

Apple, Corning commit to KY

Killian Baarlaer
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Thanks to a \$2.5 billion investment in Kentucky, all cover glass used on iPhones and Apple Watches will soon be made in the commonwealth, Apple officials announced Aug. 6.

The company will partner with Corning, which owns a glass manufacturing plant in Harrodsburg, to create the “world’s largest and most advanced smartphone glass production line” at the facility, officials said in a news release. Corning, known for its innovations in glass production and other tech materials, will dedicate the entirety of its Harrodsburg facility to manufacturing for Apple.

Harrodsburg, a city of about 9,100 people located roughly 30 miles southwest of Lexington, is the county seat of Mercer County.

The arrangement will allow Apple to manufacture 100% of the cover glass used on iPhone and Apple Watch units in the U.S. for the first time, company officials said.

The companies will also open the Apple-Corning Innovation Center at the Harrodsburg facility, which will provide a space to develop and engineer future materials and products.

The Kentucky projects are part of Apple’s broader initiative to invest \$100 billion within the U.S., also announced Aug. 6. In total, the company plans to invest \$600 billion domestically over the next four years, USA TODAY reported.

The investments come as President Donald Trump levies tariffs against countries around the globe in an effort to spur manufacturing and job growth in the U.S.

“Corning is a storied American company, and we’re thrilled to work together to build the largest and most advanced production line ever created for smartphone glass,” said Tim Cook, Apple’s CEO. “Thanks to the power of American manufacturing, any customer anywhere in the world who buys a new iPhone or Apple Watch will be holding precision glass made right here in Kentucky. We’re grateful to the President and his administration for their support for American manufacturing, and we’re excited for the innovation this investment will unlock.”

Kentucky officials celebrate investment

The news drew a chorus of approval from Kentucky officials.

U.S. Rep. Andy Barr, a Republican whose district includes Harrodsburg, applauded the announcement.

“Apple’s investment secured by President Trump is a major boost for Corning’s Harrodsburg plant, where hundreds of Kentuckians produce glass for iPhone and Apple Watches,”

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Barr said in a statement. “Now, our KY plant will produce all of the glass for these products. Thanks to President Trump’s tough trade policies and the Made in America tax credit in the Big Beautiful Bill that I supported, we are Making Manufacturing American Again!”

Kentucky Sen. Amanda Mays Bledsoe, R-Lexington, also celebrated the news, calling it a “major win for Kentucky.”

“Make no mistake: this is about far more than making glass. It’s a seed of growth toward a future where Kentucky leads on the world stage. With Apple and Corning deepening their Kentucky roots, our workers and communities are becoming a core part of a thriving ecosystem of innovation and opportunity,” she said in a statement.

Apple and Corning have been partners since 2007, when Apple launched its first iPhone.

Corning currently produces glass for Apple called Ceramic Shield at the Harrodsburg plant.

“This advanced glass — the toughest in any smartphone — is the result of years of innovation by Apple and Corning engineers working closely together,” Apple officials said in the release.

During an Aug. 7 news conference, Gov. Andy Beshear said it is unclear exactly how many jobs the investment will create in Kentucky, though Apple officials said Corning’s manufacturing and engineering workforce in Kentucky will increase by 50%.

“They currently have over 400 employees, so we don’t know if it’s 50% [of] that or a smaller subset, but every job’s important,” Beshear said. “Apple’s substantial commitment is a major win for Mercer County and for the commonwealth.”

Beshear said his administration will announce the specific job gains when they are finalized.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell also lauded that the companies’ long-standing partnership will expand in an Aug. 7 statement on X, calling the investment “a proud testament to the hardworking men and women at the facility.”

Contact reporter Killian Baarlaer at kbaarlaer@gannett.com or [@bkilian72](https://twitter.com/bkilian72) on X.



The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Coliseum in Downtown Evansville, Ind., was built in 1916 as a memorial to local Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans. A World War I veteran group joined later. Owned by Vanderburgh County, the Veterans Council has leased the building since 1971.

MACABE BROWN/COURIER & PRESS

Gala to serve as fundraiser to help restore Veterans Memorial Coliseum

Sarah Loesch
Evansville Courier & Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EVANSVILLE — As efforts continue to revitalize the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Evansville, the public has the chance to help raise money while attending a traditional USO-style dance.

The Veterans Coliseum Preservation Foundation will host a gala, "In the Mood, a USO-Style Homecoming Celebration," from 6-10 p.m. on Nov. 1, 2025, at Old National Events Plaza. The dress code is cocktail wear or patriotic attire.

The event will include dinner, live music, swing dancing and a silent auction.

Built between 1916 and 1917, the Coliseum has long served as a venue for concerts, conferences, wrestling and more.

Tickets start at \$125 for general admission, and then sponsorship levels go from \$1,500 to \$10,000. Individuals who want to support the mission, but cannot attend the gala can also pay \$50 to pay for a veteran's admission.

Funds raised from the gala will go to support Phase 2 of renovations at the Coliseum. This phase will include restoration of the foyer, GAR and Spanish-American rooms. There will also be modernization improvements, including new restrooms and ADA improvements.

Phase 2 is expected to cost \$3.5 million.

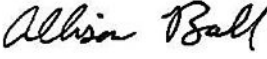
The first phase of its restoration cost about \$6 million, and focused on infrastructure improvements such as heating and cooling, electrical work, security features and fire suppression and alarm systems. That funding came from the American Rescue Plan Act.

To the People of Kentucky
The Honorable Andy Beshear, Governor
Holly M. Johnson, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
The Honorable Brad Schneider, Henderson County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Charles Stauffer, Henderson County Sheriff
Members of the Henderson County Fiscal Court

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statement
Opinions
We have audited the accompanying Henderson County Sheriff's Settlement - 2023 Taxes for the period September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 - Regulatory Basis, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the Henderson County Sheriff's financial statement as listed in the table of contents.
Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting
In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024 of the Henderson County Sheriff, in accordance with the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the Commonwealth of Kentucky as described in Note 1.
Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statement does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the taxes charged, credited, and paid of the Henderson County Sheriff, for the period September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024.
Basis for Opinions
We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Audit Program for Sheriffs' Tax Settlements*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Henderson County Sheriff and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.
Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
As described in Note 1 of the financial statement, the financial statement is prepared by the Henderson County Sheriff on the basis of accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.
Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statement
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting practices prescribed or permitted by the laws of Kentucky to demonstrate compliance with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's regulatory basis of accounting and budget laws. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of a financial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Henderson County Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.
Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not an absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statement.
In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:
Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Henderson County Sheriff's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Henderson County Sheriff's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.
Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards
In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 10, 2025, on our consideration of the Henderson County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Henderson County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, Ky

June 10, 2025
State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs; and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, and property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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