



District Court News

Hon. Paul E. Craft
Hon. Benjamin L. Harrison
County Attorney
October 29, 2024

Gerald Butler. Arraignment. (1) Fleeing or evading police, 1st degree. FTA eligible. (2) No/expired registration plates. (3) No operators/moped license. FTA eligible. (4) Failure to or improper signal. FTA eligible. (5) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (6) Operating on suspended/revoked operators license. FTA eligible. Hospital. Reset.

Bianna S. Castle. Other Hearing. DEF left rehab and there was a motion on to revoke probation. Reset. No payment.

William T. Click. Arraignment. Operate motor vehicle under influence alcohol .08 (189A.010(1A) 2nd. FTA eligible. Pled Not Guilty (PNG). \$1,500 cash bond. No drugs/alcohol. Appoint PD. 11-12, 10:00.

Jeanette Hampton. Other Hearing. BW served on FTA 10-10-23 on Commonwealth's Motion to revoke probation. \$1,000 cash bond. \$1,000.

Jeanette A. Hampton. Arraignment. Criminal mischief, 1st degree. Appoint PD. PNG. PH 11-12. OR bond.

Shandon L. Ison. Other

Hearing. FTA 2-27-24 for FW served for FTA 7-25-23 for money due \$193. Serve out.

Shandon Lee Ison. Other Hearing. FTA 2-27-24 for BW being served for FTA 7-25-23 for money due \$243. Serve.

Dennis Jamison. Arraignment. Assault, 4th degree, domestic violence, minor injury. Enhanceable. Appoint PD. PNG. PTC 11-12, 10:00. \$2,500 signature bond. No contact with victim. No drugs/alcohol. Pretrial tests. Live with mother.

Zachary Leslie Ira Sparks. Arraignment. (1) Tampering with physical evidence. (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. PNG. 10-31, 11:00 by zoom. PH 11-12.

Zachary Leslie Ira Sparks. Arraignment. Fugitive from another state, warrant required. Def waives extradition.

Zachary Leslie Ira Sparks. Arraignment. Fugitive from another state, warrant required. Def waives extradition.

James F. Stevens. Arraignment. (1) No/expired registration plates. Pled Guilty (PG). \$25. (2) No/expired Kentucky registration receipt. PG. \$25. (3) Operating on suspended/revoked operators license. FTA eligible. \$150. (4) Possession of marijuana. 90, serve 7 concurrent. PG. (5) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. 12 months,

serve 7. PG. Probation for 2 years, violate no laws. Drug/alcohol free. Complete 90 days inpatient rehab. (6) Failure to register transfer of motor vehicle. \$50. (7) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. \$500.

Taylor Teegarden. Arraignment. (1) Perjury, 2nd degree. (2) Perjury, 1st degree. 11-19, 10:00. PNG. PH

Jeffery D. Thacker. Other Hearing. Def did not show up for Work Farm, had 8 days to do. Serve out 8 days in jail.

Amy Lee Ashworth. Pretrial Conference. Operate motor vehicle under influence alcohol .08 (189A.010(1A) 1st (aggravating circumstances). FTA eligible. 12-10.

Julia Allison Beckner. Preliminary Hearing. Criminal mischief, residential rental property, 1st degree. Reset 11-19, 10:00.

Joanna Marie Bloomfield. Pretrial Conference. Assessed for SB90. (1) Disorderly conduct, 2nd degree. (2) Alcohol intoxication in a public place, 1st and 2nd offense. Enhanceable. FTA. BW. OR to rehab bond.

Willie Scott. Pretrial Conference. Assault, 4th degree, child abuse. Enhanceable. FTA. BW.

William Gregory Caudill. Pretrial Conference. (1) Fleeing

or evading police, 2nd degree (motor vehicle). FTA eligible. (2) Operate motor vehicle under influence alcohol/substance (189A.010(1E) 1st. FTA eligible. (3) Improper turning. FTA eligible. Reset 12-3.

Russell Eugene Cottingham. Pretrial Conference. (1) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (2) Improper equipment. (3) Failure to produce insurance card. (4) No/expired Kentucky registration receipt. (5) No/expired registration plates. Reset 12-10, 10:00. Release truck.

Mike Dunn. Pretrial Conference. (1) Terroristic threatening, 3rd degree. (2) Criminal trespassing, 3rd degree. 18 months diversion. No contact, stay off property, and violate no laws.

Joshua Blake Earehart. Pretrial Conference. (1) Speeding 26 mph over/greater. FTA eligible. (2) Possession of marijuana. (3) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. 12-3, 10:00.

Amber N. Gillum. Pretrial Conference. Operate motor vehicle under influence alcohol .08 (189A.010(1A) 1st. FTA eligible. Reset 12-3, 10:00.

Jeffrey Allen Hardymon. Pretrial Conference. (1) Operate motor vehicle under influence substance (189A.010 (1C) 3rd. FTA eligible. PG. (2) Possession of marijuana. PG. 45 days c/d. Report at GCDC 6:00 p.m.

David A. Johnson. Pretrial Conference. (1) Theft by unlawful taking or disposition all

others. 2 year diversion. Stay away from property. (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. PG. 12 months, serve 23 days, balance c/d credit 2 years, 90 days rehab. Violate no laws.

Lynn Johnson. Pretrial Conference. Knowingly report child abuse falsely. Reset 12-10, 10:00.

Lynn M. Johnson. Pretrial Conference. Possession of marijuana. 12-10, 10:00.

Helen Reid. Revocation Hearing. Stip to revocation. Revoke 10 days, credit 9 days.

Richard W. Rudd. Pretrial Conference. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. PG. \$500 fine.

Samantha D. Rister. Arraignment. (1) Careless driving. FTA eligible. (2) Failure to produce insurance card. (3) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 2nd or >. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (4) No/expired registration plates. PNG. 12-3, 10:00.

Ashleigh Ruark. Diversion Completion. Drive Safe. Redocketed.

Ashleigh Dawn Ruark. Diversion Completion. Drive Safe is doing 12 month insurance monitoring. Redocketed.

Seth E. Shumate. Arraignment. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. SP, dismissed.

Christopher Cooper. Status

Hearing. FTA. BW. OR.

Lindsey Huber. Diversion Completion. Summons. Dismissed/Diverted.

Steven Michael Ilhardt. Diversion Completion. Dismissed/Diverted.

Bretton Kyle McKinney. Arraignment. (1) No/expired registration plates. Merge. (2) No/expired Kentucky registration receipt. Merge. (3) Failure to produce insurance card. Merge. (4) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. PG. \$500 fine.

Samantha D. Rister. Arraignment. (1) Careless driving. FTA eligible. (2) Failure to produce insurance card. (3) Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 2nd or >. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (4) No/expired registration plates. PNG. 12-3, 10:00.

Ashleigh Ruark. Diversion Completion. Drive Safe. Redocketed.

Ashleigh Dawn Ruark. Diversion Completion. Drive Safe is doing 12 month insurance monitoring. Redocketed.

Seth E. Shumate. Arraignment. Failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. SP, dismissed.

All information contained in the "Court News" is directly taken from the dockets of the Lewis County Circuit and District Court.

Legislative Update

State Representative Patrick Flannery



The Hidden Health Risks of the Digital Age

Social media platforms have become an integral part of our daily routines in today's digital age, especially for our youth. While social media platforms can foster connections, creativity, and offer a space for everyone to have a voice, they also pose very real and significant dangers to our children. Since October is recognized as Cybersecurity Awareness Month in Kentucky, it's the perfect opportunity to discuss the risks social media poses to our children, health, and education.

Young individual's mental health is severely affected by social media, as several studies have shown. Children who spend a significant amount of time online are more likely to suffer from depression, anxiety, and low self-esteem. Spending excessive time on social media platforms has also been linked to diminishing attention spans, poor academic performance, worsening mental and physical health, and psychological issues. In short, we become dumber, more impatient, and sicker.

However, it's not their fault. Social media platforms have mastered the art of curating intentionally addictive algorithms that are designed to elicit this exact behavior. In order to maximize profit through user engagement, social media companies employ the world's greatest developers who design these platforms in a way that makes it psychologically difficult to log off, and nearly impossible to stay gone for long. Young children have a limited capacity for self-control, making the ability to resist social media an unfair fight. There is no natural stopping point, break, or 'end' to a social media feed, creating an endless cycle of content. Users are constantly fed personalized media and advertisements that are tailored to their every interest, creating a feedback loop that reinforces their engagement.

Recognizing the compounding negative effects that social media has on children, Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman filed a 125-page lawsuit against TikTok earlier this month. In the lawsuit, Coleman claims that, "TikTok intentionally manipulates the release of dopamine in Young User's brains and causes them to use TikTok in an excessive, compulsive, and addictive manner that harms them both physically and mentally." Kentucky has now joined over a dozen states who have also filed lawsuits against the company, citing similar claims. With social media's pervasive influence, the fight to protect our children from its dangerous effects is a nationwide battle. The well-being of our youth must come before corporate profits, and Kentucky is sending this message loud and clear.

The impact of social media use on children's physical health

could not be clearer. Excessive time online leads to a sedentary lifestyle that contributes to obesity, poor posture, and a decline in overall physical fitness. Kentucky is grappling with above average childhood obesity rates among other health issues tied to the overconsumption of digital media.

The mental health implications of social media on children are equally concerning. Social media platforms host users from different walks of life, all over the globe. There is no limit to the kinds of content, lifestyles, or behaviors that children may be exposed to while online before it is age appropriate. To an impressionable child, social media can fuel low self-esteem, anxiety, and depression. As the mental health crisis among young people across the nation worsens, experts are increasingly pointing to social media as the main contributing factor.

During the 2024 Legislative Session, the General Assembly passed House Bill 278 in response to the growing threats that our children face every day. HB 278 addresses growing concerns surrounding social media's impact on children by mandating that social media platforms implement stricter age verification processes. The bill also establishes an avenue for entities to be held civilly liable for promoting harmful or inappropriate content without age verification. House Bill 278 is a proactive approach to safeguarding children from the dangers of free-reign internet access, and creates a balance of the benefits of social media with the need to safeguard our youth.

The negative impacts of social media also extend into children's education. The prevalence of short form content and the culture of instant gratification have contributed to reduced attention

spans, making it difficult for kids to concentrate in class. Adding to this struggle are constant push notifications from social media platforms, urging kids to log back on, further disrupting their ability to concentrate on what's going on in the classroom. This makes it increasingly difficult for students to engage in their education.

Knowing all that we do about the negative side effects of social media, it is important for parents to have a conversation with their children about its impacts. Reducing screen time, setting boundaries for social media use, and encouraging hobbies outside of the digital world can help mitigate its negative effects on children's mental and physical wellbeing as well as their academic performance. Further, by delaying unmonitored social media access until children are of an appropriate age, kids can develop a balanced and healthy relationship with social media early on that will benefit them long-term.

While the advancements of the digital age are remarkable, they come with serious responsibilities. It is our job to protect children from the negative effects of social media, but it is not an easy one. This is a collective effort that requires strong legislation, parental accountability, and widespread awareness. As we continue to revel in the latest technological advancements, we must keep the well-being of the next generation in mind.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via e-mail at Patrick.Flannery@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO OPERATE A PLACE OF ENTERTAINMENT

Please take notice that on October 21, 2024, an Application for Permit to Operate a Place of Entertainment was filed by Tony Palarie and Jonathan Ruggles. The application seeks a permit to operate a business known as 1806 Adventures, LLC. The primary purpose of the business is to provide trail riding and primitive camping to paying customers, allowing individuals to drive their own vehicles over developed trails.

The location of the proposed business is 1979 Briary Creek Road, Vanceburg, in Lewis County, Kentucky.

KRS 231.080 requires that a hearing be held after the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date on which the application is filed. The hearing will be conducted by the Lewis County Judge/Executive on November 21, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. at the Fiscal Court meeting room, on the third floor of the Lewis County Courthouse, located at 112 Second Street, Vanceburg, Kentucky. At the hearing, the County Judge/Executive will hear evidence in support of or in opposition to the granting of the permit.

Pursuant to KRS 231.080, Any person desiring to oppose the permit shall have filed in writing allegations that show cause as to why the application should not be granted. Said written allegations shall be filed in the office of the County Judge Executive, Second Floor, Lewis County Courthouse, prior to 2:30 p.m. on November 21, 2024.



Legislative Update

Senator Robin L. Webb

As we inch closer to the 2025 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly, we take a moment to reflect on the work being done now in interim joint committee meetings in Frankfort. These meetings cover a range of issues that will likely shape the future of our state, including topics like child care, workforce participation, and addressing shortages. This past week has been especially busy, and I'm proud of the progress we've made.

In the October meeting of the Interim Joint Committee on Families and Children, we tackled several pressing issues related to child care in Kentucky. Many counties in east Kentucky are considered child care deserts, where access to adequate care is severely limited. It was great to see Kristen Collins, the new CEO of the Appalachian Foundation, at the meeting. Her insights into the challenges and potential solutions facing our communities were invaluable, and I know the foundation is in capable hands.

The Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), represented by Commissioner Lesa Dennis and An-

drea T. Day, provided an update on recent policy changes intended to stabilize child care funding. One of the key issues discussed was the growing number of child care deserts in Kentucky, with over 50 counties identified as having fewer than three children per available child care slot. This geographical disparity in access is one of the greatest barriers to families seeking affordable, high-quality care. The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) saw fluctuations in participation, with approximately 22,936 families and 38,867 children enrolled as of October 2024.

Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA) highlighted the urgent need for increased support to the child care workforce, which is struggling due to low wages and workforce shortages. They reported that 98% of the child care workforce is female, with a significant portion nearing retirement age or younger than 30. This workforce is crucial to our economy, and they are not paid a living wage, putting them at risk of leaving the profession. This is something we must address moving forward.

As we focus on these legisla-

tive priorities, it's important to remember that Election Day is Tuesday, November 5. Make sure to plan ahead and exercise your right to vote. For polling location details or voting options, visit gov.vote.ky.gov.

I'm also proud to announce that the Kentucky Lawyer's Assistance Program (KYLAP) was featured in the latest edition of Bench and Bar, our profession's publication. Serving on the KYLAP Commission has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my legal career. Our profession is often stressful and isolating, and no matter what challenges arise, personally or professionally, KYLAP is here to help. I love giving back to the profession that has given me so much.

As always, I encourage you to stay informed and reach out with any questions or concerns. Together, we will build a stronger, more prosperous Kentucky for future generations.

If I can assist you, feel free to email me at robin.webb@legislature.ky.gov or call the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

Advertisement for Bids

Project No. 22-049
 Lewis County Fiscal Court and Camp Dix Volunteer Fire Department

Separate sealed bids for the renovation and expansion of the Camp Dix Fire Station for Camp Dix Volunteer Fire Department (Lewis County, KY) will be received by the County at the office of Lewis County Judge Executive George Sparks, 112 Second Street, RM 201, Vanceburg, KY 41179, until 1:00 P.M. local time Thursday, November 21, 2024, and then at said location in the Courtroom publicly opened and read aloud.

A pre-bid meeting can be held by appointment only by contacting the architect at 740-354-6621. The Camp Dix Volunteer Fire Department is located at 10494 KY-59, Vanceburg, KY 41179.

The Information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other contract documents may be examined at the following:

Buffalo Trace Area Development District, 201 Government Street, Suite 300, Maysville, KY 41056, during the hours of 8:00AM to 4:30PM M-F. Lewis County Courthouse at 112 2nd Street, Vanceburg, KY 41179, during the hours of 8:00AM to 4:30PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, or 8:00AM to noon on Wednesdays.

Copies may be obtained at the office of Lynn Imaging located at 328 Old Vine St. Lexington, Ky., upon payment for each set.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids. Each bidder must deposit his bid security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders.

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract. These include Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109 and E.O. 11246. Further, Title VI Minority bidders are encouraged to bid.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.