

Fire departments quickly suppress log truck fire

by LISA JOHNSON
Clay City Writer

At 7:58 a.m. Monday, an all-tone was issued for Stanton Fire, Middle Fork Fire, and Clay City Fire after reports of a log truck fire in Stan-

ton. The cab of a large tandem log truck, loaded with timber and positioned beside multiple diesel fuel tanks, was fully engulfed in flames when firefight-

ers arrived. The Stanton Fire Department was first on scene and confirmed that the cab was completely engulfed in flames. With fuel tanks and heavy logs nearby,

the situation had the potential to escalate rapidly. Fire crews worked diligently to extinguish the blaze and protect the surrounding fuel structures.

Stanton Fire Chief Jimmy McIntosh responded to the scene, coordinating Stanton's initial suppression efforts. Stanton's Chief of Police also arrived and assisted on scene, ensuring roadway and scene safety for responders.

The owner of the truck, Mr. Burchfield, reported that he had started the vehicle moments earlier and stepped away briefly. When he returned, the

cab was already engulfed. One male subject suffered non-life-threatening injuries during the incident. No other injuries were reported.

The Middle Fork Fire Department also arrived to assist, with firefighter Quinton Campbell on scene providing additional manpower and support.

Clay City Fire Department was toned out as well, with Assistant Chief Jesse Allen responding with a tanker.

Even after Stanton radioed to reduce response, Clay City continued in with water support, noting that "you never know when extra water becomes the difference."

Despite the severity of the blaze, only the cab of the truck was destroyed. The logs did not ignite, and the diesel tanks did not

become involved — a critical outcome given the proximity and fuel load present.

At the owner's request, an arson investigation was initiated. Kentucky State Police responded to the scene immediately, and the fire remains under investigation by KSP arson detectives.

All units cleared the scene at 8:56 a.m.

This incident highlights the strength of multi-agency cooperation in Powell County. Clear communication, rapid response, and mutual aid prevented what could have been a catastrophic fuel and timber fire.

"Today could have turned out much worse," one responder noted. "But everyone did their job, and the community should be proud of its fire departments and first responders."



A Log Truck Fire Sparked Multi-Agency Response in Stanton on Monday morning, January 12. Quick Action Prevented Disaster

Public Notice of Master Commissioner Sale

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-33

ADS TAX LIEN COMPANY, LLC

PLAINTIFF

VS.

JEAN COLE, et al.

DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to and in compliance with the Judgment and Order of Sale of the Estill Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner will offer for Sale at public outcry the following described property located in Estill County, Kentucky:

Property Address: 1090 Pitts Road, Ravenna, KY 40472
PVA Parcel No: 102-00-00-029.00

Said sale shall take place on the following date and at the following location:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE ESTILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
130 MAIN STREET, IRVINE, KENTUCKY

Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and the following terms and conditions:

1. At the time of the sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of at least ten (10%) percent of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event of default by the purchaser the ten percent (10%) deposit made by the purchaser shall be applied to any costs and/or expenses of this action. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety or sureties thereon. Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear the interest rate of 6% per annum from the date of sale until paid. Any purchaser or purchasers shall have the privilege of paying said bond before maturity by paying the principal together with all accrued interest. The bond shall have the force and effect of a judgment in order to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price and said bond shall constitute a prior and superior lien on the property until paid. No bond or earnest money shall be required if the Plaintiffs are the purchasers and the bid is less than their adjudged lien.

2. All delinquent property taxes shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all ad valorem taxes assessed by the county of Estill and State of Kentucky for the current year and all subsequent years. The property shall further be sold subject to any delinquent State, County and/or city real estate taxes sold pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 134 to any private purchaser during the pendency of this action.

3. The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title, and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, and all existing liens recorded after the recording of the Plaintiff's Lis Pendens Notice, excepting and subject to, however, easements, restrictions, stipulations and covenants of record in the Estill County Clerk's office, any facts which an inspection and accurate survey of the property may disclose and any assessments for public improvements levied against the property.

4. The risk of loss and the right of possession of the real estate and any improvements thereon shall pass to the purchaser upon confirmation of sale by the Estill Circuit Court.

FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPERTY AND/OR THE SALES THEREOF CAN BE FOUND IN THE ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE BY THE FILE NAME AND NUMBER, THE ESTILL COUNTY PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, AND THE ESTILL COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS ARE ADVISED AND ENCOURAGED TO REVIEW ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT THESE LOCATIONS FOR MORE DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY OR PROPERTIES OR SALE, AS THE MASTER COMMISSIONER HAS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND DOES NOT WARRANT TITLE TO THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD.

This the 12th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Patrick E. O'Neill
PATRICK E. O'NEILL
MASTER COMMISSIONER
ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT

Indictments were returned 12/18/25

This is a continuation from last week of the indictments returned on December 18. Because of the large number returned at once, they are being printed as space is available.

A person indicted remains innocent until proven guilty.

Jeffrey Berryman, 30, of N. Madison Ave., Irvine was the defendant in a four-count indictment.

Those charges include trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (fentanyl) (enhanced), trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (<2 grams methamphetamine) (enhanced), trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (heroin), and trafficking in a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (fentanyl).

According to the indictment, on April 5, 2025, Berryman sold the fentanyl, and methamphetamine to a confidential informant while he possessed a 22 caliber revolver.

The weapon resulted in the first two charges listed as being enhanced. The enhanced penalty moves the charge up a class, meaning a larger sentence if convicted.

The indictment adds that Berryman sold heroin and fentanyl to a confidential informant on March 21, 2025.

Sgt. Campbell conducted the investigation.

Adam W. Allman, 47, of Richmond, Ky., was indicted for possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (methamphetamine), possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree, 1st offense (drug unspecified), drug paraphernalia buy/possess, controlled substance, prescription medicine not in original container, driving motor vehicle using hand-held mobile telephone, and reckless driving.

Allman was traffic-stopped on August 28, 2025 by Sgt. Campbell.

The indictment says that Allman was using a hand-held mobile telephone while driving and was reckless by swerving from the white to yellow line continuously.

It adds that Allman had in his possession methamphetamine, 7.5 Amphetamine tablets, a pipe, and 9 Amphetamine pills in a cylindrical container but not the original.

Estill grad competes on Wheel of Fortune

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She plans to apply again, after a year, to be a contestant once more on Wheel of Fortune.

She presently works as a social worker and attends Eastern Kentucky University where she is working on a master's degree certification in mental health. When completed, she will be a LCSW (Licensed Clinical Social Worker).

She plans to marry

her fiancé, Houston, in October. She is the mother of an almost three-year old, Sawyer, and Stella, who is 10 months old.

Samantha also likes hunting and fishing. During the fall deer season, she bagged a doe.

She was the only girl in her family and calls herself a middle child. She is the sister of Cameron and Michael Thomas and Josh Richardson.