

BEVINS: Judge agrees to corrective measures, training

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—“On June 17, 2024, during a hearing involving a juvenile defendant, Judge Bevins did not allow the juvenile or his counsel to respond to his questions. Bevins angrily stated he was tired of listening to “medical excuse crap” and told the defendant to “go.” As the defendant began to leave the courtroom, Bevins raised his voice and instructed the defendant to “get back in here.” Once the defendant returned, they attempted to speak when Bevins yelled and held the defendant in contempt and detained him for 11 days without giving the defendant or his counsel prior notice or an opportunity to respond.

—“Later, also on June 17, 2024, during a deposition for a juvenile defendant, upon learning the defendant had failed to complete a grade in school, Bevins stated he would like to send the defendant “to detention for a month like (he) did the other case. Subsequently, as his custodian began testifying, she mentioned a new allegation against the juvenile defendant. After hearing her testimony, without prior notice or an opportunity for the juvenile or counsel to respond or speak, Judge Bevins stated he was going to sentence the defendant to two weeks in jail for failing a grade.

When the counsel for the juvenile stated that such a decision was not an appropriate sanction, Judge Bevins did not allow the attorney to

make an argument. As the juvenile was being shackled Judge Bevins became angry and asked defendant if this is what he wanted for his life and mentioned the new allegation from the custodian. When the juvenile attempted to answer, Bevins angrily yelled for him to not say anything, twice, stated in a loud and irritated voice, “I don’t care,” and referred back to the new allegations. When the juvenile attempted again to explain, Judge Bevins very loudly told him to “shut up,” and “get out,” and did not allow him to respond, nor permit any testimony to be taken regarding the new allegations. As this juvenile was being led out, he muttered an obscenity under his breath audible on the video and directed at Judge Bevins and Bevins said he was extending the detention for a month.

—“On Dec. 1, 2024, during a preliminary hearing of an adult defendant, Judge Bevins cross-examined a witness and raised his voice at the witness stating that she “better be sure,” of what she was testifying to. Judge Bevins then accused the witness of lying and would not allow her to explain or otherwise respond. After stating he would hold the witness in contempt and interrupting the defense counsel, who was attempting to request a bond reduction, Judge Bevins in an irritated and inappropriately sharp tone refused to hear the argument from the defense and slammed

his case book down.

—“On Jan. 10, 2025, during a review hearing with a juvenile defendant, Judge Bevins stated the defendant would be held in contempt despite no motion by the prosecution, notice, or hearing, based upon a report in the file which the defense had not seen.

“When the juvenile’s attorney stated the juvenile was entitled to have a written motion for contempt and a hearing, Judge Bevins became agitated and asked the county attorney to make a motion for contempt. When the county attorney hesitated and asked what conduct the judge was referring to, Judge Bevins referred to the report and said, “what else does the county need?” When the county attorney did not respond, he then asked again, “Is there a motion from the county for contempt?”

The county attorney then said “yes.” The juvenile’s attorney again stated the juvenile was entitled to a written notice of the contempt allegations and time to prepare for a hearing. Judge Bevins became irritated and then asked how much time he needed. The juvenile’s attorney stated he didn’t know as he hadn’t seen a written notice. Judge Bevins angrily said to the juvenile, “I don’t know what to do with you, frankly.” While the judge look at his calendar for a possible hearing date, he said he would order the juvenile onto an ankle monitor and house arrest, When

the defense counsel objected that a hearing had not yet be held, the judge in an inappropriately sharp tone, said, “are you saying I don’t have the right,” and laughed when the defense counsel stated that a hearing had to be held. After the juvenile defendant allegedly “smirked” at Judge Bevins while responding to the judge’s question, Judge Bevins became visibly exasperated, throwing his pen down, before holding the defendant in contempt without prior notice and a hearing, and detaining him for six days.

—“On February 3, 2025, during a review hearing, Judge Bevins questioned a juvenile defendant about a new allegation regarding alleged absences from school. When the juvenile defendant began answering and attempting to contest the number of absences, and his attorney attempted to point out that it was only one day, Judge Bevins abruptly raised his voice and banged on the desk stating that if the defendant missed one more day of school, he would send him to jail. He did not permit the attorney to speak. Judge Bevins also raised his voice and very loudly stated, “no, I don’t want to hear anything” and “get out” to the defendant’s mother when she asked to speak.

—“On February 18, 2025, a defendant charged with theft of mail was attempting to enter a plea, which required, in part, that he make a statement under oath regarding the event

which included another person. During the defendant making that statement, the prosecutor expressed the belief the defendant was not being truthful and was inclined to rescind the plea offer, and Judge Bevins accused the defendant of lying. Then, while a police officer was testifying, Judge Bevins interrupted and told the defendant that he would be held in contempt for 30 days but would not permit him to respond. He then instructed the police officer to investigate the defendant’s alleged perjury by reviewing camera footage.

—“On March 6, 2025, during a hearing on a motion to revoke probation for not reporting to a supervision company, the defendant testified that she was unaware of any order for probation and therefore did not respond as required. There was no order in the file, no agreement with a supervision company, and no notation in the record that she was to report for probation. Judge Bevins inappropriately raised his voice at the defendant, told her not to say anything, and held her in contempt, ordering her to serve two weeks in detention. Judge Bevins, however, never issue a contempt order, nor did he expressly state that any contempt order would be rescinded.

—“On March 26, 2025, an arraignment was conducted in which the defendant required an interpreter but did not have an attorney present. Judge Bevins asked the defendant if she had

a driver’s license, and she indicated she had taken the test but had not passed. Judge Bevins indicated she could not drive until she did. Judge Bevins also told the defendant that if she were to receive another charge, he was going to “put [her] in jail.” After being informed of more of the case details by the county attorney, Judge Bevins stated “what kind of mental defect” causes someone to act the way the defendant acted.

When the defendant attempted to respond that the circumstances were not those which were alleged in the citation, Judge Bevins ordered her not to speak.

—“On April 21, 2025, a defendant interrupted Judge Bevins several times during a hearing. Judge Bevins raised his voice and ordered the court room bailiff to “take” the defendant away ordering that she be held in contempt. After approximately 20 minutes, the defendant was brought back to the courtroom. Visibly upset, Judge Bevins raised his voice and slammed his hand on the desk ordering that defendant treat him with “deference and respect” before ordering her to “go.”

All of these actions by Judge Bevins demonstrate bias, a lack of impartiality, a lack of judicial decorum, an abuse of judicial authority, and undermine public confidence in the integrity, impartiality and independence of the judiciary, the reprimand states.

ACCIDENT: Area set up on side of road to pay respects

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game and being the best teammate he could be, as well as being a really good student.

“He so enjoyed playing this game, but he absolutely loved his teammates and coaches, as he shared with me several times and again just earlier this week. To say Case will be missed is a complete understatement, and don’t really have the words to say at this point about how much we’ll miss him.”

Just after midnight Sunday morning, Wilson’s vehicle veered off the road on Newtown Pike and hit a tree before catching fire, according to a statement from Scott County Sheriff’s Office (SCSO).

“Upon deputies’ arrival, it was determined that the Georgetown/Scott County Collision Investigation Unit would need to respond due to the severity of the

collision,” the release reads. “The driver of the Infiniti (Wilson) was pronounced deceased on scene by the Scott County Coroner’s Office.”

The cause of the crash remains under investigation, according to the statement.

A nearby property owner has opened an area north of the fence line of 3415 Newtown Pike as a “pull-off area” for those who wish to pay respects to Wilson at the crash scene, SCSO wrote in a separate press release Sunday.

“Please pass this along, and please be respectful of the property while there,” the release reads.

Drivers visiting the site are warned not to park along Newtown Pike to visit the site, according to the statement.

“Vehicles being parked partially on the roadside are causing a hazard, and the last thing that’s needed is more tragedy,” the release reads.

TMMK: Initiative to create programs that strengthen communities, prepare youth for future careers

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Toyota announced an additional \$4 million to support its Driving Possibilities grant, “expand(ing) STEM learning and resources in Scott and Fayette County Schools,” according to the release.

“When combined with the original Toyota USA Foundation grants, the total investment in the program is more than \$11 million in the Commonwealth,” the statement reads. “Driving Possibilities is a national STEM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, Math) education initiative that brings together community, education leaders, local and national nonprofits, and industry partners. The aim of the initiative is to co-create programs to strengthen communities and prepare young people for future careers.”

These investments show Toyota’s commitment to U.S. manufacturing, said Mark Templin, Toyota Motor North America executive vice president and chief operating officer.

“Toyota’s investment in the U.S. is for the long-term, tied to our philosophy of building where we sell and buying where we build,” Templin said. “Our teams have contributed to world-class design, engineering, and assembly of more than thirty-five million cars and trucks for our customers in the U.S.”

Manufacturing is about investing in people, said TMMK President Kerry Creech, crediting the plant’s 10,000 employees as “the heart of Toyota.”

“Ensuring customer satisfaction and safety starts with each team member on the production line,” Creech said. “We will continue to invest in them and in our future workforce.”

Monday’s announcement at TMMK coincided with a \$200 million pledge to increase Toyota Indiana’s capacity for Grand Highlander manufacturing, and \$400,000 to support Eastern Kentucky University’s Manufacturing Engineering program, according to the release.

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