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Arkansas Supreme Court Dismisses Abortion Amendment Lawsuit Brought by Convicted Felon

Griffin: 'Oscar Stilley's registration to vote in Arkansas was illegal because he is a convicted felon still on supervised release. ... I thank the Arkansas Supreme Court for doing the right thing by referring the Special Master's report to the prosecutor for the 21st Judicial District'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement after the Arkansas Supreme Court granted a motion to dismiss the lawsuit brought by convicted felon Oscar Stilley. The lawsuit sought to resurrect the Arkansas Abortion Amendment by overturning Secretary of State John Thurston's rejection of signatures collected by paid canvassers who were not properly certified by the initiative's sponsor under Act 1413 of 2013:

"Today's decision confirms what we have said all along: Oscar Stilley's registration to vote in Arkansas was illegal because he is a convicted felon still on supervised release, which means he lacks standing to bring this suit in support of the Arkansas Abortion Amendment. I thank the Arkansas Supreme Court for doing the right thing by referring the Special Master's report to the prosecutor for the 21st Judicial District, where we hope to see appropriate action taken in response to Stilley's illegal and fraudulent behavior."

To read the court's order, <u>click here</u>.

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 28 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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