Former juvenile justice officials sue agency, say they were 'scapegoats'

BY JOHN CHEVES
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Two former state administrators are suing the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, saying they were scapegoated and unfairly demoted in 2021 after the *Lexington Herald-Leader* reported on problems inside the state's juvenile detention center in Bowling Green.

The plaintiffs, who are Black women, also claim discrimination, alleging the Department of Juvenile Justice paid them less than it paid others who held equivalent administrative jobs around the state.

Tina Crowe was superintendent at the Warren Regional Juvenile Detention Center from Dec. 1, 2020, to Oct. 11, 2021, after two decades of climbing the ranks at the department.

Rondesia Whitlow was a regional facilities administrator, supervising several detention centers, including the one in Bowling Green, until Oct. 11, 2021.

Crowe and Whitlow are suing the Department of Juvenile Justice and its current and former commissioners, Randy White and Vicky Reed.

The women say they were demoted Oct. 11, 2021, after publication of a series of stories on problems within the state's juvenile detention centers, including a riot and extended lockdown in the Warren Regional Juvenile Detention Center.

The man who replaced Crowe as superintendent was paid more than her despite having less experience with the Department of Juvenile Justice, according to the suit, which was filed last month in Franklin Circuit Court.

Although Crowe and Whitlow were punished for putting the facility's youths on lockdown — isolating them in their individual cells throughout the day — the lawsuit says higher-ranking department officials knew of the strategy and did not object, including David Roger Kazee, a division director who spent time on site.

"Kazee was not reprimanded or demoted, but was given a raise," according to the suit.

After the demotions, Whitlow quit and took a job as administrator at a juvenile facility in Tennessee. Crowe remains at the Bowling Green facility as an $88,955-a-year fiscal manager.

For a period of time, according to the suit, Crowe still was expected to manage the juvenile detention center even though she was stripped of her title and salary as superintendent.

Also, the suit claims the Department of Juvenile Justice harassed her by sending the facility's head nurse with her to doctor's appointments as she dealt with an injury suffered while breaking up a fight between two youths.

The department then placed unfair reprimands in Crowe's personnel file, according to the suit. Among the reprimands, it accused Crowe of nepotism because her son, daughter and nephew were hired at the juvenile

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work for the people of Kentucky," Jennifer A. Jackson, the LWVKY president, said in a statement. "Although our latest transparency review shows areas of improvement, decades of expedited lawmaking tactics continue to limit participation. We must remain committed to ensuring that Kentuckians play a meaningful role in shaping the laws that affect them."

The League has been tracking legislative transparency in the General Assembly since 2023.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE FOLLOWING PROBATE SETTLEMENTS FILED WITH THE CHRISTIAN COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2026. A FINAL SETTLEMENT WILL BE ORDERED BY EITHER JUDGE LINDSEY ADAMS OR JUDGE FOSTER COTTHOFF UNLESS AN EXCEPTION IS FILED WITH THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION.

DEBORAH M. BERRY, EXECUTRIX FOR THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL J. BERRY, DECEASED, FINAL SETTLEMENT (26-P-00016) (10/12/2026) ATTORNEY—DANIEL C. HICKS, PO BOX 1386, HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241-1386

CHRISTOPHER D. JOHNSON, EXECUTOR, FOR THE ESTATE OF MARY ANN FRAZIER, DECEASED, FINAL SETTLEMENT (26-P-00154) (10/16/2026) ATTORNEY—NONE

NO SETTLEMENTS OF GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATOR MADE DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2026.

**PAIGE PARKER, CLERK,
CHRISTIAN DISTRICT & CIRCUIT COURT**

LEGAL NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS OF GUARDIANSHIP WERE MADE IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2026

MINOR	REPRESENTATIVE	ATTORNEY	DATE APPOINTED
MATTHIAS ZENTZ 26-P-00407	TAMMY KEYES 2314 S. VIRGINIA ST HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	ALLISON MARIE SPARKS 327 S. JEFFERSON ST PRINCETON, KY 42445	10/26/2026

PAIGE PARKER, CLERK, CHRISTIAN DISTRICT & CIRCUIT COURTS

LEGAL NOTICE

ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

**SUMMARY OF PROCEDURES AND FINDINGS
AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES OF THE
CHRISTIAN COUNTY CLERK**

For The Period January 1, 2025 Through December 31, 2025

The Christian County Clerk applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) engagement for calendar year 2025 in accordance with KRS 43.070(1)(c). AUP reports present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures, called findings. This summary is intended to present findings for which an exception (an instance of noncompliance with the criteria) was identified during the AUP engagement. However, no exceptions were identified in the AUP engagement of the Christian County Clerk.

A copy of this report is available on the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at auditor.ky.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Ball
Auditor of Public Accounts
Frankfort, KY

August 10, 2026

LEGAL NOTICE

Legal Notice
THE FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE QUALIFIED AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE BELOW LISTED ESTATES DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2026. ANYONE HAVING CLAIM AGAINST THESE ESTATES SHOULD PRESENT THE SAME, ACCORDING TO LAW, WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE DATE OF APPOINTMENT OF EACH PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.

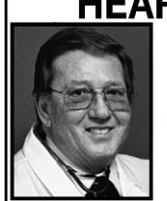
Estate	Representative	Attorney	Date Qualified
KAREN L. WHEELER HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00393	JEFF LITCHFIELD EXECUTOR 1017 PIN OAK DR HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/02/2026
WILLIAMA. MCCOY HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00392	BRANDON MCCOY EXECUTOR 401 SPRINGMONT DR HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	STEPHEN E. UNDERWOOD PO BOX 999 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241	10/5/2026
JOSEPH SAMUEL GARLAND HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00396	HOWARD HUGH GARLAND 5005 MICHELE CT HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/5/2026
GARY W. BAHR HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00395	GAYLEN BAHR EXECUTOR 4450 WITTY LN HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/6/2026
MALTIE MARIE GRACE HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00397	DEBORAH MARIE GRACE EXECUTRIX 212 MILLBROOKE DR HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	J. MICHAEL FOSTER PO BOX 24 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241-0024	10/7/2026
KIMBERLY DARLENE CLINE CERULEAN, KY 26-P-00402	MASON B. GEIGER ADMINISTRATOR 1901 LOOP LANE GRACEY, KY 42232	JONATHON GARNETT 203 EAST 9TH ST HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	10/12/2026
JOHN L. ELLIS HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00403	KAREN KENADY ADMINISTRATRIX 1419 OLD PALESTINE RD CROFTON, KY 42217	J. MICHAEL FOSTER PO BOX 24 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 4 2241-0024	10/13/2026
LINDA LOU MATTHEWS HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00404	GARVIN MATTHEWS, JR ADMINISTRATOR 134 A FAIN STREET NASHVILLE, TN 37210	ROBERT PINSON 1600 WEST END, SUITE 1400 NASHVILLE, TN 37203	10/13/2026
ELDEN CYRUS LONG HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00405	MARK W. LONG EXECUTOR 3449 CEMETRY ROAD TRENTON, KY 42286	NONE	10/14/2026
GAIL CHILTON HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00410	JACQUELINE E. CHILTON ADMINISTRATRIX 7265 PEMBROKE RD HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	MARY E. JOCELYN PO BOX 675 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241- 0675	10/22/2026
TIMOTHYM. GILLILAND HOPKINSVILLE, KY 21-P-00333	JULIE D. GILLILAND EXECUTRIX 100 GILLILAND LN HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/26/2026
NANCY PATRICIA CASTILLO CRUZ 26-P-00371	EDWIN CASTILLO CRUZ ADMINISTRATOR 2602 FLORENCE ST HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/26/2026
FRANK L. WHITLOCK JR. HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00411	ROLANDA R. WHITLOCK ADMINISTRATRIX 1102 ENGLISH OAK COURT HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	STEPHEN E. UNDERWOOD PO BOX 999 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241	10/26/2026
PAUL VIERRA HOPKINSVILLE, KY 26-P-00414	PATRICIA VIERRA ADMINISTRATRIX 3316 SOUTHGATE DR HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240	NONE	10/26/2026
ROY THOMAS RUSSELL PEMBROKE, KY 26-P-00415	ROSE ANN RUSSELL EXECUTRIX 334 JACKSON ST PEMBROKE, KY 42266	DANIEL N. THOMAS PO BOX 675 HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42241-0675	10/26/2026
DON R. WILKINS CLARKSVILLE, TN 37043 26-P-00420	LYNNE K. HANCOCK EXECUTRIX 2195 RIVERBEND RD HOPKINSVILLE, KY42240	NONE	10/29/2026

PAIGE PARKER, CLERK, CHRISTIAN DISTRICT & CIRCUIT COURTS

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