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**Attorney General Griffin Announces Arrest of Rector Man
on Child Pornography Charges**

Griffin: 'My office will continue to fight against the exploitation of vulnerable children—a fight that requires a team effort to bring these criminals to justice'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement announcing the arrest of Joseph M. Parrish, 36, of Rector on 200 counts related to child sexual abuse materials:

“Earlier this week, special agents from my Special Investigations Division arrested Parrish following an undercover investigation of an online peer-to-peer file sharing system. I am grateful for the assistance of the Arkansas State Police and Clay County Sheriff’s Office in the execution of the search warrant that led to the arrest. My office will continue to fight against the exploitation of vulnerable children—a fight that requires a team effort to bring these criminals to justice.”

Parrish is charged with 100 counts of distributing, possessing, or viewing of matter depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, all Class C felonies. Parrish is also charged with an additional 100 counts of pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, all Class C felonies.

Parrish was booked into the Clay County Detention Center.

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 is currently an officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard and holds the rank of colonel. Griffin served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps for more than 28 years. 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.

His previous assignments include serving as the Commander of the 2d Legal Operations Detachment in New Orleans, Louisiana; 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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