



## Freedom Principle MO Calls on Attorney General Bailey and State Auditor Fitzpatrick to Continue Investigations of Disgraced Kim Gardner

For Immediate Release

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The Freedom Principle MO is calling on Attorney General Andrew Bailey and State Auditor Scott Fitzpatrick to continue their investigations into disgraced former St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner and hold her accountable for any misuse of city and/or state funds and for any other potential abuse of power while she was in office. “We are glad Kim Gardner is out of office, but this does not mean she should be excused for any misuse of taxpayer funds while pursuing her nursing degree on city time, or any other violations of law she committed while in office,” said Byron Keelin, President of the Freedom Principle MO. “We must start holding politicians responsible for the corruption they commit while in office. If Gardner committed any fraud, she should be held responsible and penalized to the fullest extent of the law.”

Last week, Attorney General Bailey sought documents from St. Louis University regarding Gardner’s course of study, classes, internships, and clinical work. Additionally in March, State Auditor Scott Fitzpatrick had to subpoena Gardner because she refused to turn over financial records including bank statements, credit card statements, policy guidelines, and other expenditure information. Kim Gardner has a long history of ethics violations. She was fined by the Missouri Ethics Commission for filing false campaign finance reports when she failed to report \$70,000 in expenditures between 2015 and 2017. She was fined \$5,000 by St. Louis Circuit Judge Christopher McGraugh for violating Missouri’s Sunshine Law, and she was fined \$750 for professional misconduct in the Eric Greiten’s investigation.

“Given her abysmal track record of campaign ethics violations, sunshine law violations, attending classes while serving as Circuit Attorney and withholding financial records from the auditor, one only can speculate the type of waste, fraud, and abuse she committed,” said Keelin. “Attorney General Bailey and State Auditor Fitzpatrick owe St. Louis and Missouri taxpayers a complete investigation of the actions of Kim Gardner. We cannot keep allowing this two-tiered system of justice, one for the average person and one for corrupt politicians. They cannot let her get away with any corruption just because she resigned.”

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](http://www.freedomprinciplemo.org).

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