees.

People whose charges have been dismissed should also consider getting the dismissals expunged, since it's often incorrectly believed that those are not part of a criminal record, Wil-

liams added. Even if a charge has been dropped, an arrest can still show up in a criminal record but not the fact that the charge was dropped.

The costs for expungement through a hired attorney vary. People have been quoted anywhere from \$300 to \$1,500, Williams said, while filing fees can cost hundreds of dollars.

Expungements can allow people to move on and better their lives. "It gives them an opportunity for a fresh start. ... It literally eliminates a barrier for someone," Williams said.

Wednesday's legal clinic also includes attorneys versed in family law who can assist with divorces, uncontested guardianships, name changes or birth certificate corrections. An attorney will also be present to assist clients with potential foreclosure preventions.

MVLP has held legal clinics in Leflore County the past five years. About 20 people show up each year, but more are always welcomed, Williams said.

Considering the complexity of the legal system, free legal assistance benefits clients, especially for those who otherwise couldn't afford to hire a lawyer, Williams said.

"It's incredibly difficult to navigate the court system on

# U.S earns historic win in World Cup opener after beatdown of Paraguay as the legend of Folarin Balogun is born

Story by Jackson Thompson/FOX News

History was made as the U.S. dropped a 4-bomb on Paraguay.

For the first time in history, the U.S. scored at least four goals in a World Cup game.

On top of that, Folarin Balogun, 24, became the first American player since 1930 to score multiple goals in a World Cup match. The 4-1 victory over Paraguay also marked the first time the United States won a World Cup game by three goals since 1930, when it also beat Paraguay. Team USA secured the historic win in its 2026 FIFA World Cup opener in Southern California on Friday night.

Balogun's big night marked a historic moment in one of the more fascinating American soccer stories in USMNT history.

The U.S. raced to a 3-0 lead, scoring its first goal within the opening seven minutes, and came within

one goal of matching the largest World Cup victory in program history. Even with the three-goal advantage, the Americans continued to press for a fourth goal. But after U.S. captain Christian Pulisic went down with an injury, Paraguay found the back of the net in the 73rd minute.

But then, in the final seconds, 23-year-old Gio Reyna scored the historic fourth goal to ensure the U.S. earned three points in the World Cup standings.

The American scoring barrage started when Paraguay's Damián Bobadilla scored an own goal in the sixth minute, giving the Americans an early lead in the highly anticipated group-stage matchup.

American fans packed in SoFi Stadium roared as the USMNT seized an early advantage.

Then in the 30th minute, the New York native Balogun scored his first-ever World Cup goal, pushing the lead to two.

Balogun's strike gave the U.S. a two-goal cushion in the 30th minute, the third-fastest the Americans have reached that mark in a World Cup match. The only time Team USA managed to put the ball in the net sooner was in 2002 against Portugal (29th minute) and in a 1930 meeting with Paraguay (15th minute).

Balogun's special night continued just before halftime, when he scored again, sending the crowd into a frenzy. Balogun raced onto a pinpoint pass from teammate Malik Tillman before curling a shot into the top-left corner for a standout goal.

Born in Brooklyn to Nigerian parents, but raised in London, Balogun came through the prestigious Arsenal academy. He was discovered at age eight playing in a local "Sunday League" in London and joined the youth academy for Arsenal, one of England's biggest professional clubs.

He had the choice to play for the U.S. or England, and when deciding which national team to commit to, he took a vacation to the U.S. in 2023. He felt so much overwhelming support from American fans on social media that it heavily influenced his decision to pledge his international allegiance to the United States.

Now, he is America's newest star in a strong start to a World Cup that will be

played on home soil for the first time in three decades.

## 2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

West Hill Water Association  
PWS#: 0260018  
June 2026

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water system works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Note: This report will not be mailed to each customer, however you may request a copy from our office. Please share this information with anyone who drinks this water (or their guardians), especially those who may not have received the report directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

Contact & Meeting Information  
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Leah Allen, Bookkeeper, at 662.582.2007. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at 20990 MS-12, Lexington, MS 39095.

Source of Water  
Our water source is purchased from the HUD that has wells drawing from the Meridian Upper Wilcox Aquifer. The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the Holmes Interstate Utility District have received moderate susceptibility rankings to contamination.

Period Covered by Report  
We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This report is based on results of our monitoring period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2025, the table reflects the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity, microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In addition to the contaminants listed in the table, we tested for additional chemicals for which the state and EPA have set standards. We found no detectable levels of those chemicals.

Violations  
Our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

Lead Educational Statement  
Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and your children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact our water system. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Our system has completed the Lead Service Line Inventory, and no lead lines were found. The methods used to make that determination were visual inspections, water operator knowledge and archived records. This inventory report is available for viewing at our office upon request.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b> – Salts and metals which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.								
10. Barium	N	2025	.0609	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2021/23*	.2	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Erosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead	N	2021/23*	0	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Erosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	2025	.103	No Range	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	2024*	34.5	No Range	ppm	20		Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b> – Substances formed when disinfectants, like Chlorine, used to treat drinking water react with naturally occurring materials in the water.								
81. HAAS	N	2024*	2.64	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water chlorination
82. THM (Total Trihalomethanes)	N	2024*	3.08	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	2025	1.5 - RAA	.65 - 2.5	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2025.								
<b>Terms and Abbreviations</b> In the table you may find unfamiliar terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:								
<b>Action Level (AL)</b> – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.								
<b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)</b> – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.								
<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)</b> – The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.								
<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)</b> – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.								
<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)</b> – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.								
<b>Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)</b> – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.								
<b>Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)</b> – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.								
RAA: Running Annual Average								

# \*Four People

(Continued from page 1.)

in stable condition.

Sheriff March said the shooting was between two groups of people and that, this

year, gun violence in Holmes County is the worst he has seen in all his time in office.

It appears the shooting was from a mixture of handguns and rifles. The sheriff added that more young people are now carrying guns, which has become a real issue.

There is no suspect information at this time.

This is an active and ongoing investigation.

If anyone has any additional information related to this case, they are asked to contact the Holmes County Sheriff's Office.

## 2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Durant  
PWS ID# 0260006  
June 2026

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies. Our water source is groundwater. Our wells draw from the Meridian Upper Wilcox aquifer.

Contact and Meeting Information  
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Mayor John Haynes at (662)653-3221. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at 6:00 P.M. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at city hall.

Source of Water  
A Source Water Assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of the drinking water supply and to identify potential sources of contamination. The general susceptibility rankings assigned to each well of this system are provided immediately below. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water supply and is available upon request. The wells for the City of Durant have received moderate to higher susceptibility rankings to contamination.

Period Covered by Report  
We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for the contaminant group. Unless otherwise noted the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, (2025). In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2025 the table reflects the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. All drinking water, including bottled water may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Terms and Abbreviations  
In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water sample.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter – one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water sample.

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range of detects or # of samples exceeding MCL/ACL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
10. Barium (ppm)	2025	N	0.0741	NO RANGE	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
16. Fluoride (ppm)	2025	N	0.1	NO RANGE	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead (ppb)	2023*	N	1	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2025	N	0.08	NO RANGE	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from Septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Contaminants</b>							
81. HAAS (ppb)	2025	N	23.0	2.5 - 30.0	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. THM (ppb)	2025	N	32.0	0.0 - 41.1	0	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	2025	N	1.20	0.98 - 1.27	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
**Sodium (ppb)	2024*	N	81.3	No Range	20	None	Road Salt, Water treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents

\*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2025.

\*\*Sodium. EPA recommends that drinking water sodium not exceed 20 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Excess sodium from salt in the diet increases the risk of high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", the City of Durant is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.6 - 1.2 parts per million (ppm) was 0. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year within the optimal range of 0.6 - 1.2 ppm was 0%. The number of months that samples were collected and analyzed in the previous calendar year was 0.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants monthly. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. To ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any samples prior to the end of monitoring period. Some people who drink water containing Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Lead Information  
If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and your children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Bolton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Our system has completed the Lead Service Line Inventory, and no leads were found. The methods used to make that determination were visual inspections, water operator knowledge and archived records. This inventory report is available for viewing at our office upon request.

Unregulated Contaminants  
Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water posed a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The City of Durant works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.