

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

By Marla Marrs

As Labor Day approaches, Kentuckians are reminded to celebrate the end of summer safely by planning for a sober, designated driver if festivities include alcohol.

“Our top priority is keeping Kentuckians safe,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “If you are under the influence and choose to get behind the wheel, you put everyone on the road in danger, including yourself. Let’s work together to eliminate preventable crashes by committing to celebrate responsibly.”

Although impaired driving enforcement is a year-round effort, crashes tend to increase over holiday weekends. That’s why the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety (KOHS) is joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and law enforcement agencies across the country in the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign, which runs from Aug. 13 through Sept. 1, 2025.

“It is never acceptable to drive impaired,” said Kentucky Transport Cabinet (KYTC) Secretary Jim Gray. “Alcohol, drugs and even prescription medications can impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely. You may feel ‘OK,’ but impairment slows your judgment, coordination and reaction time.”

According to the KOHS, last year in Kentucky, there were 4,260 total crashes in-

volving an impaired driver, resulting in 2,062 injuries and 185 deaths. Last year, 45 alcohol related crashes involving only a motorcycle were reported, resulting in 41 injuries and 6 deaths.

During the 2024 Labor Day holiday weekend, there were 76 crashes involving an impaired driver, resulting in 44 injuries and one death.

The following tips are recommended to stay safe:

- Before the festivities begin, plan a way to get home safely at the end of the night;
- If you’re impaired, use a ride-booking company or taxi, call a sober friend or family member or use public transportation to get home safely;
- If you see an impaired

driver, safely pull over and contact law enforcement. You may dial the Kentucky State Police toll-free line directly at 1-800-222-5555 or call 911. Provide a vehicle description, license number, location and, if possible, direction of travel;

- If you know people who are about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to their destination safely;
- Wear a seat belt! It is not only the law, but it is also the best defense against an impaired driver. Buckling up helps prevent injury and death if you are involved in a crash.

For more information on drunken driving visit ky-drivesober.com

Poetry

“I’m Back!”

Author Unknown

The day has come
“I’m back!” I say.
I find my seat
And start the day.
Sharpened pencils,
Big, big grin.
I just can’t wait

to dive on in!
My teacher looks like
so much fun.
My learning here
Has just begun.
I’ll meet new friends
and old ones too,
I’m feeling great!
How about you?!



District Court



Hon. Paul E. Craft
Hon. Benjamin L. Harrison
County Attorney
August 12, 2025

Justin W. Hall. Arraignment. (1) Speeding 15 mph over limit. FTA eligible. (2) Possess controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (methamphetamine) METH-BLK. (3) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. (4) Operate motor vehicle under influence substance (189A.010(1C) 1st. FTA eligible. 5K cash. Appointment PD. Pled Not Guilty (PNG). PH 8-19, 10:00.

Ervin Howard. Arraignment. (1) Possess controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (methamphetamine) METH-BLK. (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. Appointment PD. PNG. PH 8-19, 10:00.

Stanley Bess. Diversion Completion. Dismissed/Diverted.

Timothy Corns. Arraignment. Failure to register transfer of motor vehicle. Reset 9-16.

Terry Downey. Motion Hour. Overruled as to 5K.

Austin L. Fithen. Status Hearing. (1) Operating on suspended/revoked operators license. FTA eligible. (2) Operate motor vehicle under influence controlled substance (189A.010(1D) 1st. FTA eligible. Rehab. 2-17, 10:00.

Sarafin Howell. Diversion Completion. Dismissed/Diverted.

Farrell R. Mustard. Other Hearing. BW served for FTA 7-22-25 for money due \$298. 9-30.

Farrell R. Mustard II. Other Hearing. BW served for FTA 7-22-25 for money due \$298. 9-30.

Tommy Ray Potter. Arraignment. Criminal mischief, 1st degree. 9-16. WFA. PNG. Def waives time, 30 days.

Christopher Smith. Other Hearing. Def FTA 2-25-25 for money due \$273. Waive fines and costs. State inmate.

Gladys Mae Smith. Arraignment. Leaving scene of accident/failure to render aid or assistance. FTA eligible. PNG. 9-9.

Dustin E. Cottingham. Pretrial Conference. (1) Operating on suspended/revoked operators license. FTA eligible. \$150. (2) Disregarding traffic control device, traffic light. FTA eligible. Merge. (3) Failure to produce insurance card. Merge. (4) Failure of non owner operator maintain required insurance, 2nd or >. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. \$500. (5) Failure to surrender revoked operators license. FTA eligible. Merge.

Dustin Eugene Cottingham. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. 2-24.

Gregory A. Dugan. Pretrial Conference. Operate motor vehicle under influence alcohol .08 (189A.010(1A) 1st.

FTA eligible. Reset 10-7.

David Evans. Pretrial Conference. Local county ordinance. \$500 fine, c/d do not own or possess dogs for two years, no dogs on premises, be in compliance by 9-12. PG.

Dawn Hudson. Pretrial Conference. Local county ordinance. \$500 fine, c/d do not own or possess dogs for two years, no dogs on premises, be in compliance by 9-12. PG.

Dennis Allen Jamison. Pretrial Conference. (1) No rear view mirror. (2) Failure of non owner operator to maintain required insurance, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (3) No/expired Kentucky registration receipt. (4) No/expired registration plates. (5) Rubber on vehicle tire less than 1 inch thick. (6) Improper flashing lights. FTA. SC.

Jesse Lykins. Revocation Hearing. Reset 1-27.

Stephen Ross. Pretrial Conference. Terroristic threatening, 3rd degree. Diverted 2 years, no contact with victims. Drug and alcohol free.

Sara B. Sensabaugh. Pretrial Conference. Assault, 4th degree, domestic violence, minor injury. Enhanceable. SB90, 8-19.

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

Circuit Court News



Hon. Brian C. McCloud
Hon. Rhese McKenzie
Commonwealth’s Attorney
August 15, 2025

Commonwealth vs. Johnny J. Adams Jr. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Reset 2-20-26.

Commonwealth vs. Johnny J. Adams Jr. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Reset 2-20-26.

Commonwealth vs. Johnny W. Adams. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Reset 2-20-26.

Commonwealth vs. Betsy Danette Balian. Pretrial Conference. (1) Perjury, 1st degree. (2) Perjury, 1st degree. 12-19-25.

Commonwealth vs. Charli Bane. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Reset 2-20-26.

Commonwealth vs. Nakala L. Bloomfield. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Reset 11-21-25.

Commonwealth vs. Trina Leann Chinn. Motion Hour. Motion to revoke probation. Reset 9-5-25.

Commonwealth vs. Michael Clark. Arraignment. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st offense (carfentanil or fentanyl derivatives). (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. (3) Fleeing or evading police, 2nd degree (motor vehicle). FTA eligible. (4) No/expired Kentucky registration receipt. (5) Failure of non owner to maintain required insurance/security, 1st. FTA eligible. Enhanceable. (6) Failure to wear seat belts. FTA eligible.

Notice Of Appointment

Administration has been granted by the Lewis District Court upon the Estate of George Clark, whose address was 55 Sexton Lane, Quincy, KY 41166, and Kippie Clark, whose address is 62 Willis Lane, Garrison, KY 41141, was appointed Administrator on August 12, 2025.

All creditors having claims against said estate are notified to present them to said Kippie Clark, at the address shown verified according to law, not later than six months after the last publication of this notice. Any person owing said estate should make payment to said Kippie Clark.

Teresa Callahan, Clerk
Lewis Circuit & District Courts

Appoint PD. \$100. Pled Not Guilty (PNG). Set pretrial 9-19-25.

Commonwealth vs. Johnny H. Colegrove Jr. Pretrial Conference. Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. D stip to PC. Dismissed.

Commonwealth vs. Cydnie Cook. Pretrial Conference. Unlawful imprisonment, 1st degree. Reset 9-19-25.

Commonwealth vs. Joshua L. Duncan. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Summons. D indigent, declare uncollectible.

Commonwealth vs. Joshua L. Duncan. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Summons. D indigent, declare uncollectible.

Commonwealth vs. Joshua L. Duncan. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. D indigent, declare uncollectible.

Commonwealth vs. Mary J. Dunigan. Pretrial Conference. Summons. Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. Reset 10-3-25.

Commonwealth vs. Samuel B. Esham. Arraignment. Summons. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (2) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (< 10 Drug unspecified sched 1 and 2). (3) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. PNG. Set pretrial 10-3-25.

Notice Of Appointment

Administration has been granted by the Lewis District Court upon the Estate of Richard H. Sexton, whose address was 3743 West KY 10, Tollesboro, KY 41189, and Craig Stanfield, whose address is 2126 West KY 10, Tollesboro, KY 41189, was appointed Executor on August 12, 2025.

All creditors having claims against said estate are notified to present them to said Craig Stanfield, at the address shown verified according to law, not later than six months after the last publication of this notice. Any person owing said estate should make payment to said Craig Stanfield.

Teresa Callahan, Clerk
Lewis Circuit & District Courts

nalial, buy/possess. PNG. Set pretrial 10-3-25.

Commonwealth vs. Kenneth B. Flinders. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Probation violation (for felony offense). 1-16-26.

Commonwealth vs. Austin Goine. Pretrial Conference. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> or = 2 GMS fentanyl). (2) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (3) Convicted felon in possession of a handgun. (4) Possess controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense, drug unspecified. Reset 11-7-25.

Commonwealth vs. Adam Hall. Pretrial Conference. Summons. Theft by deception, include cold checks \$10,000 or more. Reset 9-3-26.

Commonwealth vs. Christopher Harrison-Docks. Arraignment. Summons. Distribute sexually explicit images no consent for profit, 1st offense. PNG. Set pretrial 10-3-25.

Commonwealth vs. Daniel Ishmael. Arraignment. Summons. Criminal mischief, residential rental property, 1st degree. Reset 9-5-25.

Commonwealth vs. Perry Knell. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. FTA money due \$3,710. Summons. Reset 10-3-25. R.O.R.

Commonwealth vs. Perry Knell. Show Cause Hearing. Child support. Summons. 10-3-25. R.O.R.

Commonwealth vs. Michael J. Kunick. Pretrial Conference. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> or =

2 GMS fentanyl). (2) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (3) Convicted felon in possession of a handgun. Reset 11-7-25.

Commonwealth vs. Billy Joe Lightner. Pretrial Conference. (1) Incest, victim under 12 years of age or serious physical injury. (2) Sexual abuse, 3rd degree. Enhanceable. Pretrial 2-20-26. Trial 3-2-26.

Commonwealth vs. Steven L. Mashburn. Pretrial Conference. (1) Assault, 1st degree. (2) Convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Reset 9-5-25.

Commonwealth vs. Jake Moore. Pretrial Conference. Theft by deception, include cold checks \$10,000 or more. Reset 9-19-25.

Commonwealth vs. Samuel Muse. Motion Hour. Motion to reduce bond. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2

GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. (3) Persistent felony offender, 1st degree. Motion overruled.

Commonwealth vs. Obie L. Nickoson. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 10 drug unspecified). 7 years. (2) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. 7 years. 5 years supervised. Complete drug court.

Commonwealth vs. Brian L. Persley. Pretrial Conference. (1) Speeding 15 mph over limit. FTA eligible. Dismiss. (2) Operate motor vehicle under influence substance (189A.010 (1C) 1st. FTA eligible. Pled Guilty (PG). 3D. (3) Possess controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense, drug unspecified. PG. 1.5 years. (4) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. PG. 12 months. Counseling.

Commonwealth vs.

Joshua Posey. Pretrial Conference. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (2) Drug paraphernalia, buy/possess. Reset 10-3-25.

Commonwealth vs. Amber Skaggs. Pretrial Conference. (1) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> = 2 GMS methamphetamine) METHBLK. (2) Traffic in controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (> or = 2 GMS fentanyl). Reset 11-7-25.

Commonwealth vs. Willis W. Stevenson. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Summons. 1-16-26.

Commonwealth vs. Willis W. Stevenson. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Summons. 1-16-26.

Commonwealth vs. Willis W. Stevenson. Show Cause Deferred/Installment Payment. Summons. 1-16-26.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO
DANE BLANKENSHIP
AND HIS FRIEND
BRENDA BEAR
ON THEIR PURCHASE OF
THE HARMANY HOUSE
IN THRIVING
DOWNTOWN VANCEBURG

Paid for by Bobby Farrow 33p

BINGO

VFW Post 5438

Thursday, Aug. 14th

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

Clarksburg Road, Vanceburg

Come early.
Space is limited.

It makes sense
to list local,
having your
listing agent
close to your
property
is a real
positive.



With my office being located on Main St. in Vanceburg, I specialize in Lewis County Properties whether homes, acreages, or businesses.

Licensed Agent, Licensed Drone Operator,
and I work with local Contractors.

I also partner locally with Auctions By Cooper, Stacy Cooper when auctioning Real Estate.

RICHARD WALJE SALES AGENT, PHONE 606-262-0822
STORY REALTY & AUCTION LLC

1st3rd5th