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Attorney General Griffin Announces Arrest of Fort Smith Man for Obtaining Drugs by Fraud

Griffin: 'Registered nurses are duty-bound to care for others, not steal from the sick and vulnerable'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin today issued the following statement announcing the arrest of a Fort Smith man for obtaining drugs by fraud:

"On July 15, Matthew Stephen Daniel, 39, of Fort Smith was arrested on one count of Obtaining Drugs by Fraud, a Class D felony. While working as a registered nurse at North Hills Lifecare and Rehab, Daniel allegedly signed out two tablets of a controlled substance from a resident's prescription supply. However, the resident had already been discharged and transferred to another unit at that time. Although documentation indicated the medication had been administered, the resident did not receive it, and the two tablets were later found to be missing from inventory.

"Registered nurses are duty-bound to care for others, not steal from the sick and vulnerable. My office will continue to hold these bad actors accountable. I commend the exceptional work of our Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) for their dedication to protecting our state. And I would also like to thank Prosecuting Attorney for the Fourth Judicial District of Arkansas, Brandon Carter."

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.