

# 'Community is fed up.' Group urges Fayette County school board to take action on Liggins

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A Fayette County Public Schools' committee created to restore confidence in the controversy-plagued district urged the Fayette County Board of Education Wednesday to move quickly to settle a contentious employment dispute with Superintendent Demetrus Liggins.

"The two sides need to get in a room and get this settled," said Hunter Stout, one of nine members of the Fayette County Board of Education's Finance and Accountability Committee. The committee was created in January to help the district oversee its finances and restore trust.

The district is in the midst of multiple audits and examinations after it announced earlier this year it had discovered its books had been misstated for decades. The district has had to cut more than \$20 million from its current-year tentative general fund budget of \$711.3 million.

Meanwhile, the five-member Fayette County Board of Education and Liggins have been in a nearly-month long protracted discussion about Liggins' employment status.

"The longer this drags out, the more money it costs in legal fees, which we can't afford right now to begin with," Stout said during Wednesday night's Finance and Accountability Committee meeting. "And we are closely approaching the start of the school year. This is a huge distraction for the district, the teachers, families, and most importantly the children. And the longer this drags out, the more it is going to end up impacting the kids in the system. They need to get this resolved and get it resolved quickly."

"The community is getting very fed up" with the lack of resolution, Stout said.

Liggins was placed on paid administrative leave June 10. The district has not said why.

A lawyer for Rep. Adrielle Camuel, D-Lex-



Demetrus Liggins

ington, who is also an administrative assistant with the district, filed a complaint with the district shortly before Liggins was placed on leave. Camuel received a printed email under her door at work that purported to be from a Louisville law firm warning criticism of Liggins could be considered defamatory.

The Louisville law firm has denied writing the email or ever working with Liggins. A video shows Liggins placing a paper under Camuel's door. Liggins has said he gave supportive notes to staff but did not write the falsified email or place it under her door.

Liggins and his lawyer have demanded Liggins be reinstated, alleging the district violated the Open Meetings Act when it placed Liggins on leave. The school district has said it followed the law. Liggins has appealed the open meetings decision to the Kentucky attorney general. He has also filed a complaint with the state Office of Education Accountability.

The board has hired Ashland-based VanAntwerp Lawyers to investigate Liggins.

The board met July 6, but made no decisions about Liggins.

Fayette County Board of Education Chairman Tyler Murphy did not immediately comment.

## 'WE ARE ALL AT A LOSS RIGHT NOW'

The committee voted Wednesday to send the board a resolution asking it to resolve the unknowns surrounding Liggins' future. The wording of that resolution is still being worked out.

Mike Foley, another member of the committee, agreed with Stout. It's not just the legal fees. Too much time and energy has been spent on Liggins, Foley said.

"They got to get together and get this resolved," Foley said.

Other members of the committee, which includes FCPS school per-

sonnel and members of the business community, said there is confusion within FCPS. Many administrators don't know what's going on, some staff said.

"We are all at a loss right now," said Sophie Schwab, a teacher and a committee member. Schwab said she and other FCPS employees frequently get screenshots of news stories from family, friends and others about various issues in the district followed by the same question: What's going on?

Staff don't know what to say. Because they don't know, she said.

An audit by a Missouri-based law firm examining the district's budgeting, procurement cards and travel will be presented in early August, said interim Chief Financial Officer Kyna Koch.

On Wednesday, Koch presented the committee with multiple ways for the district to show how it will track recommendations from that audit.

That corrective action plan will be public.

Communicating that correction plan to school personnel, families and taxpayers will help restore trust, said Jill Angelucci, an FCPS principal and committee member.

"The biggest question I'm getting is: How did this happen?" Angelucci said. When the district can answer that question, it will be a critical first step, she said.

Koch, who was hired in March to help the district untangle its finances, said they also need to manage people's expectations. It took years for the district's financial problems to develop.

"The board has asked us repeatedly what we need," Koch said. "My answer is always patience. We need your patience."

"I know it's not fair to ask the community for patience because this is all taxpayer money," Koch said. "But our problems didn't happen overnight and they're not going to get fixed overnight. We're looking at years of recovering from this."

# The public can now see how Kentucky is spending money from opioid settlements. Here's how

BY TAYLOR SIX  
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Kentuckians are now able to see where and how any opioid abatement funds are being spent, thanks to an online dashboard launched by the Kentucky Attorney General's office.

The dashboard, created in partnership with the University of Kentucky Rapid Actionable Data for Response, gives the public access for people to see how state and local governments spend money obtained through settlements with pharmaceutical companies.

"Across Kentucky, communities are investing in the three-legged stool of prevention, treatment and enforcement efforts to combat the drug crisis and to save lives. Now, every Kentuckian can see how these resources are being invested to promote best practices, innovative ideas and - above all - hope," Attorney General Russell Coleman said.

The first deployment of opioid abatement money was awarded to Kentucky in 2022, as part of a \$900

million settlement with opioid distributors designed to be spent over the course of several years to deal with the opioid addiction crisis. Between 2022 and 2038, Kentucky is expected to receive more than \$1 billion in abatement funds.

Half of the money was given to the state, and the other half was distributed to local governments. The disbursement of the funds is overseen by the Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission, which operates through the attorney general's office and consists of policymakers and individuals with lived experience.

Last summer, the state's opioid abatement commission launched an online portal that was available to local governments to report how their money was being spent. Under Kentucky law, local governments must show how much money they receive, what is spent, and what the money is being used for.

But according to a report released last week by the Kentucky Center for Economic Policy, 90% of awarded opioid funds

haven't actually been used.

As of June 2025, more than \$94.5 million in opioid settlement funds were granted across Kentucky's 120 counties, and another \$28 million to 149 cities, according to the report released Tuesday by the Berea-based research and advocacy group.

The money is required to be spent on prevention through education, training and support for families, harm reduction, treatment and recovery support.

Their report also outlined "good spending" and "problematic spending" from local governments that had used a portion of their opioid abatement funds.

Many of the projects that were dubbed as "good spending" included community-based resources, and not programs that were police-led, according to the report.

However, "problematic spending" entries showed some funds were spent on unproven or ineffective purposes, or programs thought to cause additional harm.



AUSTIN R. RAMSEY/aramsey@herald-leader.com

London Mayor Randall Weddle exits a Laurel County courtroom on April 15, 2026.

# Embattled Kentucky mayor faces another legal battle. This time it's from Lamborghini.

BY AUSTIN R. RAMSEY  
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London Mayor Randall Weddle, already facing hundreds of thousands of dollars in delinquent credit card debt, could lose a \$280,000 luxury sports car he owns, according to new court documents.

Lamborghini Financial Services Inc., the captive leasing and lending arm of Italian auto manufacturer Lamborghini, filed suit against the embattled Southeastern Kentucky mayor this week seeking a court order to repossess his 2019 used Lamborghini Urus.

Weddle still owes more than \$60,000 on a loan he took out to purchase the vehicle from a Florida dealer in 2022 and has failed to continue making required payments, according to court documents.

In a motion and affidavit Lamborghini Financial Services filed in Laurel Circuit Court, the company's attempts to demand payment and repossess the vehicle have been unsuccessful. Weddle has "wrongfully detained" the car because he has failed to pay, the company claims.

The financial service company wants the court to issue a writ of possession to surrender or seize the vehicle, force Weddle to pay the remaining \$60,044.56 balance and cover Lamborghini Financial Services' attorneys' fees.

It's a bold step for an auto lender to take in Kentucky, since repossession agencies can typically seize cars in the state without advance notice. Agents, however, are barred from using physical

force, threats or breaking into enclosed spaces to repossess property. Weddle's Lamborghini is believed to be parked "within a private place which may have to be entered to take possession of said property," according to the motion for writ of possession.

If the court rules in the auto lender's favor and Weddle doesn't voluntarily hand over the vehicle himself, the Laurel County Sheriff's Office could be authorized to seize the car.

Unlike repo agents, deputies can legally enter enclosed private property to reclaim a car. In some cases, intentionally hiding a vehicle to prevent repossession can rise to the level of criminal behavior, as it is considered a form of defrauding creditors in Kentucky.

The present-day wholesale or auction value of the car is estimated at \$160,125. Lamborghini Financial Services said the mayor has failed to make required \$3,833.04 monthly payments under the lease agreement since Feb. 16.

The repossession effort highlights deepening financial trouble for the mayor, who also faces a criminal prosecution for alleged campaign finance violations and was recently stripped from the November ballot after a court determined he didn't actually live in the city of London.

Combined with the \$860,000 American Express Inc. is seeking to reclaim against him and his businesses, the remaining car balance means debtors are after Weddle for nearly \$1 million in debt, according to public court filings.

The mayor has claimed

he no longer owns the recycling company that faces nearly \$700,000 in corporate credit card debt. As for the Lamborghini case, he told the Herald-Leader he expects the lawsuit will be dismissed "this week."

Weddle's luxury car purchase in 2022 coincides with what would turn out to be a lavish year for the successful London businessman. He put down more than \$85,000 on the 2-year-old Lamborghini at a dealership in Sarasota, Florida, in June and was elected mayor five months later in November.

In December 2022, defense attorneys have said he was on a nine-day, \$345,000 private chartered cruise in the Bahamas when he allegedly gave \$93,000 to Gov. Andy Beshear and the Kentucky Democratic Party on behalf of his family members and business associates in violation of state and federal individual donor limits.

Attorneys for the mayor have claimed he is the victim of a partisan attack. Weddle has said repeatedly he didn't know he can't make donations on behalf of other people and worked with Behsear's office and the KDP to recoup the payments once he was made aware. Typically, for campaign finance violations to rise to the criminal level in Kentucky they must be "knowing violations."

Kentucky Attorney General Russell Coleman, whose office is prosecuting the case against Weddle, is a Republican. He's already attempted to fend off claims that the case is politically motivated, since the then mayor-elect's donations favored Democrats.

## ATTENTION: ALL PERSONS WHO MAY HAVE CLAIMS AGAINST CHS FL, LLC, CHS TX, INC., YESCARE CORP., CHS AL, LLC, CORIZON HEALTH OF NEW MEXICO, LLC, CHS CARE NY, LLC, OR CHS CARE TX, LLC INCLUDING PATIENTS AND FORMER PATIENTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that CHS FL, LLC, CHS TX, INC., YESCARE CORP., and CHS AL, LLC (collectively, the "May 8th Debtors") and Corizon Health of New Mexico, LLC, CHS Care NY, LLC, and CHS Care TX, LLC (collectively, the "May 13th Debtors") and together with the May 8th Debtors, the "Debtors") filed chapter 11 petitions on May 8, 2026 and May 13, 2026 in the Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida (the "Court"), styled as Case 26-01087-FMR.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 26, 2026 the Court established that all entities and persons (each a "Creditor" and, collectively, the "Creditors"), holding or wishing to assert unsecured or secured, priority, or nonpriority claims (as defined in Bankruptcy Code section 101(5)) against the May 8th Debtors arising or accruing prior to May 8, 2026, or prior to May 13, 2026 if the claim is against the May 13th Debtors, including claims arising under Bankruptcy Code section 503(b)(9) (each a "Claim" and, collectively, the "Claims"), are required to file a separate, completed, and executed proof of claim (by completing the proof of claim form available at <https://omniagentsolutions.com/CHS>) (the "Proof of Claim Form") on account of such Claim, together with accompanying documentation on or before October 9, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern time (the "General Bar Date").

Additionally, with respect to government units, as defined by Bankruptcy Code section 101(27), the proofs of claim must be submitted on or before November 4, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern time (the "Governmental Bar Date").

In the event that the Debtors should supplement and/or amend their Statement of Financial Affairs and/or Schedules of Assets and Liabilities ("Schedules"), subsequent to the date hereof, to reduce, delete, or change the status of a Claim in the Schedules, the deadline for affected claimants to file a proof of claim or amend any previously filed proof of claim shall be the later of (i) the General Bar Date or Governmental Bar Date, as applicable, or (ii) 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the date that is thirty days (30) days after a claimant is served with notice of such amendment (the "Amended Schedule Bar Date"); failure to file a timely proof of claim shall result in a claimant being forever barred from doing so.

Solely with respect to any Claim asserted in connection with the Debtors' rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease, the holder of such Claim will be afforded the latest of (i) the General Bar Date, or Governmental Bar Date, as applicable, or (ii) 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) on the date that is thirty (30) days from the date that the Debtors provide notice of the Court's entry of an order authorizing such rejection to the affected contract or lease counterparty, except as otherwise set forth in any order of the Court, including but not limited to, a sale order, (the "Rejection Claim Bar Date") to file a Proof of Claim Form or forever be barred from doing so.

For any Proof of Claim Form to be validly and properly filed, a signed original of the completed Proof of Claim Form, together with accompanying documentation, must be submitted to the Debtors' noticing and claims agent, Omni Agent Solutions, Inc. ("Omni"), either by (a) overnight courier or first class mail; (b) hand delivery; or (c) electronically using the interface available on the Noticing and Claims Agent's website at <https://omniagentsolutions.com/CHS> no later than 5:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern time on the applicable Bar Date.

Proof of Claim Forms delivered by mail or sent by overnight courier or hand delivery, to Omni should be addressed and sent to: CHS FL, LLC Claims Processing, c/o Omni Agent Solutions, 5955 De Soto Ave., Suite 100, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Proof of Claim Forms shall be deemed filed when actually received by Omni (not the date of the postmark). Any Entity that files a Proof of Claim by mail, overnight courier, or hand delivery, who wishes to receive a clocked-in copy by return mail must include an additional copy of the proof of claim and a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope.

Proof of Claim Forms are available at: <https://omniagentsolutions.com/CHS-Claims>.

All Proof of Claim Forms must be in English and amounts must be in U.S. Dollars.

Additionally, all Proof of Claim Forms must: (a) conform substantially to the enclosed Proof of Claim Form; (b) specify the Debtor against which the Proof of Claim is asserted; (c) set forth with specificity the legal and factual basis for the alleged Claim; (d) include supporting documentation (or, if such documentation is voluminous, a summary of such documentation) or an explanation as to why such documentation is not available; and (e) be signed by the claimant or, if the claimant is not an individual, by an authorized agent of the claimant. Any Proof of Claim asserting a claim entitled to priority under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code must also: (f) include the value of the goods delivered to and received by the Debtors in the twenty (20) days prior to the Petition Date; and (g) attach any documentation identifying the particular invoices for which the 503(b)(9) claim is being asserted.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT ANY CREDITOR WHO IS REQUIRED TO FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, INCLUDING UNKNOWN CREDITORS, BUT FAILS TO DO SO ON OR BEFORE THE APPLICABLE BAR DATE SHALL NOT BE TREATED AS A CREDITOR WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLAIM FOR PURPOSES OF VOTING AND DISTRIBUTION AND ALL SUCH CLAIMS AGAINST DEBTORS AND DEBTORS' ESTATES SHALL BE FOREVER BARRED.

The Debtors' Schedules, the Bar Date Order, and other information regarding the Debtors' Cases are available at the Debtors' website at: <https://omniagentsolutions.com/CHS>.

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