



# TIM GRIFFIN

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ARKANSAS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Attorney General Griffin Announces Convictions of Van Buren Father and Son for Medicaid Fraud**

*Griffin: 'Protecting Arkansans from Medicaid fraud means holding bad actors accountable—  
and my office will continue to pursue them'*

**LITTLE ROCK** – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement announcing the conviction of a Van Buren father and son who pleaded guilty to Medicaid fraud:

“On April 21, Ronald Alfred Vail, Jr., 52, and Garrett Bradley Vail, 27, of Van Buren each pleaded guilty to one count of Medicaid fraud, a Class C Felony, and each defendant was sentenced to a three-year term of probation and ordered to pay a \$1,500 fine, court costs, and restitution in the amount of \$3,444.25. Ronald helped Garrett bill for personal care services for Garrett’s sibling. The services were never provided, but the defendants shared the proceeds of those billings.

“Protecting Arkansans from Medicaid fraud means holding bad actors accountable—and my office will continue to pursue them. I want to commend the exceptional work of our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) for their steadfast commitment to safeguarding the people of Arkansas. I specifically want to thank Special Agent Matthew Edwards and Assistant Attorney General David Jones, as well as the Prosecuting Attorney for the 6th Judicial District of Arkansas, Will Jones.”

The Arkansas MFCU receives 75% of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant totaling \$4,685,736 for the Federal fiscal year 2025, of which

\$3,514,304 is federally funded. The remaining 25%, totaling \$1,171,432 for State Fiscal Year 2025, is funded by Arkansas General Revenue.

### **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 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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