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Attorney General Griffin Praises Rogers Police Department for Human Trafficking Arrest Made as Result of Operation Obscured Vision

Griffin: 'This is only the beginning of our effort to rid Arkansas of these criminal enterprises'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement after the Rogers Police Department announced it had arrested Yuhe Yang on two felony charges in connection with Operation Obscured Vision, a multi-site human trafficking operation led by the Office of the Attorney General that culminated on January 23:

“In addition to the four arrests made during the multi-site raids of illicit massage parlors that took place on January 23, we expected the operation to lead to subsequent arrests, and this week we’ve seen the first of these come to pass. Yuhe Yang, the co-owner of three illicit massage parlors in Rogers, was arrested by the Rogers Police Department on Monday and charged with Trafficking of Persons, a Class A Felony, and Engaging in a Continuing Criminal Gang, Organization, or Enterprise, a Class Y Felony.

“It is clear from the evidence and intelligence we’ve gathered that these types of businesses often operate as part of a network of human trafficking. This is only the beginning of our effort to rid Arkansas of these criminal enterprises and the havoc they wreak on victims.

“I am grateful to Rogers Police Chief Jonathan Best for the outstanding work of his department, and to Benton County Prosecuting Attorney Bryan Sexton and Benton County Sheriff Shawn Holloway for their invaluable support.”

Yang was booked into the Benton County Jail Monday, where he remains incarcerated. The Rogers Police Department’s investigation into three illicit massage parlors is ongoing.

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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