

Jackson Purchase Bourbon receives five awards in prestigious competition

Almost one year after releasing its first consumer bourbon, Jackson Purchase Distillery is celebrating a full slate of wins in the prestigious ASCOT Awards.

The American Spirits Council of Tasters (ASCOT) Awards is an international competition created by award-winning spirits author and judge, Fred Minnick.

A panel of industry experts evaluates the spirits themselves through blind tastings, while also awarding separate prizes in marketing and design. Judges awarded each entry one of four distinction levels, with Double Platinum being the highest and Platinum the second highest.

Jackson Purchase Bourbon received top marks in five categories.

Jackson Purchase Bourbon Batch No. 1 received Double Platinum distinctions in two categories: Straight Bourbon and Product Story & Description for Label.

The bourbon earned Platinum distinctions in three other categories: Craft Bourbon, Small Batch Bourbon (Up to 5 years), and Creative/

Unusual Bourbon Label Design.

Since 2021, Jackson Purchase Distillery has produced well over 100,000 barrels of bourbon for the contract market under the direction of two Kentucky distilling legends.

Master Distiller Craig Beam is a 7th generation distiller and a 2025 Kentucky Bourbon Hall of Fame inductee.

Terry Ballard, former Head Distiller for Willett, is the Head Distiller.

In September of 2025, JPD released one of Beam and Ballard's creations directly to the public for the first time. Beam and Ballard created Jackson Purchase Bourbon Batch No.1 – Full Proof with a mash bill of 70% corn, 20% rye, and 10% malted barley.

The bourbon aged for four years in new white oak barrels with a #4 char, entering at 120 proof with the final bottling at 117.8 proof.

Reviewers have noted hints of cinnamon spice and even bananas alongside vanilla, caramel and oak.

To order a bottle of Jackson

Purchase Select Batch (new name for the new bottling of this flagship bourbon) visit jacksonpurchasebourbon.com or at a Kentucky retailer.

Founded in 2021, Jackson Purchase Distillery is one of the fastest growing distilleries in Kentucky.

The Hickman, KY-based company offers contract distilling, selling new-fill barrels to craft brands, distillers in need of increased capacity, and companies that purchase barrels for future third party sales.

The company also released its own Jackson Purchase Bourbon to the public for the first time in 2025.

The distillery's 36-inch and 24-inch copper column stills now produce up to 60,000 barrels per year, representing an investment of more than \$50 million in Fulton County.

For more on how Master Distiller Craig Beam and Head Distiller Terry Ballard are crafting authentic Kentucky bourbon from locally sourced grains and calcium rich well water, visit www.jacksonpurchasedistillery.com



RAILROADER RV PARK RIBBON CUTTING – The Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce held an official Ribbon Cutting Mon., June 8 for the Railroader RV Park located in Fulton, Ky. at 591 Highland Drive. Owners Ryan and Abby Becker welcomed community leaders to join in the excitement. Pictured are, left to right, Ryan Becker, Abby Becker, Jennie Overall, Dee Taylor, T.J Kirby, Darcy Linn, Joyce Gray, Gabriella Buckingham, Elaine Forrester, Stacy Long, Mark Welch, Nathan Lamb, Peggy Lohaus, and Kenney Etherton. (Photo submitted)

Curlin

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Curlin has demonstrated leadership through mentoring teachers, presenting professional development, serving on district committees, securing educational grants, and supporting school improvement initiatives. Her dedication to continuous learning has made a positive impact on students, colleagues, and school communities across multiple

districts.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Curlin is actively involved in her community and church. She and her husband, Brian, are proud parents of three children: Nate (21), Nick (19), and Ella (15). Family, faith, and service have remained central to her life and leadership.

"I am honored to serve

as Principal of Fulton Independent School. As an employee of this district, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community. I look forward to building strong relationships, supporting our teachers, and working together to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed," Curlin said.

Audit

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and disbursements, as well as other required schedules. This oversight should include a documented review of financial reports by management to verify amounts recorded and reported are accurate.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The Fulton County Fiscal Court will implement the recommendations made by the auditors to strengthen internal controls over accounting functions and financial reporting. Additional oversight and segregation of duties will be implemented where feasible, and compensating controls will be established where staffing limitations exist. These changes have been implemented.

Finding: The Fulton County Fiscal Court Failed To Approve Quarterly Financial Reports And An Annual Settlement For The Fiscal Year

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2024-005. The fiscal court does not require the county treasurer or county judge/ executive to present quarterly financial reports or an annual settlement. Rather, the fiscal court approves the treasurer's monthly financial reports as quarterly financial reports and annual settlement.

Recommendations

We recommend the fiscal court implement internal control procedures to ensure compliance with state regulations by requiring the county treasurer and the county judge executive to present all required financial reports and an annual settlement to the fiscal court.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The Fulton County Fiscal Court will ensure that all quarterly financial reports and the annual settlement are presented to and formally approved by the Fiscal Court in a timely manner. Procedures will be implemented to track and document approvals to ensure compliance going forward.

Finding: The Fulton County Fiscal Court Failed To Implement Adequate Internal Controls Over Disbursements

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2024-004. The Fulton County Fiscal Court failed to implement proper internal controls procedures over disbursements. We tested 46 transactions totaling \$3,656,870, which resulted in the following issues:

- Thirty-seven disbursements totaling \$2,621,905 had a purchase order that was dated after the invoice date.
- Two disbursements total-

ing \$465,682 were paid prior to fiscal court approval.

- Ten disbursements totaling \$860,411 were not paid within 30 working days of the receipt of the invoice.

- The fiscal court does not issue purchase orders for payroll expenses.

- Encumbrances for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, were not accurately reported on the fourth quarter financial statement.

- The fiscal court did not properly procure bids for food services or inmate uniforms at the detention center, which cost \$548,471 and \$91,174, respectively.

- The fiscal court purchased a van for the jail in the amount of \$48,860, four vehicles for the sheriff's office in the amount of \$220,064, and one vehicle for the EM director in the amount of \$53,537 utilizing a state price contract; however the fiscal court did not obtain quotes from three approved dealers.

Recommendations

We recommend the Fulton County Fiscal Court implement internal controls over disbursement and procurement processes to ensure purchase orders are issued prior to purchases being made.

Additionally, we recommend that outstanding purchase orders be listed as encumbrances on the fourth quarter financial statement. Lastly, we recommend that

proper procurement procedures be established to ensure compliance with state statutes and county policy.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The Fulton County Fiscal Court will implement improved internal controls over disbursements, including enhanced review and approval procedures. Supporting documentation will be required and maintained for all disbursements to ensure proper authorization and compliance.

Finding: The Fulton County Fiscal Court Failed To Prepare A Schedule Of Expenditures

Of Federal Awards For The 2025 Fiscal Year

This is a repeat finding and was included in the prior year audit report as finding 2024-003. The fiscal court failed to prepare and submit a Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) for fiscal year 2025 to the DLG. During the fiscal year, the county expended \$1,459,525 in federal funds, which exceeded the threshold for a single audit.

Recommendations

We recommend the fiscal court prepare and submit a SEFA to the DLG along with the fourth quarter financial report. We also recommend

the fiscal court implement procedures to ensure management is aware of all the reporting requirements.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The Fulton County Fiscal Court will implement procedures to ensure that a complete and accurate Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is prepared annually. All federal expenditures will be tracked throughout the year to ensure proper reporting.

The audit report can be found on the auditor's website at <https://www.auditor.ky.gov/Auditreports/Fulton/2025FultonFC-audit.pdf>



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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY FULTON CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 26-CI-00009

ORCHARD TAX LIEN SERVICES, LLC
vs.
STEVEN L. EMBRY et al

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANTS

COURT SALE

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale in Case No. 26-CI-00009 in Fulton Circuit Court signed May 14, 2026 and entered May 24, 2026, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the Court-house door in Hickman, KY, to the highest bidder at public auction on the **23rd day of June, 2026**, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., the following described property:

Property Address:
500 Ghoulson Street, Fulton KY
PVA Map# F-4-57-7

For greater certainty see Deed Book 161, Page 452, records of the Fulton County Court Clerk.

The property will be sold under the following terms and conditions: This property shall be sold to the highest and best bidder and the sale shall be for cash or in the alternative, the Master will take from the purchaser ten percent (10%) of the purchase price, in cash together with bonds (for the remainder of the purchase price) with good and sufficient surety, payable within thirty (30) days of the date of sale. Documentation as to the intended surety must be submitted to the Master Commissioner for pre-approval at least by noon, two business days before the sale date. The purchaser may submit a letter of credit from a financial institution or a like letter from the person that will act as the purchaser's bond surety. The bond surety must be present at the sale and execute the Sale Bond and the Affidavit of Surety. The real estate described cannot be divided without materially impairing the value, therefore the real estate shall be sold as a whole. The purchaser shall assume and pay all taxes and assessments for the current fiscal year. All other delinquent taxes and assessments for previous years shall be paid as prorated from the sale proceeds. If a successful bid is less than two-thirds of the appraised value, the defendant shall retain a right of redemption for six months from the date of sale.

This Sale may be cancelled and any announcements made at the sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

The undersigned commissioner does not have access to the interior of the above-mentioned property.

MARY B. POTTER, Master Commissioner – Fulton Circuit Court
209 N. Jefferson St., Clinton, KY 42031, 270-207-8743 marybpotter@bellsouth.net