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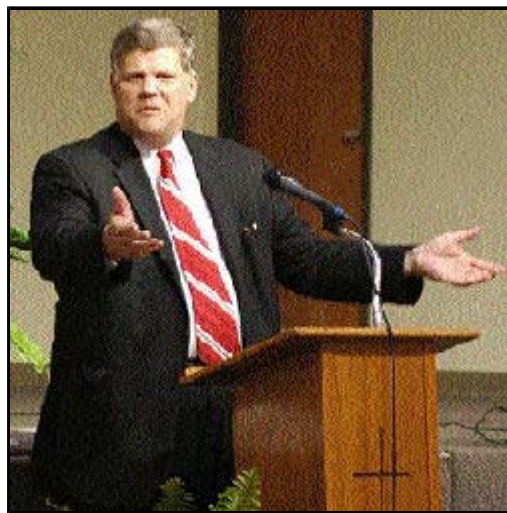
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Secret Safe Place lauded by DA

Tyson

**By Arthur McLean
Editor**

John Tyson speaks at Thomasville Baptist Church. photo by arthur mclean

Mobile District Attorney and candidate for attorney general, John Tyson spoke in Thomasville Friday night at a dinner celebrating the establishment of the Secret Safe Place for Newborns program in Clarke County.

Secret Safe

Place is a program that allows mothers who may not be able to deal with having a baby to bring the baby to special centers, like hospitals and drop them off with care givers, no questions asked.

The program started in Mobile as a way to keep mothers from killing their newborns when in situations where they think they can't keep the baby.

Tyson likened the program to a modern day version of the Biblical story of Moses who was sent along in a basket and found among the bull rushes.

The program, started just a few years ago, is now law in 46 states and 12 babies have been saved by the program in Mobile alone, Tyson said.

In Thomasville, the Southwest Alabama Medical Center is a location participating in the Secret Safe Place program.

Before the program, Tyson said all he could do was prosecute these mothers who felt they had no other choice and wound up killing their newborns. But, it was too little too late for that tiny life, he said.

Tyson also mentioned Buck Pope, a long-time friend and wondered to the crowd why nothing in this area was named for him other than the business he founded.