



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 8, 2024

CONTACT: Jeff LeMaster

(501) 683-1532

[jeff.lemaster@arkansasag.gov](mailto:jeff.lemaster@arkansasag.gov)

## **Attorney General Griffin Announces Conviction in Elder Abuse Case**

*Griffin: 'I will continue to use all the resources I have to prosecute those who exploit elder Arkansans under their care'*

**LITTLE ROCK** – Attorney General Tim Griffin issued the following statement announcing the conviction of Sarah Mazander, 39, of Judsonia after she pleaded guilty in White County Circuit Court to the charge of Abuse of an Endangered/Impaired Person, a Class C Felony:

“I am grateful for the diligence of everyone in my office’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, especially Assistant Attorney General Gabby Davis-Jones, who helped to secure the negotiated plea leading to conviction. I also thank the Searcy Police Department and 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney Rebecca Reed McCoy for their assistance and cooperation.

“Protecting our state’s vulnerable takes a team effort, and I will continue to use all the resources I have to prosecute those who exploit elder Arkansans under their care.”

Mazander obtained the debit card information of a resident at Providence PCC, a long-term care facility in Searcy. She used that information to transfer money to her personal bank account using CashApp.

Mazander was sentenced to five years suspended imposition of sentence and 30 days in jail. She was also fined \$500 plus court costs, and payment of restitution in the amount of \$239.

### **About Attorney General Tim Griffin**

Tim Griffin was sworn in as the 57th Attorney General of Arkansas on January 10, 2023, having previously served as the state's 20th Lieutenant Governor from 2015-2023. From 2011-2015, Griffin served as the 24th representative of Arkansas's Second Congressional District, where he served on the House Committee on Ways and Means, House Armed Services Committee, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, House Committee on Ethics and House Committee on the Judiciary while also serving as a Deputy Whip for the Majority.

Griffin has served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps for more than 27 years and currently holds the rank of colonel. In 2005, Griffin was mobilized to active duty as an Army prosecutor at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Mosul, Iraq.

He is currently serving as the Commander of the 2d Legal Operations Detachment in New Orleans, Louisiana. His previous assignments include serving as the Commander of the 134th Legal Operations Detachment at Fort Liberty (née Bragg), North Carolina, and as a Senior Legislative Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness at the Pentagon. Griffin earned a master's degree in strategic studies as a Distinguished Honor Graduate from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Griffin also served as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Political Affairs for President George W. Bush; Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Arkansas; Senior Investigative Counsel, Government Reform and Oversight Committee, U.S. House of Representatives; and Associate Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel David M. Barrett, In re: HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Griffin is a graduate of Magnolia High School, Hendrix College in Conway, and Tulane Law School in New Orleans. He attended graduate school at Oxford University. He is admitted to practice law in Arkansas (active) and Louisiana (inactive). Griffin lives in Little Rock with his wife, Elizabeth, a Camden native, and their three children.

###