



TIM GRIFFIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Opinion No. 2025-097

September 18, 2025

The Honorable Molly Rawn
Mayor, City of Fayetteville
113 W. Mountain Street
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Dear Mayor Rawn:

In Opinion No. 2025-048, I determined that the City of Fayetteville maintained a prohibited “sanctuary policy” under A.C.A. § 14-1-103. Because the policy was both current and effective, I concluded that the City was ineligible to receive discretionary funding administered by the State. I also noted that, should the City submit evidence showing that its policy had been amended or was no longer operative, I would issue a new opinion certifying that the policy had been repealed or rendered ineffective.

On September 17, 2025, you issued a letter to the Fayetteville City Council clarifying your earlier remarks. You wrote, “It is the policy of the City of Fayetteville to fully comply with all laws of the State of Arkansas, including Ark. Code Ann. § 14-1-103.”

Today, you further informed my office that you have “issued a statement reaffirming that City employees are not prohibited from cooperating with federal immigration authorities when legally required or requested.” You also noted that this clarification was distributed directly to lawmakers and law enforcement leadership, each of whom confirmed receipt. Fayetteville Police Chief Mike Reynolds acknowledged receiving the statement and affirmed: “We have never, nor will we ever, refuse to assist our local state, or federal law enforcement partners.”

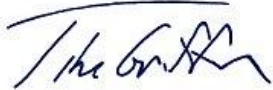
Based on this evidence, it is my opinion that the City of Fayetteville is now in compliance with A.C.A. § 14-1-103.

Accordingly, I now certify that the City of Fayetteville is eligible to receive discretionary funding administered by the State.

BOB R. BROOKS JR. JUSTICE BUILDING
101 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

Please note that this certification is contingent on continued compliance. If my Office is later notified that the City has adopted or implemented a policy, whether written or unwritten, that contravenes the statute, the City will again become ineligible for discretionary State funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Griffin", with a horizontal line above it.

TIM GRIFFIN
Attorney General