



Freedom Principle MO Commends Attorney General Bailey For Finally Taking Action To Remove Kim Gardner From Office

For Immediate Release

(Friday, February 24, 2023 – St. Louis, MO)

The Freedom Principle MO commends Attorney General Andrew Bailey for finally doing what the Freedom Principle MO has been calling for since May 2022. “The Freedom Principle MO sent two letters to Governor Parson, one in May and one in September 2022 to take action to relieve Kim Gardner of her duties in the prosecution of felony cases,” said Byron Keelin, President of the Freedom Principle MO. “The recent unfortunate tragedy may have been avoided had our Governor chosen to use his authority to protect the citizens of Missouri instead of ignoring this problem.”

The Freedom Principle MO sent the letters calling for Parson to implement Missouri Statutes 27.030 and/or 106.250 to allow the Attorney General, or one of his prosecutors, to assist the circuit attorney in the discharge of her respective duties. “Kim Gardner has been an unmitigated disaster for St. Louis City since she was elected as Circuit Attorney in 2016,” said Keelin. “Since she was elected more than 1,243 people have been murdered in St. Louis City. Her prosecution rate is the lowest in the nation at 51%. She has been reprimanded by multiple judges for either failing to show up to court, for falsifying evidence, or for other unethical behavior. How much more of this corruption and incompetence do the residents of St. Louis City have to take?”

Attorney General Bailey filed a Quo Warranto petition on Thursday after Gardner refused to resign. A Quo Warranto is a special form of legal action to resolve a dispute over whether a specific person has the legal right to hold public office. “This really should be an open-and-shut case against Kim Gardner, but we have been disappointed by the actions of the Missouri Office of Disciplinary Council and the Missouri Supreme Court, both refusing to hold Kim Gardner accountable. We hope this time, the

outcome will be different and the legal system will give St. Louis City residents the justice they deserve and remove her from office.”

The Freedom Principle MO has been working with legislators for the past two sessions to raise awareness of the ongoing corruption of St. Louis City politicians. The Freedom Principle MO supports HB 301, sponsored by Representative Lane Roberts (Dist. 161), and supports SB 78 returning control of the St. Louis City police to the State Police Commission, sponsored by Senator Nick Schroer (Dist. 2). “We are very pleased to see the legislature take a strong proactive approach to address the crime and public safety of St. Louis City,” said Keelin. “We are calling on Senate President Caleb Rowden and Speaker of the House Dean Ploecher to immediately pass HB 301 in the Senate and pass SB 78.”

HB 301 overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives 108 to 38 and will be having a hearing in the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Jurisprudence Committee on Monday, February 27th. SB 78 is awaiting a final Senate floor vote.

“The primary responsibility for this tragedy falls directly on St. Louis City Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner,” said Keelin. “The Freedom Principle MO has been calling for her removal for two years, and there have been many other tragedies that have happened because our political leaders have ignored the problems of St. Louis City. We want any candidate to know that if you are planning to run for a statewide office in 2024, you need to start paying attention to the problems of our urban communities like St. Louis City, and Kansas City and start acting like you want to represent the residents of the entire state.”

The Freedom Principle MO is a pro-citizen, pro-Missouri First organization. We are a membership-based 501(c)4 organization, acting locally and state-wide, to protect our families and our constitutionally protected liberties. We are fighting for America. We are fighting for Missouri. We are fighting for you. For more information about the Freedom Principle MO visit our website at www.freedomprinciplemo.org.

#

Contact Information

Byron Keelin

President, Freedom Principle MO

314-402-0655

e-Mail: freedomprinciplestl@protonmail.com