

Middlesboro Officer injured during pursuit

At approximately 12:40 PM on June 18, 2025, the Kentucky State Police received a request for assistance from the Middlesboro Police Department regarding multiple individuals injured during a vehicle pursuit.

The incident took place near South 35th Street and Exeter Avenue in Middlesboro. Middlesboro officers were actively pursuing Jason Bullins, who had active parole and burglary warrants. Mr. Bullins fled from law enforcement after initial contact. During the pursuit, a Middlesboro Police Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson and the operator of the fleeing vehicle (Mr. Bullins) were injured. Both were transported by ambulance to Middlesboro ARH for medical treatment.

The Kentucky State Police is leading the investigation into the collision, while the Middlesboro Police Department is handling the criminal investigation. After being released from the hospital, Jason Bullins was lodged in the Bell County Detention Center charged with fleeing or evading police - 1st degree (motor vehicle), wanton endangerment - 1st degree, wanton endangerment - 1st degree (police officer), assault - 3rd degree (police officer), buying/possessing drug paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance - 1st offense (Methamphetamine). He was also served the burglary - 2nd degree and parole violation warrants.



Jason Bullins

Man charged with 4th Degree Child Abuse



A former Bell County man once at the center of a murder trial and spending over twenty years in custody, is back behind bars after being arrested in Knox County just months after his release. On Friday June 13, 2025, 44-year-old Shawn Tigues was arrested at a residence in Barbourville after it was reported to social services that a child of his girlfriend had marks on his body consistent with child abuse. In a citation from the Knox County Ky. Sheriff’s Department, Tigues admitted to spanking the child with a belt two weeks prior to his arrest. Tigues was lodged in the Knox County Ky Detention Center charged with assault 4th degree (child abuse). In 2003, Tigues plead guilty to murdering an elderly woman, Bertha Bradshaw, in her home in April of that year. The indictment against Tigues resulted in a guilty plea. During final sentencing, Tigues requested to withdraw his guilty plea, which the trial court denied.

After finding a first-degree burglary conviction to be an aggravator, the jury recommended a sentence of life without the possibility of parole, which the trial court adopted. On appeal, the Kentucky Supreme Court found Tigues’s counsel to have been ineffective, reversed his murder conviction, and remanded the case to the trial court for a new trial. He was facing other charges which were upheld and he was sentenced to 20 years for a first-degree burglary conviction, 12 months for two possession convictions, and 90 days for an improper-container conviction. In an agreement with Bell County Commonwealth Attorney Mike Taylor, Shawn Tigues was released from custody in March of this year with his sentence expiration of 23 years. While Tigues had filed separate lawsuits against the courts, they were dismissed prior to his release.

Classifieds & Legals

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INVITATION TO BID

The Bell County Health Department is accepting bids for the following:

- Replacement of siding at the Pineville clinic location

The siding must be Georgia Pacific board and batten-style siding or equivalent in the colors of the health department’s choosing. Include expenses for all labor. All bids must be broken down in price by line item. Any purchases not meeting bid specifications as submitted to the Bell County Health Department will not be paid.

Bids must be sealed and marked “BID” on the outside of the envelope. Bids must be mailed or hand-delivered to the Bell County Health Department at 310 S. Cherry St., Pineville, KY 40977. Bids must be received by Thursday, July 17th at 3:00pm. Bids will be opened on the same date.

Specifications may be obtained by calling 606-337-9076 x149. Bids will be awarded on evaluated bid price and availability. The Bell County Health Department does not discriminate against handicapped persons. The Bell County Health Department is an equal opportunity employer. The Bell County Health Department offers readers and interpreters for sight and hearing impaired. The Bell County Health Department reserves the right to choose a contractor at their discretion. Bell County Health Department reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Taneisha Brummett
Public Health Director

PUBLIC NOTIC

Notice is hereby given that Daniel Clark at 1055 Highway 2011, Stoney Fork Ky 40988, has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to build a 30ft by 12ft concrete bridge on private land. The property is located approximately 1 mile west of the Ky Highway 221 and Ky Highway 2011 junction on the left side of the road. Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov. Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, Ky 40601. Call 502-564-3410 with questions.

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PURSUANT TO SECTION 424.120 AND 242.340 of Kentucky Revised Statutes, Notice to Creditors, Administration has been granted by the District Court of Bell County upon the following estate:

Beulah Duffield, Deceased 2/12/2025
1720 Exeter Ave
Middlesboro, Ky 40965
Olivia Tripoli & Wilma Sterritt, Co-Executrix
Hon. C. Bishop Johnson
P.O. Box 128
Pineville, KY 40977

All persons having claims against the above estate(s) are notified to present same to the fiduciary verified according to law, no later than Dec 18th, 2025.
Colby Slusher, Clerk
Bell Circuit and District Courts

PURSUANT TO SECTION 424.120 AND 242.340 of Kentucky Revised Statutes, Notice to Creditors, Administration has been granted by the District Court of Bell County upon the following estate:

Wilma Charlene Rucker, Deceased 5/24/2025
Middlesboro Nursing and Rehabilitation
2235 Wilson Lane
Middlesboro, KY 40965
Melissa Zimmerman, Executrix
Hon. Levi Turner
1319 Cumberland Ave
Middlesboro, Ky 40965

All persons having claims against the above estate(s) are notified to present same to the fiduciary verified according to law, no later than Dec 18th, 2025.
Colby Slusher, Clerk
Bell Circuit and District Courts

PURSUANT TO SECTION 424.120 AND 242.340 of Kentucky Revised Statutes, Notice to Creditors, Administration has been granted by the District Court of Bell County upon the following estate:

Eugene Lee Roesch, Deceased 5/27/2025
16 Duncan Lane
Middlesboro, KY 40965
Gen Roesch, Executor
36 Duncan Lane
Middlesboro, KY 40965

All persons having claims against the above estate(s) are notified to present same to the fiduciary verified according to law, no later than Dec 18th, 2025.
Colby Slusher, Clerk
Bell Circuit and District Courts

PURSUANT TO SECTION 424.120 AND 242.340 of Kentucky Revised Statutes, Notice to Creditors, Administration has been granted by the District Court of Bell County upon the following estate:

JC Newport, Deceased 5/26/2025
1394 Highway 190
Pineville, KY 40977
Bertha P Newport, Executrix
1394 Highway 190
P.O. Box 158
Pineville, KY 40977

All persons having claims against the above estate(s) are notified to present same to the fiduciary verified according to law, no later than Dec 18th, 2025.
Colby Slusher, Clerk
Bell Circuit and District Courts

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