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Soros-backed prosecutor mired in scandal resigns from office

Kim Gardner steps down after repeated calls for her resignation

By Aaron Kliegman | Fox News



Mo. attorney general files petition to oust Kim Gardner

Republican Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey argues that St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner 'unlawfully' 'refuses to do her job' after she says she dismissed almost 12,000 cases.

An embattled [George Soros](#)-bankrolled prosecutor in St. Louis resigned Thursday amid a legal effort by Missouri's attorney general to fire her for allegedly neglecting her duties.

St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kimberly Gardner, the city's top prosecutor, is stepping down following repeated, bipartisan calls for her resignation from officials across the state.

Gardner's office tweeted her resignation letter, which was addressed to the [people of St. Louis](#).

Gardner is one of the first progressive prosecutors whom Soros, a liberal billionaire and [Democrat mega-donor](#), bankrolled in 2016 and again for her re-election in 2020. She announced last month that she would seek a third term. Her resignation is effective June 1.

For years, Gardner's office has faced criticism for mishandling cases and office dysfunction. The final straw for [Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey](#) came in February, when a teenage volleyball player visiting St. Louis with her team was struck by a car and lost both of her legs.

A man was charged in the crash with assault, armed criminal action and operating a motor vehicle without a valid license. He was out on bond awaiting trial for a separate armed robbery case despite violating the terms of his bond several dozen times.



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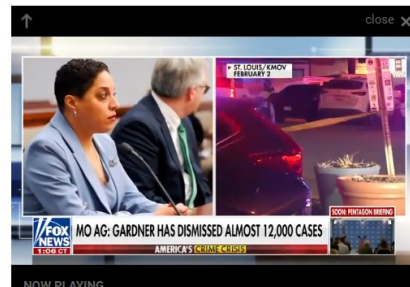
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In a Jan. 13, 2020 file photo, St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner speaks in St. Louis. (AP Photo/Jim Salter)

YET ANOTHER MISSOURI OFFICIAL MAY TAKE SOROS-BACKED PROSECUTOR TO COURT AS MORE ASSISTANTS RESIGN

Gardner argued that her office had tried to put the suspect back in jail but that a judge had denied their request. However, there are no court records of her office — which is responsible for monitoring compliance with bond conditions and revoking them when those terms are violated — asking for his bond to be revoked, according to local reports.

In the wake of the incident, Bailey filed a petition quo warranto, the legal mechanism under state statute that allows the attorney general to remove a prosecutor who neglects the job's duties.

Bailey claims that nearly 12,000 criminal cases have been dismissed by [what he calls Gardner's failures](#). He also says more than 9,000 cases have been thrown out as they had been about to go to trial, forcing judges to dismiss more than 2,000 cases due to what Bailey described as a failure to provide defendants with evidence and speedy trials.



St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner and Ronald Sullivan, a Harvard law professor, arrive at the Civil Courts building in St. Louis on May 14, 2018. (Christian Gooden/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/Tribune News Service via Getty Images)

JUDGE SHREDS SOROS-BACKED PROSECUTOR, MOVES TO HOLD HER IN CRIMINAL CONTEMPT: 'RUDDERLESS SHIP OF CHAOS'

Despite Gardner's resignation, Bailey was unsatisfied, releasing a statement calling on her to leave office immediately rather than wait until the end of the month.

"There is absolutely no reason for the circuit attorney to remain in office until June 1," he said. "We remain undeterred with our legal quest to forcibly remove her from office. Every day she remains puts the city of St. Louis in more danger. How many victims will there be between now and June 1? How many defendants will have their constitutional rights violated? How many cases will continue to go unprosecuted?"

Gardner had refused to leave office for months, calling Bailey's efforts a political "witch hunt" and a form of "voter suppression." She also suggested that racism and sexism are behind some of the criticism against her.

A St. Louis judge had set a tentative trial date for Sept. 25 to hear arguments from both sides.

Meanwhile, Gardner's office is facing two [proceedings for contempt of court](#) after prosecutors failed to appear for multiple court dates. In one contempt case, a Missouri judge said Gardner had "complete indifference and a conscious disregard for the judicial process" and called her office a "rudderless ship of chaos."



George Soros delivers a speech during the 2023 Munich Security Conference. (Open Society Foundations/YouTube/Video screenshot)

[SOROS-BACKED PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE UNDER FIRE FOR MURDER CASE NO-SHOW AS TRIAL SET FOR POTENTIAL REMOVAL](#)

It's unclear if the contempt hearings will be dropped.

Several assistant prosecutors recently resigned from Gardner's long understaffed office, which has been plagued by persistent personnel issues creating low morale and a dysfunctional working environment.

Gardner's tenure was [riddled with allegations of misconduct and mishandled cases](#) long before her latest legal issues. In one case, she was publicly reprimanded and fined by the Missouri Supreme Court.

More broadly, Gardner has been scrutinized for what critics have [deemed soft-on-crime policies](#).

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Gardner was St. Louis' first Black chief prosecutor. Fox News Digital has reached out to her office for comment.

Aaron Kliegman is a politics reporter for Fox News Digital.

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- A** **AMIGAS** 2 hours ago ...

I beg every one of you who strongly believe that the Missouri AG did the right thing to send his office an email, so stating. Good people will always try to do the right thing, even when it's unpopular - it's called moral courage, something very rare in American politics these days - but an overwh...

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- jwd2344945** 1 hour ago ...

She not only was incompetent....her behavior and actions should have been considered criminal. She was a threat to the people she was supposed to serve and supported the criminal elements. She was an abomination and should be disbarred.

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- Americansringnorant** 1 hour ago ...

Good morals, go a long way.

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- SailingShoes** 2 hours ago ...

District attorneys, and judges are putting violent felons back on the streets in record numbers, repeatedly. This is forcing law abiding, tax paying citizens into a choice. Either be a victim of a violent criminal or be prepared to defend themselves, even at the risk of being charged as a criminal ...

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- F** **fhs62829** 2 hours ago ...

There's no way that the harm she's done can be undone. Sending her to prison would only be a small nod to justice but it would be appropriate.

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- hinderedmyfreespeech** 2 hours ago ...

She should still be sued by all the people victimized by her releasing criminals to victimize again. Her job was to enforce the law not ignore it for personal feelings.

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- W** **wokecfomakesnosensebud** 2 hours ago ...

Bye Felicia! It's called...THE LAW. And it should apply to everyone as the cases come. That's why societies have laws and had laws for thousands of years. It's to maintain civility, not personal chaos. As soon as you have the evidence and the case, regardless of the person, you prosecute...acc...

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- K** **kcj67** 2 hours ago ...

Bragg in NYC as well

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- R** **rmlsr** 2 hours ago ...

Kim Gardner and Alvin Bragg .. one down(kim gardner) and one to go (alvin bragg)

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- voidwoken** 2 hours ago ...

Don't forget about Foxx and Gascon.

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- F** **Fox_ShadowBanned_My_Last_ID** 2 hours ago ...

Actually, there's about 50 more to go. These Soros DA's are everywhere...

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- 2020Link** 2 hours ago ...

Maybe MO should quickly pass a law that donations for local elections need to be from people who reside in the state or a true business operating in the state no PAC money allowed from national groups or Congress

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- M mainechristian** 2 hours ago ...

EVERY election should only allow donations from folks who live in a given jurisdiction: a congressman's district, a senator's state, a local politician's city or country, etc. No outside funds allowed, not even from a national organization like the DNC or RNC. Local money only for local elections.

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- F Fox_ShadowBanned_My_Last_ID** 2 hours ago ...

The Missouri AG needs to initiate disbarment proceedings against her to keep her from further poisoning the legal system...
(Edited)

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poets 2 hours ago ...

Just resigning from her position as the city's top prosecutor is not good enough. She should be prosecuted for malfeasance and if convicted sentenced to prison.

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- R RThornhill696** 2 hours ago ...

The momentum is finally starting to build for sanity.👍

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- daviddrew** 2 hours ago ...

Now Kim Fox and Gascon and the triple axis will be a huge start.

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- R r1981** 2 hours ago ...

One victory does not constitute momentum...

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- farmkid11950590** 2 hours ago ...

Only 3years too late. The office is a shambles since she drove competent lawyers out. The prosecutions that did not happen are on her head. The prosecution of victims and the reduction of criminal charges makes this one of the worst examples of Soros's pogrom.

Reply - 98 4 - Share
- L lulabelle080** 2 hours ago ...

You mean Soros' "experiment".

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- L lrrnc** 2 hours ago ...

St Louis has been known for the violence and murders for well before she was elected,second most murderous city in the US.

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- iAimToMisbehave**
2 hours ago

Sounds like it was a "resign or be prosecuted" moment.

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- carterspills**
2 hours ago

All potential charges should be pursued with no halt to prosecution.
Too often the "run before fire" is used as a way for the incompetent to skirt responsibility and attain a new job, especially in a like position.
'Throw the book' at her and force recompense.

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↳ 1 reply
- milo123**
2 hours ago

Hopefully, she can still be prosecuted if it's found she broke the law.

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