

Articles + Publications | November 14, 2024

# Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Monitor — November 14, 2024

#### **WRITTEN BY**

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State attorneys general increasingly impact businesses in all industries. Our nationally recognized state AG team has been trusted by clients for 20 years to navigate their most complicated state AG investigations and enforcement actions.

State Attorneys General Monitor analyzes regulatory actions by state AGs and other state administrative agencies throughout the nation. Contributors to this newsletter and related blog include attorneys experienced in regulatory enforcement, litigation, and compliance.

Contact our State AG Team at StateAG@troutman.com.

## 2024 State AG Election Re-Cap

### 2024 STATE AG ELECTION RE-CAP: WHERE THINGS STAND THE DAY AFTER ELECTION DAY

By Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team

Of the 43 elected state AGs, 10 states held elections in 2024. Below are the current results of the elections for each of the 10 races. These elections have resulted in new attorneys general in North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Washington, and West Virginia.

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# **Troutman Pepper Spotlight**

## EMERGING TRENDS IN CONSUMER PROTECTION: A CONVERSATION WITH NAAG'S KATE DONOVEN

By Clayton Friedman and Stephen C. Piepgrass

In this episode of *Regulatory Oversight*, Clay Friedman, co-leader of the firm's State Attorneys General team, welcomes Kate Donoven, consumer counsel at the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG). The conversation highlights Kate's extensive career in consumer protection, her transition to NAAG, and the emerging trends and initiatives in consumer protection.

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### THE GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS & AMP; CIVIL LITIGATION INSTITUTE'S TENTH ANNUAL MEETING

By Ashley L. Taylor, Jr. and Sadia Mirza

Troutman Pepper is proud to sponsor the Government Investigations & Civil Litigation Institute's Tenth Annual Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Ashley Taylor will be moderating the "What Are the Elements of a State Attorney General Offensive and Defensive Strategy?" session and Sadia Mirza will be a panelist on the "Regulatory and Litigation Response Following a Privacy Breach. Immediate Aftermath: Managing the Expanding Regulatory Requirements and Litigation Outcomes for Incident Response" session.

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## State AG Updates

## STATE AGS CRACK DOWN ON CHARITY FRAUD

## By Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team

On October 25, Pennsylvania Attorney General (AG) Michelle Henry announced a court order requiring the pastor and founder of Peniel Christian Fellowship International to pay \$305,704 in restitution for allegedly misusing ministry funds for personal expenses. The AG took action alleging that charitable donations to the church were diverted into the pastor's personal accounts to pay for rent, vehicles, and other private expenses.

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#### CONNECTICUT AG SETTLES LAWSUIT AGAINST BANKRUPT SOLAR INSTALLATION FIRM FOR \$5M

## By Troutman Pepper State Attorneys General Team & Amy Pritchard Williams

On October 11, Connecticut Attorney General (AG) William Tong announced a \$5 million settlement against bankrupt solar installation firm Vision Solar, LLC to resolve an unfair trade practices suit. Hartford Superior Court Judge Daniel Joshua Klau granted the state's motion for the judgment, which was executed with a trustee for the company and previously approved by a U.S. bankruptcy court. In addition to the \$5 million civil penalty, the company also agreed in the stipulation to certain changes in its business practices. However, the changes to its business practices are largely theoretical given that the company is in a liquidation bankruptcy.

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# AG Of the Week

### **TIM GRIFFIN, ARKANSAS**

Tim Griffin was sworn in as the 57th attorney general (AG) of Arkansas on January 10, 2023, having previously served as the state's 20th lieutenant governor from 2015 to 2023. From 2011 to 2015, Griffin served as the 24th representative of Arkansas' 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.

During the Bush administration in 2006-2007, Griffin served as U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas and previously as special assistant to the president and deputy director of political affairs for President George W. Bush at the White House.

Griffin has served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps for more than 28 years and currently holds the rank of colonel. He was mobilized to active duty in 2005 as an Army prosecutor at Fort Campbell, KY, and served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Mosul, Iraq, for which he was awarded the Combat Action Badge. Griffin is currently serving as the commander of the 2d Legal Operations Detachment in New Orleans, LA. In July 2018, Griffin, in his capacity as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, received his master's degree in strategic studies as a distinguished graduate from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA.

He graduated from Magnolia High School, Hendrix College, Tulane Law School, and attended graduate school at Oxford University in England.

His wife, Elizabeth, is from Camden, and they live in Little Rock with their three children, Mary Katherine, John, and Charlotte Anne.

#### Arkansas AG in the News:

- On November 8, Griffin announced plans to honor Arkansas native and D-Day hero Staff Sergeant Denver "Bull" Randleman with a privately funded statue in downtown Little Rock, sculpted by Kevin Kresse.
- On November 7, Griffin announced the arrests of three individuals for separate cases of Medicaid fraud and abuse following investigations by his office's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, with prosecutions to be handled in cooperation with local judicial district prosecutors.
- On November 7, Griffin announced the hiring of Jessica Middleton as a Cybersecurity Analyst and the
  promotions of Special Agents Walter Mahone to Deputy Chief of the Special Investigations Division and Amber
  Kalmer to Director of Digital Forensics.

# **Upcoming AG Events**

- November: DAGA | Philadelphia Policy Conference | Philadelphia, PA
- December: AGA | International Delegation | Mayakoba, Mexico
- December: NAAG | New Attorney General Orientation and 2024 Capital Forum | Washington, D.C.

For more on upcoming AG Events, click here.

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