

Gov. Beshear, Kentucky State Police Welcome Next Generation of Troopers to Training Academy

81 cadets begin 24-weeks of academy instruction focused on enhancing public safety



FRANKFORT, Ky. - Gov. Andy Beshear announced that the Kentucky State Police (KSP) welcomed 81 cadets to the agency's training academy to begin the journey of becoming a state trooper and prepare for their role in enhancing public safety in the commonwealth. "Our troopers play a vital role in building a safer Kentucky for families across our commonwealth," Gov. Beshear said. "Your willingness to commit yourselves to this important cause reflects a deep sense of duty to our

people, and all of Team Kentucky is grateful for the service you begin today." Cadet Class 107 includes 75 individuals who are beginning their career with KSP and six certified officers from other agencies who are participating in KSP's Law Enforcement Accelerated Program (LEAP), which allows experienced law enforcement personnel to complete an abbreviated academy program before joining the agency. "These men and women aspire to enter a career

that demands accountability, professionalism and perseverance every single day," KSP Commissioner Phillip Burnett Jr. said. "Training at the KSP Academy is designed to prepare them for any challenge ahead while building the confidence and skills necessary to serve Kentucky with integrity." Cadet Class 107 will undergo an intensive 24-week training regimen with more than 1,000 hours of instruction and hands-on training in key areas such as constitu-

tional law, crisis response, criminal investigations, juvenile and traffic law and community engagement. The curriculum also includes weapons training, emergency medical response, high-speed pursuit tactics, crowd control, hazardous materials handling and education on implicit bias. Cadets in Class 107 represents 45 Kentucky counties, including Adair, Barren, Bell, Boone, Boyd, Boyle, Breathitt, Bullitt, Carter, Christian, Cumberland, Fayette, Floyd, Grayson, Hardin, Harlan, Henderson, Henry, Hopkins, Jackson, Jefferson, Jessamine, Johnson, Knox, Larue, Laurel, Lee, Letcher, Madison, Marshall, Martin, Menifee, Metcalfe, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Oldham, Owsley, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Russell, Shelby, Warren and Whitley counties. The class also includes cadets from Florida, Indiana and Ohio.

upcoming class, visit the KSP website.

The Beshear-Coleman administration's top priority is the safety of all Kentuckians. The Governor's public safety actions are creating safer communities and a better Kentucky.

Since Gov. Beshear took office, more than 2,700 officers have graduated from one of Kentucky's law enforcement training academies. As of the beginning of this month, 1,837 officers have graduated from the Department of Criminal Justice Training Basic Training Course and 307 have graduated from the Kentucky State Police Training Academy.

To continue increasing the amount of law enforcement officers protecting the commonwealth and to support the work of KSP, the Governor recently signed Senate Bill 102 to make it possible for retired KSP troopers appointed to Trooper R Class or commercial vehicle enforcement to return and serve the agency within specific timeframes. Last month, Team Kentucky broke ground on the Department of Criminal Justice Training's new Madisonville campus. When completed, the \$50 million project will house two buildings - a 42,800-square-foot classroom and administration building providing learning space, offices and recruit showers and changing areas, as well as a 30,625-square-foot high bay building, which will house an open training area, additional classroom space and gym equipment. The recently passed 2026-2028 state budget also allocates \$13.1 million to construct a driving track at the new facility. The General Assembly did not include the full \$64.8 million requested by the Governor in his executive budget proposal to construct both a driving track and an indoor firing range at the Madisonville facility. For four straight years, overdose deaths have decreased in Kentucky. In 2025, the commonwealth saw 22.9% fewer overdose deaths than the year prior.

Since Gov. Beshear took office, fewer Kentuckians have returned to prison after their release. For two years in a row, recidivism rates in the commonwealth have decreased, meaning that nearly 70% of those released from state custody have not returned.

In December, the Governor joined KSP and first responders in Mayfield to bring local agencies onto the new Kentucky State Police radio system. In his 2026-2028 executive budget proposal, Gov. Beshear requested funding to finish the project and ensure statewide coverage. The budget recently passed by the General Assembly did not provide the funding needed.

Last September, Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman joined KSP to break ground on a new, state-of-the-art Drivers' Skills Pad at the agency's training academy in Frankfort. The \$2.7 million project will provide troopers, officers and cadets with a facility dedicated to safely practice and refine advanced driving techniques. The 2024 Crime in Kentucky report, released in June 2025, shows that, from 2023 to 2024, reports of serious crime decreased by 7.66%. In April of last year, Gov. Beshear was joined by members of the Cash family, the Kentucky law enforcement community and the Department of Criminal Justice Training to officially open the doors to the new law enforcement training facility named in honor of Jody Cash, who lost his life in the line of duty. The facility is a 42,794-square-foot facility with a 50-yard, 30-lane firing range designed for officers to learn intensive and specialized training that will support training all of Kentucky's law enforcement agencies. As the Governor recommended in January 2022, \$12.2 million was included in the state budget for KSP to purchase body cameras, which is the first time in the commonwealth's history that funding has been allocated for this much-needed expense.

Meetings

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE. [For Year 2026]

The Muhlenberg County Board of Elections meets regularly at 8:15 AM on the first Tuesday of each month in the Fiscal Courtroom on the 2nd floor of the Muhlenberg County Courthouse located at 100 S Main Street, Greenville. Changes to meeting date, time or location are posted on the Fiscal Courtroom door and elevator of the Muhlenberg County Courthouse in advance of any cancellation/rest.

- **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** meets every Sunday at 4 p.m. at Second Baptist Church, 217 West Depot Street in Greenville. The meal is at 4 p.m., large group worship at 5 p.m. and small group sharing time at 6:30 p.m. Nursery provided.
- **AL-ANON (Clean Slate)** is a support group for family and friends of those who have been impacted by alcoholism. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Greenville United Methodist Church Coffee Shop, 144 Main Street.
- **BREAK THE CYCLE RECOVERY MEETING** directed by True-North Treatment Center is held every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. at Righteous Souls Ministry, 701 Temple Road in Central City.
- **THE GREENVILLE TOURISM COMMISSION MEETING** will be held on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at 125 S Main Street in Greenville.
- **THE MUHLENBERG COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING** will be held on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the district office, 340 Dean Road in Greenville.
- **THE MUHLENBERG COUNTY WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEETING** will be held on the fourth Monday of each month at 1 p.m.
- **MUHLENBERG COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES BOARD MEETING** will be held on the third Thursday of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Harbin Memorial Public Library 117 S. Main Street in Greenville.
- **THE WARM HEART QUILTERS** will meet on the fourth Tuesday each month January through October at 9 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 158 S. Main St. in Greenville.
- **2026 MUHLENBERG COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION Meeting Dates:** May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, all meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. Work Session Dates: April 7, July 9, October 1, all meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m.
- **FRIENDS OF LAKE MALONE STATE PARK** will be having their monthly meeting May 21, 2026 at 6 p.m. at Rosewood Community Church. This meeting is open to the public for anyone who is interested.
- **PARADISE PARK REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY, INC.,** 50 Career Way, Central City, KY will host quarterly meetings on the following dates: June 18, 2026, September 17, 2026, December 17, 2026.
- **THE MUHLENBERG COUNTY SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE (SOS) BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays beginning May, 2026: 6:00 p.m., Thistle Cottage, 122 South Cherry Street, Greenville. Questions? Contact Georgia Mills at (270) 225-0805. You are not alone. Healing from suicide loss is possible with support.

Happenings

- **CAR WASH** Saturday, May 30, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Southern National Bank in Greenville. All donations go directly to the operating expenses of Set Free Mission Bible Training Center.

SEND YOUR MEETINGS & HAPPENINGS TO

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