



Freedom Principle MO Calls on Governor Parson a Third Time to Invoke Missouri Statutes to Remove Kim Gardner from Prosecuting Felony Cases

For Immediate Release

(Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – St. Louis MO)

The Freedom Principle MO is, for the third time, calling for Governor Parson to invoke Missouri Statute 27.030 and/or Missouri Statute 106.250 to act and allow the Attorney General, or someone from his office, to assist the St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner in the discharge of her respective duties in the trial courts and in examinations before the grand juries. “We sent our first letter to Governor Parson in May of 2022 and a second letter in September 2022 and have yet to receive an e-mail or phone call acknowledging our concerns,” said Byron Keelin, President of Freedom Principle MO. “We are calling for the governor to step up and act as if he cares about his constituents. It’s time for him to take productive action.”

On Wednesday, April 5th St. Louis Judge Theresa Counts Burke sanctioned the Circuit Attorney’s Office for withholding evidence in a double homicide case and allowing the suspect on bond. According to Judge Burke’s ruling, “The Court finds that there have been repeated delays by the State in obtaining discovery and providing it to the defense.” Judge Burke further stated, “There has been a lack of diligence on the part of the state in following up and providing discovery to the defendant in a timely fashion.”

“What Kim Gardner did was withhold evidence in a criminal case,” said Byron Keelin. “This is not the first time she has done this. This is not only grounds for the governor to invoke these statutes, but also for her to be arrested and prosecuted for Prosecutorial Misconduct.”

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Additionally, it was also reported on April 7th by KSDK reporter Christine Byers, that no one from the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office was present in the Daniel Riley arraignment and that her office has yet to send Daniel Riley's attorney a copy of the indictment. Daniel Riley is the criminal who ran over the 16-year-old volleyball player from Nashville, TN. Riley has violated his bond more than 100 times and is likely to go free again.

"If the governor refuses to act, then he should also be held responsible for any future consequences that result from the incompetence and corruption coming from St. Louis City Circuit Attorney Gardner's actions," said Keelin. "The people of St. Louis and surrounding communities are suffering and are frustrated by the incompetence of Kim Gardner. Additionally, they are frustrated by having a governor who doesn't seem to care about city residents and their personal safety."

The Freedom Principle MO has been actively collaborating with legislators to pass HB 301 which would give the governor the authority to appoint a special prosecutor in St. Louis. The Freedom Principle MO is asking the governor to take immediate action and invoke Missouri Statutes 27.030 and/or 106.250 to fill the gap until this bill passes.

"How many more criminals need to be set free before this governor decides to take action," said Keelin. "The Freedom Principle MO is doing everything we can to support our police and to hold St. Louis politicians accountable for their actions. We are tired of him not caring and we are tired of waiting for him to act. It's time for him to immediately act and serve all Missourians."

The Freedom Principle MO is a pro-citizen, 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.

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