



## MISSOURI SENATE

SCOTT SIFTON  
DISTRICT 1

March 13, 2018

Hon. Nicole Galloway  
Missouri State Auditor  
Missouri State Capitol Building, Rm 121  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Auditor Galloway:

I write regarding the March 9, 2018 article in the *The Kansas City Star* reporting Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley "received free representation from one of the most well-connected law firms in Washington, D.C. during his 2016 campaign for attorney general in Missouri." The *Star* reported "[t]he work was related to an open records request . . . ."

I understand the General's campaign committee subsequently reported nearly \$90,000 in payments to that same law firm in an effort to shield public records from release to the public. I further understand that subsequent legal work pertained to Sunshine Law requests to the University of Missouri and the Missouri Office of Attorney General.

These allegations are particularly troubling given the Attorney General's role as the enforcer of Missouri's Sunshine Law. Under the circumstances, I am gravely concerned the public cannot assume this matter will be handled appropriately given the inherent conflict of interest presented by the Attorney General defending against application of the very statute he is charged with enforcing.

I therefore request that your office investigate and determine whether public records generated by the Attorney General during his tenure as Attorney General and his tenure as a professor at the University of Missouri are required to be released under Missouri's Sunshine Law.

Missouri's Sunshine Law is intended to provide transparency and accountability in all levels of government. The citizens of Missouri deserve an open and fair process free of conflict of interest.

Thank you for your attention to my request.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Sifton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Sifton  
State Senator, District 1