

**NICOLE R. GALLOWAY, CPA**  
**Missouri State Auditor**

December 14, 2018

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft  
Secretary of State  
James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center  
600 W. Main Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: Closeout audit of the Missouri Attorney General's Office

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

In your letter dated December 10, 2018, you requested my office investigate, as part of our routine closeout audit, whether Attorney General Josh Hawley used public funds while Attorney General to support his candidacy for the U.S. Senate. In that letter, you also offered to provide documents to my office and requested access to audit records, as well as access to audit discussions with employees and third-parties related to the allegations of improper use of state resources.

Based on your letter, I understand that you have determined that the allegations in the American Democracy League Fund complaint are not frivolous, and are proceeding with an investigation. We appreciate your offer to provide documentation obtained in the course of your investigation. My office will be reaching out to your office to request these documents.

As you noted, the State Auditor's Office always reviews use of taxpayer funds in its audits. The same is true of any closeout audit of a statewide office holder. Based on the concerns expressed in your letter, my office will review the allegations with heightened scrutiny.

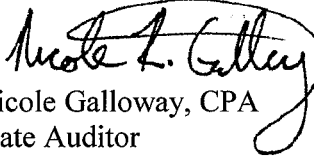
A closeout audit will begin when the term of the prior officer has ended—here, after Attorney General Hawley officially resigns. Attorney General Hawley's administration will be the subject of the audit, but the auditee will be both former Attorney General Hawley and appointed Attorney General Eric Schmitt. As such, document requests to that office will be directed to and processed by incoming Attorney General Schmitt.

Missouri law permits us to share with you records in matters officially before your office. In conducting any audit, we must comply with Government Auditing Standards established by the Comptroller General of the United States, as well as Missouri law. We look forward to discussing those parameters with your office.

The Honorable John R. Ashcroft  
December 14, 2018  
Page 2

My Chief of Staff, Michael Moorefield, will be contacting your office in the coming days.

Sincerely,

  
Nicole Galloway, CPA  
State Auditor

cc: The Honorable Josh Hawley, Missouri Attorney General  
The Honorable Eric Schmitt, Missouri State Treasurer