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Attorney General Griffin Announces Conviction of North Little Rock Woman for Medicaid Fraud

Griffin: 'Those who defraud Medicaid will be held accountable because every fraudulent claim diverts taxpayer dollars from a program that countless Arkansans rely on'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin issued the following statement announcing the conviction of a North Little Rock woman for Medicaid fraud:

“On July 23, Sarah Childers, 42, of North Little Rock, pled guilty to one count of Medicaid Fraud, a Class C felony. As part of her sentence, she received five years of probation, was ordered to pay \$13,494.30 in restitution, and must pay a \$3,500 fine plus court costs. Childers, a speech therapist, was responsible for providing speech therapy services to students in area schools but failed to report to the schools. Instead, Childers fraudulently billed Medicaid for services that were never provided.

“Those who defraud Medicaid will be held accountable because every fraudulent claim diverts taxpayer dollars from a program that countless Arkansans rely on. I applaud the exceptional work done on this case by Special Agent Marcus Custer and Senior Assistant Attorney General Leigh Patterson of my Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU). I am also grateful for the assistance of Sixth Judicial Prosecuting Attorney Will Jones in this case.”

The Arkansas MFCU receives 75% of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant totaling \$4,781,516 for the Federal fiscal year 2026, of which

\$3,586,140 is federally funded. The remaining 25%, totaling \$1,195,376 for the State fiscal year 2026, 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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