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June 12, 2024

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Attorney General Griffin Announces Two Guilty Pleas to Abuse Charges

Griffin: 'Abuse of this kind is despicable and intolerable'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement announcing a guilty plea entered by Princess Dansby, 42, of Preston and Alissa Rivera, 27, of Arkadelphia on charges of Abuse of an Endangered/Impaired Person:

“On June 11, my office’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit secured negotiated guilty pleas by two caregivers at the Arkadelphia Human Development Center. In both cases, clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities were pushed by their caregivers, resulting in one victim breaking her ankle.

“Abuse of this kind is despicable and intolerable. I congratulate Special Agent Laura Glover and Assistant Attorney General Gabby Davis-Jones for their work to secure this conviction. I also thank the office of 9th East Judicial District Prosecutor Dan Turner for its assistance in this case.”

Dansby pleaded guilty to a Class B Misdemeanor count of Abuse of an Endangered/Impaired Person for pushing a client with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She was sentenced to 90 days of jail suspended, a \$500 fine plus court costs, and 20 hours of community service.

Rivera pleaded guilty to a Class D Felony count of Abuse of an Endangered/Impaired Person for pushing a client with intellectual and developmental disabilities, which resulted in the victim falling and breaking her ankle. She was sentenced to five years of probation, a \$1,000 fine plus court costs, enrollment in an anger management class, and 100 hours of community service.

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.

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