

BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT - DIVISION 1

Breckinridge Circuit Court, Division 1, met on Wednesday, March 4 with Judge Bruce Butler presiding.

Daniel R. Curry, 25, pleaded not guilty to first degree fleeing / evading police; six counts of first degree wanton endangerment / police officer; first degree criminal mischief; and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Alicia M. Norris, 24, pleaded not guilty to first degree wanton

endangerment; fourth degree assault / minor injury; and endangering the welfare of a minor. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for March 18.

Jeremy W. Williams, 45, pleaded not guilty to being a convicted felon in possession of a handgun and three counts of menacing. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Ashley M. Moore, 33, pleaded not guilty to first degree possession of a controlled substance (meth), second offense, and first

degree promoting contraband. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Randy Dowell, 48, pleaded guilty to first degree promoting contraband, and in another case, pleaded guilty to license to be in possession. Sentencing was scheduled for May 6.

Travis L. Dowell, 34, pleaded not guilty to first degree possession of a controlled substance (meth), first offense, and possession of marijuana. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Carl T. Waters, 44, pleaded guilty to two counts of third degree rape; two counts of first degree sodomy; and three counts of first degree sexual abuse. Sentencing was scheduled for May 20.

Robert T. Geary, 36, was sentenced to one year in prison, probated for five years, for flagrant non-support.

Brooke A. Lascallett, 25, was sentenced to five years in prison, probated for five years, for first degree wanton endangerment.

Laura M. Schmidt, 45, pleaded

not guilty to first degree fleeing / evading police; first degree wanton endangerment / police officer; obstructing governmental operations; third degree terroristic threatening; operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a substance; three counts of harassing communications; and theft by unlawful taking / disposition of property. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Probation was revoked for Jeremy L. Hall, 40, and Brian K. Swink, 62.

BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT - DIVISION 2

Breckinridge Circuit Court, Division 2, met on Wednesday, March 4 with Judge Kenneth H. Goff II presiding.

Ronald E. Shelton, 55, pleaded not guilty to first degree possession of a controlled substance (meth), first offense. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Michael Goode, 60, pleaded not guilty to first degree bail-jumping. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Cliff A. Pile, 42, pleaded not guilty to first degree criminal mischief. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Adam B. Grimes, 32, pleaded not guilty to two counts of first degree criminal mischief; first degree criminal trespass; and possession of

burglary tools. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Bennie C. Phipps, 42, pleaded not guilty to first degree possession of a controlled substance (meth), first offense / enhanced; being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm; tampering with physical evidence; third degree assault / police / probation officer; and possession of marijuana / enhanced. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Terrance S. Sweetman, 48, pleaded not guilty to first degree possession of a controlled substance (meth), second offense. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Tayis N. Mills, 27, pleaded

not guilty to kidnapping / adult; fourth degree assault / domestic violence; and two counts of being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

John Whitaker, 23, pleaded not guilty to first degree rape. A pre-trial conference was scheduled for May 6.

Lanny S. Batchelder, 50, pleaded guilty to first degree trafficking in a controlled substance (meth), second or greater offense; first degree trafficking in an unspecified drug, first offense; possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; and trafficking in marijuana, first offense. Sentencing was scheduled for April 22.

Erika M. Walker, 48, pleaded

guilty to first degree trafficking in an unspecified drug, first offense, and trafficking in marijuana, first offense. Sentencing was scheduled for April 22.

Andrea L. Faust, 47, pleaded guilty to flagrant non-support. Sentencing was scheduled for April 22.

Adam P. Moore, 44, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for second degree burglary, and 12 months for fourth degree assault / domestic violence / no visible injury, and violation of a Kentucky EPO/DVO. The sentences were probated for five years.

Stephen Landry, 22, was sentenced to five years in prison, probated for five years, for first degree criminal abuse / child 12 or under. In another

case, he was sentenced to two years in prison, probated for five years, for second degree strangulation.

Christopher T. Barley, 54, was sentenced to five years in prison, probated for five years, for first degree wanton endangerment, and fined \$500 for failure of non-owner to maintain required insurance, first offense.

Julio M. Ceballos, 54, was sentenced to 20 years in prison on each of two counts of attempted murder of first responder / peace officer; 20 years on each of two counts of attempted murder / domestic violence; 10 years for being a convicted felon in possession of a handgun; five years for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm; and 12 months on each of three counts of second degree cruelty to animals. The sentences will run concurrently for a total of 20 years.

Andrew Trent, 42, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for first degree wanton endangerment, and 12 months for second degree wanton endangerment / police officer. The sentences will run concurrently for a total of 10 years.

Alicia A. Lane, 40, was sentenced to two years in prison on each of two counts of first degree wanton endangerment, and 10 days for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

DEED TRANSFERS

Kimberly A. Brady Living Trust, of Hardinsburg, to Isaak Ty and Shelby Elizabeth Jeffries, of Hardinsburg; property near Axtel-Kirk Road; \$50,000

April J. Dewitt Premi and Kunal Premi, of Lexington, Ky., to Jeffrey W. and Sonia E. Robinson, of Irvington; Lot 2-A of Plainview Farms; \$25,000

Eugene M. II and Rani H. Doda, of Stephensport, to Clayton Stephen Burks, of Hardinsburg; Tract 8A of Hendry Acres, Inc. Farm Division;

\$123,150

Roseabelle Padgett, of Evansville, Ind., to Armando Valdes II, of Hardinsburg; two parcels; \$74,500

Carla Denise McMillen, of Louisville, Ky., to VIP Management, LLC, of Irvington; Lot 16A of Woodhaven Subdivision; \$70,000

Chad Michael Grisham, of Irvington, to Amanda Jo and Leslie Brent Gatrost, of Guston, Ky.; 12.508 acres near Garfield; \$75,000

Jonathan Todd and Melody N.

Pearson, of Vine Grove, Ky., to Betty Joyce Jones and David Eugene Torrance, of Mount Washington, Ky.; property near Irvington; \$240,000

Pike & Tucker LLC, of Brandenburg, to Karen D. Baker, of Irvington; Lot 3 in Valley Terrace; \$219,900

Jason M. Volkov, of Hardinsburg, to Michael Braxton Carman, of Hardinsburg; 0.611 acre tract near Hardinsburg; \$74,800

Timothy Stoltz, of Louisville, Ky., to Derek and Tracy Bailey, of Beaver

Dam, Ky.; 2 parcels near Roff; \$45,000

Kentucky Land Holdings of Elizabethtown, LLC, of Elizabethtown, Ky., to Monte L. Wright, of Garfield; Lot 9 of the Dwight Pile Tract Division; \$50,500

James and Joetta Hines, of Irvington, to George H. and Sheri R. Cook and Madeleine Cook, of Radcliff, Ky.; Lots 13 and 14 of Silver Springs; \$59,500

Alberta Claycomb Family Trust, of

Webster, to Richard and Aliene Kays, of Webster, and Jennifer Wisnoski, of Webster; 4.09 acres in Webster; \$270,000

Lydia Coomes, of Brandenburg, Ky., and Brent Coomes, of Falls of Rough, Ky., to Craig William and Shannon Marie Sims, of East Hope, Ind.; 4 parcels, \$325,000

Mary M. Robbins, of Stephensport, to Abbie Hutchison, of Stephensport; property in Stephensport; \$30,000

Dirty Dozen tax scams for 2026: IRS reminds taxpayers to watch out for dangerous threats

SUBMITTED

The Internal Revenue Service recently announced its annual Dirty Dozen list of tax scams for 2026 that threaten the tax and financial information of taxpayers, businesses, and tax professionals.

The Dirty Dozen is part of a broader campaign conducted through the Security Summit, a partnership among the IRS, state tax agencies, and the nation's tax industry, and reinforced by outreach efforts tied to National Slam the Scam Day on March 5. These initiatives educate taxpayers about identity theft schemes and other forms of fraud, particularly during filing season.

"Today, Slam the Scam Day, provides a great opportunity to remind everyone to remain vigilant and watch out for scams because thieves continuously adjust the pitches they use to take advantage of honest taxpayers," said IRS Chief Executive Officer Frank J. Bisignano. "For more than two decades, the IRS has used the Dirty Dozen list to flag emerging scams that taxpayers should watch out for."

A notable change to this year's list is the addition of abusive undistributed long-term capital gains claims as item #6, replacing prior fuel tax credit concerns, as the IRS sees an increase in overstated or fabricated claims tied to Form 2439, Notice to Shareholder of Undistributed Long-Term Capital Gains. The IRS advises all taxpayers to remain cautious year-round, as criminals will always be on the lookout for new ways to obtain money, personal identifiable information, and data.

to be from the IRS, often using alarming language and QR codes that direct taxpayers to fake IRS websites to "verify" accounts, enter personal information, or claim refunds. The IRS urges taxpayers not to click links or open attachments from unexpected messages and to report suspicious IRS-related emails, DMs, and texts. The IRS reported over 600 social media impersonators during fiscal year 2025.

As a reminder, never click any unsolicited communication claiming to be from the IRS, as it may install malware surreptitiously. These links may install malicious software, including ransomware, on a taxpayer's personal device, potentially preventing access to their files or personal information.

2. AI-enabled IRS impersonation by phone (robocalls, voice mimicry, spoofed caller ID). Phone scams continue to evolve, including calls that use computer-generated tactics and spoofed caller ID to appear legitimate. The IRS reminds taxpayers that it generally contacts taxpayers by mail first and does not leave urgent, threatening prerecorded messages, call to demand immediate payment, or threaten arrest. Taxpayers should not rely on AI-generated responses to complex tax questions, and they should verify any calculations or information provided by artificial intelligence.

3. Fake charities. Fraudsters often exploit tragedies and disasters by creating fake charities to collect donations and personal information. The IRS is committed to preventing fraudulent nonprofits from taking advantage of the American taxpayer.

Taxpayers who give money or goods to a charity may be able to claim a deduction on their federal tax return if they itemize deductions, but charitable donations only count if they go to a qualified tax-exempt organization

recognized by the IRS.

4. Misleading tax advice on social media. Viral "tax hacks" can push taxpayers to file returns with false information or claim credits they don't qualify for, leading to refund delays, audits, penalties, or worse. The IRS continues to warn that social media-driven misinformation and disinformation remain a major driver of tax scams.

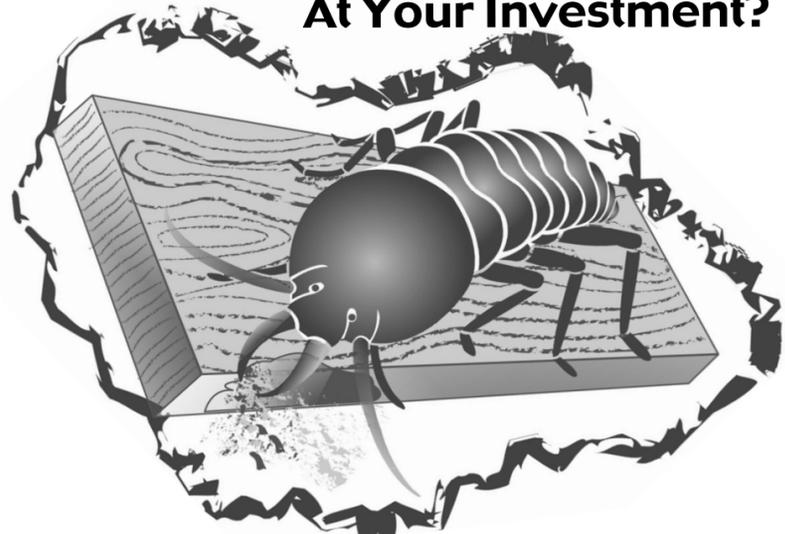
The IRS and the Coalition Against Scam and Scheme Threats warn taxpayers not to fall for these scams, and urge them to follow trusted advice from the IRS, tax professionals, and other reputable sources. The IRS reminds taxpayers who knowingly file fraudulent tax returns that they could potentially face significant civil and criminal penalties.

5. Identity theft involving IRS Online Account access. Criminals may attempt to use stolen personal information to gain unauthorized access to a taxpayer's IRS online account or may pose as helpers to collect sensitive information during account setup. Taxpayers should create their account directly through IRS.gov and should not rely on unsolicited third parties offering assistance. The IRS provides official guidance to help taxpayers securely establish and protect their accounts.

6. Abusive undistributed long-term capital gains claims. The IRS identified an increase in the abuse of Form 2439. This form allows shareholders of certain investment funds or real estate trusts to claim a refundable credit for taxes paid on undistributed capital gains. Identified schemes involve overstated or fabricated Form 2439 claims, including claims tied to organizations that are not legitimate investment funds or real estate trusts. The IRS has also seen fake claims falsely linked to real, well-known organizations. Improper claims may result in refund delays, audits, penalties, or enforcement action.

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