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# The Ohio County Times-News

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**WEEK: FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

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## Ohio County Indictments

The Ohio County Grand Jury recently met and handed down the following indictments.

**Terry Roarz**, 41, 7600 W Highway 62, #4, Beaver Dam, for bail jumping in the first degree.

**Charles P Adams**, 40, 140 W 12th Street, Beaver Dam, for assault third degree, inmate assault on a correction employee; terroristic threatening in the third degree; attempted escape in the first degree, and persistent felony offender in the first degree.

**Christopher Lee Gilhan**, 44, 3485 KY 1414, Hartford, for theft by unlawful taking auto, \$1,000.00 or more; criminal mischief in the first degree, and persistent felony offender in the first degree.

**Jimmy D Netherton**, 42, 268 Shrader Lane, Fordsville, for theft by unlawful taking auto, \$10,000 or more; tampering with physical evidence; possession of controlled substance in the first degree, methamphetamine; possession of marijuana; drug paraphernalia-buy/possess; failure to notify address change to Department of Transportation and persistent felony offender in the first degree.

*The indictment of a person by a grand jury is an accusation only and the person is innocent until and unless proven guilty.*

## Salaries Approved for Elected Officials

### CONSIDERS COUNTY CLERK'S EQUIPMENT UPGRADE



▲ PHOTO | SETH DUKES  
**Ohio County Judge-Executive David Johnston**, center, speaks to those in attendance at the Feb. 10 Ohio County Fiscal Court meeting.

BY **SETH DUKES**  
OCTN GOVERNMENT REPORTER

Ohio County Fiscal Court voted unanimously Feb 10 to approve salaries for elected officials proposed by the Salary Committee.

The county attorney's salary will move from \$14,400 to \$18,400. The coroner's salary will move from \$16,848 to \$20,000. The jailer's salary will move from \$83,928 to \$90,000. Magistrate salary will not change from \$1,349 beyond the annual CPI of 2.7%.

These salaries would take effect on the first day of the new term for elected officials, Jan. 1, 2027. They would be effective for the next four years.

In other business, Ohio County Clerk Bess Ralph approached the court to request help purchasing upgrades to the county's recording computer system. She said the price of the upgrade is \$65,582. She offered to pay \$33,582

**FISCAL**  
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

## Givens Bill Clears Committee 10-0

### MEASURE MODERNIZES KENTUCKY LEGAL NOTICE RULES



▲ PHOTO | DUSTIN ISAACS  
**Senate President Pro Tempore David Givens** explains Senate Bill 141 to members of the Senate State and Local Government Committee during a Feb. 11 meeting.

BY **SETH DUKES**  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

FRANKFORT — Legislation aimed at modernizing how legal notices are published in Kentucky is advancing with strong early support after clearing a Senate committee unanimously.

passed 10-0 out of the Senate State and Local Government Committee on Feb. 11 and is expected to continue moving smoothly through the General Assembly. The measure seeks to update and standardize requirements governing how state

**RULES**  
CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

Senate Bill 141

## Ohio County Proclaims February as American Heart Month



▲ PHOTO | SUBMITTED  
**Members were joined by CeCe Robinson, Dr. Joshua Skibba, and Shellie Shouse of Ohio County Healthcare for a proclamation signing for American Heart Month.** Seated left to right are Bo Bennett, Magistrate 3rd District; Sonja Davis, Fiscal Court Clerk; Judge Executive David Johnston; and Dale Beavin, Magistrate 4th District. Standing: Michael McKenney, Magistrate 1st District; Jason Bullock, Magistrate 2nd District; CeCe Robinson, Director of Administrative Services; Dr. Joshua Skibba, Cardiologist and Chief Medical Officer; Shellie Shouse, CEO of Ohio County Healthcare; Justin Keown, County Attorney; and Larry Morphew, Magistrate 5th District.

BY **JEFF JOBE**  
COMMUNITY PUBLISHER

David Johnston, Judge Executive of Ohio County, has officially proclaimed February 2026 as American Heart Month in Ohio County.

The proclamation, signed February 10 at the Judge Executive's office in Hartford, highlights heart disease as a leading cause of death among American women and men and calls attention to the importance of prevention, awareness and healthy lifestyle choices.

In the proclamation, Johnston noted that one in three adults in the United States is living with some form of cardiovascular disease.

**PROCLAIMS**  
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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