

Special Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2022

10:00 AM EDT

ZOOM Video-Teleconference Special Public Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83714422867?pwd=UjRzbVRFbnBYbUhLcG9lRXdSbTIUQT09>

PAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Daniel Cameron, Attorney General
Shane Young, Commonwealth's Attorney, 9th Judicial Circuit
John Soyars, Christian County Attorney
Joe Ross, Logan County Attorney
Martin Hatfield, Pulaski County Attorney
Margaret Daniel, Citizen Member
Courtney Baxter, Commonwealth's Attorney, 12th Judicial Circuit
Chris Cohron, Commonwealth's Attorney, 8th Judicial Circuit
Aaron B. Dail, Citizen Member

PAC/OAG STAFF PRESENT

Bobby Stokes
Amy Burke
Susan Blake
Gina Carey
Madeline Wise
Tom Lockridge
Chad Coleman
Penny Quatman
Samantha Bracco

GUESTS PRESENT

Bruce Kuegel, Commonwealth's Attorney, 6th Judicial Circuit
Leigh Searcy, McLean County Attorney
Richie Kemp, Commonwealth's Attorney, 52nd Judicial Circuit
Kelly Clarke, Commonwealth's Attorney, 19th Judicial Circuit
Sharon Muse, Commonwealth's Attorney, 14th Judicial Circuit
Rob Sanders, Commonwealth's Attorney, 16th Judicial Circuit
Rhonda Copley, Commonwealth's Attorney, 32nd Judicial Circuit
Megan Barber Williams, Menifee County Attorney
John Gardner, Commonwealth's Attorney, 43rd Judicial Circuit
Karen Young, Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, 30th Judicial Circuit
Kimberly Baird, Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, 22nd Judicial Circuit
Kathy Senter, Commonwealth's Attorney, 4th Judicial Circuit
Jackie Steele, Commonwealth's Attorney, 27th Judicial Circuit
Ronnie Goldy, Commonwealth's Attorney, 21st Judicial Circuit
Richard Boling, Commonwealth's Attorney, 3rd Judicial Circuit

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Tara Bozell, Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, 3rd Judicial Circuit

Joshua Powell

Victor Maddox, Deputy Attorney General

Harry Rothgerber, Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, 8th Judicial Circuit

Jenny Oldham, Hardin County Attorney

Pursuant to KRS 15.100(2), Bobby Stokes, Executive Director called roll. After the roll was called, a quorum was announced, and the meeting was called to order.

Bobby Stokes welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reminded everyone since this is a special meeting, conversations would be limited to only topics on the agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Bobby announced due the recent order present by the Supreme Court, order 2022-SC-0289-KB Inquiry Commission v Ronnie Lee Goldy Jr. the PAC Council felt it necessary to address the decision and decide if any course of action is necessary by the Council.

Chris Cohron stated on September 16, 2022, Chief Justice Supreme Court signed and issued an order requesting a special commissioner and temporary suspension of Ronald Goldy Jr., This is titled 20-2022-SC0289-KP, which is the inquiring commission vs. Ronald Lee Goldy Jr. Chris stated that everyone had been provided with the order of documents. The issues brought forth have temporarily suspended Mr. Goldy from practicing the law until further action from the supreme court.

Chris expressed concerns that this will initiate KRS 15.715 specifically sub section 1, conflict of interest as a prosecutor. PAC Council may authorize with a vote of no less than 5 of its members for the Attorney General to initiate, intervene, supersede a local prosecutor for the purpose of prosecuting criminal business in question of the commonwealth in a circuit or district.

Chris explained the supreme court order issued would potentially initiate KRS 15.715 which is described in subsections 2,3, and 4 leading to KRS 61.120 in addition to KRS 61.130 regarding the salary of the prosecutor being potentially suspended if 15.715 isn't active.

Chris informed everyone the intention of today's meeting is to seek a vote regarding KRS 15.715.

Chris expressed the great duty a Commonwealth's Attorney has to their jurisdiction and the confidence of their community for justice. He stated the document's presented show a complete lack of trust to adequately represent his jurisdiction combined with the fact

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that Ronald Goldy Jr. is currently unable to practice the law there by abdicating the ability to act as Commonwealth's Attorney.

Chris made a motion pursuant to KRS 15.715, stating due to Mr. Goldy's inability to act as Commonwealth's Attorney, the Attorney General shall initiate, intervene, or supersede him for the purpose of prosecuting the criminal business in the 21st Judicial Circuit pending further orders of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, seconded by Shane Young.

Bobby asked at this time if anyone would like to discuss anything regarding this matter and if Mr. Goldy would like to address the Council.

Ronald Goldy reiterated his suspension is currently temporary and other issues are being addressed.

Chris explained that regardless of Mr. Goldy's suspension currently being temporary, Mr. Goldy is the current sitting Commonwealth's Attorney and that he cannot currently practice law and has thereby failed his jurisdiction by his own actions. Approving this motion by the Council will initiate KRS 61.120 as well as KRS 61.130.

Chris asked that the Attorney General intercede and seek remedy pursuant to KRS 15.175 subsection 2.

Bobby asked if there were additional questions for the Council.

Bobby reiterated the motion made by Chris to initiate KRS 15.715 as it relates to the 21st Judicial Circuit and Mr. Ronald Goldy, seconded by Shane Young, and passed by voice vote.

Administrative and budget expenditures rules related to the 21st Judicial Circuit

Bobby announced the necessity to discuss any rules that need to be in place and how to utilize the 21st Judicial Circuit's administrative responsibilities. Additionally, how to go forward regarding any Asset forfeiture funds and personnel changes due to the current circumstances regarding the 21st Judicial Circuit.

Chris made a motion that any expenditure or Asset Forfeiture funds for approval be brought before the PAC Council for approval before any funds can be spent in the 21st Judicial Circuit, seconded by Courtney Baxter, and passed by voice vote.

Chris made a motion that until such time as the Attorney General if approved according to KRS 15.715 is granted the authority by a circuit court to make decisions regarding the

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21st Judicial Circuit and all administrative and financial decisions be frozen without PAC approval. Including, but not limited to any salary changes or adjustments, any travel or travel related expenses, and any expenditures of the budget be frozen without PAC approval. Seconded by Shane Young and passed by voice vote.

Bobby asked if anyone has anything further related to comments or discussions currently on the agenda.

Bobby reminded members and guests that the next meeting of the Prosecutors Advisory Council would be on Friday June October 21, 2022.

A motion to adjourn was made by Courtney Baxter, seconded by Aaron Dail, and passed by voice vote.