

PAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Wil Schroder, Proxy for Attorney General Russell Coleman
Rob Sanders, Commonwealth's Attorney, 16th Judicial Circuit
Brian Wright, Commonwealth's Attorney, 29th Judicial Circuit
Courtney Baxter, Commonwealth's Attorney, 12th Judicial Circuit
Jackie Steele, Commonwealth's Attorney, 27th Judicial Circuit
Carrie Ovey-Wiggins, Commonwealth's Attorney, 56th Judicial Circuit
Jennie Haymond, Madison County Attorney
Jenny Oldham, Hardin County Attorney
John Estill, Mason County Attorney
Joe Ross, Logan County Attorney
Martin Hatfield, Pulaski County Attorney
Margaret Daniel, Citizen Member
Lisa Foley, Citizen Member

PAC/OAG STAFF PRESENT

Bobby Stokes
Gina Carey
Susan Blake
Alyssa Logan
Tish Baker
Penny Quatman
Samantha Bracco
Donna Conway
Tricia Wise
Tammy Eversole
Julie Cox
Jenny True-Reed
Tom Lockridge

GUESTS PRESENT

Mike Van Meter, Commonwealth's Attorney, 6th Judicial Circuit
Kori Bumgarner, Commonwealth's Attorney, 8th Judicial Circuit
Kelli Kearney, Commonwealth's Attorney, 14th Judicial Circuit
Kimberly Baird, Commonwealth's Attorney, 22nd Judicial Circuit
Gerina Whethers, Commonwealth's Attorney, 30th Judicial Circuit
Mike Lindsey, Commonwealth's Attorney, 49th Judicial Circuit
Herb McKee, Commonwealth's Attorney, 51st Judicial Circuit

Louis Kelly, Commonwealth's Attorney, 54th Judicial Circuit
Amanda Hernandez-Troutman, Commonwealth's Attorney, 55th Judicial Circuit
Robert Weido, Anderson County Attorney
John Burlew, Daviess County Attorney
Angela Evans, Fayette County Attorney
Dudley Cotton, Jefferson County Attorney's Office

Pursuant to KRS 15.100(2), Executive Director, Bobby Stokes called the roll. After the roll was called, a quorum was announced, and the meeting was called to order. He welcomed everyone to the June 13th, 2025 PAC meeting. He announced that Donna Conway had joined PAC staff.

Bobby Stokes directed the Council to review the meeting minutes from May 16th, 2025 PAC meeting for approval. Rob Sanders made a motion to approve May 16th, 2025 meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Courtney Baxter, and passed by voice vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE

TRAINING UPDATE

Susan Blake reported that registration for the 2025 Kentucky Prosecutors Conference (KPC) is scheduled to open on Monday, June 2. She reminded the Council that three hotels will be available for booking during registration. She is currently finalizing speaker arrangements and preparing conference handouts.

The conference reception is scheduled for Wednesday at 5:30. This year, the conference center will offer a food court option (for individual purchase) for lunches on Wednesday and Thursday, allowing attendees to remain onsite during the midday break if they prefer. Bobby Stokes is coordinating with vendors who will be participating in the event. The Lexington Humane Society has been contacted to arrange the "Relaxing with Rover" activity, which has been a popular feature at previous KPC conferences. Association provided headshots were also discussed.

2027 KPC: She requested the Council's approval to proceed with the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2027 Kentucky Prosecutors Conference, noting that venue availability is becoming limited and early planning is essential. Rob Sanders made a motion to approve the RFP, the motion was seconded by Joe Ross and passed by voice vote.

Susan Blake also shared that she distributed a survey to assess employee interest in various training opportunities and received over 100 responses. A one day *Evidence Bootcamp* emerged as the most requested topic. She is currently reviewing course details and budget considerations, with the intention of offering at least 1 one-day training session. Additional information will be provided at a future meeting.

Additionally, she gauged interest in the *Leadership Challenge Course*. Based on the responses received, there is sufficient interest to proceed with the course. Most respondents indicated a preference for scheduling the training at the beginning of 2026. She is gathering scheduling information and will present a proposal at the next Council meeting.

Bobby Stokes announced that the Prosecutors Advisory Council (PAC) will offer an electronic surplus collection service during this year's KPC.

RESOURCE PROSECUTOR UPDATE

Jenny True-Reed reported on behalf of Kathy Phillips, Domestic Violence Resource Prosecutor, regarding several upcoming training initiatives. Kathy Phillips will co-present a *Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) 101* training in collaboration with the Office of Victims Advocacy at the Attorney General's Office. The training is scheduled for next Wednesday at Centre College and will focus on the role of a SART team and how to establish one within a community. This training was first held in Western Kentucky, this will be the second training for Central Kentucky, and an additional session is planned at Morehead for Eastern Kentucky. Kathy Phillips is also working with a team to develop training on best practices for prosecuting domestic violence cases. This training is designed to fulfill requirements under VAWA and will take place in Lexington on September 24. In addition, Kathy Phillips will be at the Department of Criminal Justice during the week of August 18 to provide in-service training on domestic violence.

Jenny True-Reed, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, provided an update on oral fluid testing implementation. The testing has been in place for approximately three months in Frankfort, Pikeville, Madisonville, Covington, and Bowling Green. The device functions similarly to a preliminary breath test (PBT), but there is currently no legislation or regulation governing its use. Despite this, the device is moving into the next phase of deployment and will be distributed to all Kentucky State Police (KSP) posts. Use is expected to begin in late summer to early fall, alongside a Train the Trainer course hosted by Highway Safety. She requested that prosecutors be included in this training to ensure they understand the purpose and application of the device. She anticipates confirming a training date in July, which will be held at KSP Training. Additionally, Jenny True-Reed will conduct a Behind the Officer (BTO) training for prosecutors on June 26

in collaboration with the Department of Criminal Justice. The Prosecuting the Drunk Driver course is scheduled for August 26–28 in Newport and will include a day and a half of Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training, as well as trial skills development. She will also present at the KSP Lab Analyst training, focusing on effective testimony and simplifying scientific concepts for prosecutors and jurors. She expects this to be a valuable training opportunity. Lastly, the Cops in Court training will take place in Spencer County.

Tom Lockridge, Violent Crime Resource Prosecutor, reported on the development of a new Homicide course scheduled for December 1–3 at the Origin Hotel in Lexington. An early interest email was distributed and received a positive response. Registration for the course will be released soon. He continues to work on a capital case in Boyd County, with the trial set to begin on October 6. He is also collaborating with Jennie Haymond on a new Ethics presentation for the KPC. In addition to these projects, he continues to provide support and consultation on various cases and inquiries from offices across the state.

PAC STAFF PAYROLL CERTIFICATIONS

Bobby Stokes directed the Council to review the May 15th, 2025, and May 30th, 2025, PAC/UPS payroll certifications in the folders provided for approval. Jackie Steele made a motion to approve May 15th, 2025, and May 30th, 2025, PAC/UPS payroll certifications, the motion was seconded by Jennie Haymond, and passed by voice vote.

CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Alyssa Logan reported that the bi-weekly meetings between Column Case and the pilot sites are continuing as the application development is being fine tuned prior to going "live" in the pilot sites. Meetings with AOC, Column Case, Gina and Chad continue as the CourtNet integration and testing plan are being developed. PAC/Chad should begin testing the interface around June 20th. Once testing is deemed successful by all parties, full implementation should begin in the pilot sites on a rolling schedule.

2025 SENEGO AWARD

Rob Sanders made a motion to postpone the vote until the end of the meeting, the motion was seconded by Brian Wright, and passed by voice vote.

BUDGET**FY2025 UPDATE**

Gina Carey reported we would lapse funds on the Commonwealth Attorney's Budget because 19 offices that turned over in fiscal year 25 as well as some unfortunate vacancies in the payroll. She reported that she will do a report to LRC to explain the lapse.

FY2026 BUDGET

Gina Carey reported she had created an updated FY26 budget with the new retirement rate and an updated cost of Azure, our cloud storage, on the Commonwealth's side. She also reported that we will be switching from Adobe Pro individual licenses to Adobe Pro Subscription and noted that that was recognized in the new budget. She noted extra money had been built into the lease budget for the Commonwealth attorneys, but she felt confident that it would not be enough considering we have 30 lease related items on the list for next fiscal year. Gina noted that later in the meeting when we discuss the biennial budget that we would need to discuss making leases a possible additional budget request. She reported that all but one staff salary budget had been submitted, and that budget and personnel staff were in the process of compiling all the changes for 7/1. Gina updated the Council that she could not project the SCCP past what had already been projected until all salary changes have been completed because quite a few offices took the extra funds and used them to offset the SCCP. She said that she would have an updated SCCP projection at the next meeting.

FY2026 PAC ROCKET DOCKET GRANT AWARDS

Gina Carey reported to the Council that the Rocket Docket was funded at \$4.8 million and then handed it over to Jackie Steele. Jackie reported that the committee met on Tuesday June 10th and established that they would be able to fund all current Rocket Docket Programs at the current funding plus 3%. Data for three (3) circuits appeared to show they were under performing, and they were to get notified to investigate. Jackie reported that they were able to do an expansion on 6 programs: 19th, 41st, 44th, 49th, 52nd, 55th. He reported that with the turnovers last fiscal year we lost a few counties, but we were able to pick up a few new counties.

Gina reported the 19th was funded as requested. The 41st was funded at 70% to the Commonwealth and 30% to the County for a minimum full-time first assistant one salary. The 44th funds a part-time administrative specialist one at the minimum. The

49th funded as requested. The 52nd was funded as requested, and the 55th funds a prosecutor at the level of prosecutor two and a full-time Administrative Specialist I, one at \$25,000 to be shared with the county attorney. Gina asked for a motion to approve the Rocket Docket grants.

Jackie Steele made a motion to approve the FY2026 PAC Rocket Docket Grant awards, the motion was seconded by Jenny Oldham and passed by voice vote. John Estill abstained from participating in the vote.

BIENNIAL BUDGET 26-28 PRIORITIES

Gina Carey reported 177 participated in the biennial budget survey. She stated that she thought the number one budget priority for the Commonwealth and the County was the SCCP for changes in the plan and the funding stream. She asked for help on crafting the request to allow for more experienced qualifications, additional tiers, etc.

Gina reported that in the past, funding for victim's advocates has been high priority on the Commonwealth and County attorney side. She stated that she would put a number together later as to how many positions to ask for in the additional budget request. She also stated that the statute needed to be updated, and the salary required a revision to allow for more people to qualify for the position of Victims Advocate.

She asked the Commonwealth's Attorneys if they wanted to roll the Detectives in with the Victims Advocates on the additional budget request and the Commonwealth's Attorneys thought it would be worthwhile to have a separate additional budget request.

Additional positions (ABRs) requested on both sides, 59 positions requested on Commonwealth Attorneys' side and 52 positions on the County Attorneys' side. She stated on the County attorney's side she has noticed a trend on fewer requests for additional positions and more requests for additional funding for current employees. She asked if they would like this to still be an additional budget request, Joe Ross stated that they would still like to ask for them but would focus energy elsewhere if need be. Gina stated that she would lower the priority.

Gina stated that there are 30 leases issues ongoing. Two (2) of the biggest offices, the 30th Judicial Circuit (Jefferson County) and the 22nd Judicial Circuit (Fayette County), are in aging buildings, where they may be forced to move. Regardless, the cost of these spaces is expected to increase. She reported that because of this, leases will have to be a high priority on the Commonwealth's additional budget requests.

Gina told the Commonwealth Attorney's that their Cloud storage cost \$30,000 per month right now, estimated to rise 20% year over year. She told the County attorneys that this is not something that we have budgeted for them right now, but we could look into it for them if they would like. With the cost rising this will need to be its own separate additional budget request.

Case Management will be an additional budget request for both Commonwealth's and County. Gina reported 75 of 120 counties reported that their caseload data from AOC was incorrect. Gina stated that we need to get our people used to capturing more than what AOC is giving us. She stated that we will need to pay for licenses and training in the offices.

Each biennium we submit a request to fully fund the Rocket Docket programs independent of the Justice Cabinet which currently provides \$2 million per year.

Gina reported that in the prior Biennial Budget request, 19 positions had been requested for PAC administrative staff but now that the OAG has allowed positions to be filled and the additional funding received in the current biennium has been allocated - the number of projected additional positions has dropped to 5. This would be another ABR.

Joe Ross made a motion to approve the Additional Budget Requests as presented and discussed, the motion was seconded by Rob Sanders, and passed by voice vote.

Gina Carey asked the Council if any of the offices wanted to purchase the Kentucky Rules of Court and State 2025. The Council requested she send a survey out to gauge the interest in the offices.

Gina Carey explained that she purchased an ELMO device to demonstrate its potential benefits for office use, particularly in assisting prosecutors during courtroom presentations. The total cost of the device was \$3,000. Courtney Baxter made a motion to approve the purchase of ELMO, the motion was seconded by Jenny Oldham, and passed by voice vote.

SCCP PERSONNEL REQUESTS

1. Kimberly Baird, Commonwealth's Attorney 22nd Judicial Circuit, requested approval to reclassify a full-time First Assistant

Commonwealth's Attorney position to a full-time First assistant Commonwealth's Attorney 10+ position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements. effective June 16, 2025

2. Brent Turner, Commonwealth's Attorney 31st Judicial Circuit, requested approval to reclassify a full-time Administrative Specialist II position to a full-time Executive Administrative Assistant position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective June 16, 2025.

Rob Sanders made a motion to approve SCCP personnel request A 1-2, the motion was seconded by Brian Wright, and passed by voice vote.

3. Amanda Troutman Hernandez, Commonwealth's Attorney 55th Judicial Circuit, requested an exception not to raise salary 3% to a current SCCP funded part-time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney IV position.

Rob Sanders made a motion to deny SCCP personnel request A-3, the motion was seconded by Joe Ross, and passed by voice vote.

4. William Elkins, Clark County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a full-time Administrative Specialist I position to a full-time Administrative Specialist II position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective June 16, 2025.
5. John Burlew, Daviess County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time First Assistant County Attorney position to a part-time First Assistant County Attorney IV 10+ position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective June 16, 2025.
6. Mike O'Connell, Jefferson County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify the following positions with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements.
 - a. Five (5) full-time Prosecuting Staff Attorney Manager/Supervisor IV positions to five (5) full-time Prosecuting Staff Attorney Manager/Supervisor 10+ positions effective July 16, 2025.

- b. Full-time Assistant County Attorney Staff Attorney Manager/Supervisor III position to a full-time Assistant County Attorney IV Staff Attorney Manager/Supervisor 10+ position effective August 1, 2025.
 - c. Full-time Assistant County Attorney I position to a full-time Assistant County Attorney II position effective August 1, 2025.
7. Jason Darnell, Marshall County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time Assistant County Attorney I position to a part-time First Assistant County Attorney III position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective July 16, 2025.
 8. Cade Foster, McCracken County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a full-time First Assistant County Attorney III position to a full-time First Assistant County Attorney IV 10+ position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective July 16, 2025.
 9. Sharon Howard, Metcalfe County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time First Assistant County Attorney I position to a part-time First Assistant County Attorney IV 10+ position and to reclassify a part-time Administrative Specialist I position to a part-time Administrative Specialist II position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective July 16, 2025.
 10. Stephen Johnson, Wolfe County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time First Assistant County Attorney III position to a part-time First Assistant County Attorney IV 10+ position with SCCP funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective June 16, 2025.

Martin Hatfield made a motion to approve SCCP personnel request A 4-10, the motion was seconded by Joe Ross, and passed by voice vote.

LEASES

PAC OFFICE SPACES

Rob Sanders emphasized the importance of having all PAC staff located in a shared, dedicated space rather than being spread throughout the building. Currently, several employees are sharing offices, and expanding to a new location in the building would allow both PAC and UPS staff to have adequate individual office space in a centralized location.

Rob Sanders made a motion to approve the request to expand office space to provide a primary location for PAC/UPS staff with associated costs divided between the Commonwealth and County Attorney's budget, the motion was seconded by Jackie Steele, and passed by voice vote.

22ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Bobby Stokes reported that the lessor for the 22nd Judicial Circuit has requested a rate increase for FY26 as the competitive bid process is being completed to establish a permanent lease. The requested annual increase for storage and office space combined is \$19,908. Rob Sanders made a motion to approve the increase, the motion was seconded by Jackie Steele, and passed by voice vote.

PERSONNEL REQUESTS

A. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS

1. Neil Kerr, Commonwealth's Attorney 7th Judicial Circuit, requested approval to reallocate a quarter-time Administrative Specialist I position to a quarter-time Intern position with no additional funds, to be paid with asset forfeiture funds effective June 16, 2025, and further requests to temporarily raise salary of a currently allocated quarter-time Intern position using asset forfeiture funds effective June 16, 2025 through August 15, 2025.
2. Courtney Baxter, Commonwealth's Attorney 12th Judicial Circuit, requested approval to reclassify a full-time Victim Advocate I position to a full-time Victim Advocate III position with no additional funds effective June 16, 2025.

3. Rhese McKenzie, Commonwealth's Attorney 20st Judicial Circuit, requested approval to establish a temporary quarter-time Intern positions with no additional funds, to be paid with asset forfeiture funds effective June 16, 2025, through July 31, 2025.
4. Jackie Steele, Commonwealth's Attorney 27th Judicial Circuit, requested approval to establish a quarter-time Administrative Specialist I position with no additional funds effective June 16, 2025.

Rob Sanders made a motion to approve no additional funds request A 1-4, the motion was seconded by Carrie Ovey-Wiggins, and passed by voice vote.

Courtney Baxter abstained from participating in the vote for no additional funds request A2.

5. Jordon Dallas Turner, Boone County Attorney, requested approval to raise full-time salaries for an Assistant County Attorney IV position, Assistant County Attorney I position and a Victim Advocate I position retroactive to July 1, 2025 with no additional funds necessary.
6. John Burlew, Daviess County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time Assistant County Attorney position to a part-time County Attorney Detective position with no additional funds effective June 16, 2025.
7. Jennifer Oldham, Hardin County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a full-time Assistant County Attorney I position to a full-time Law Clerk I position and then revert back to a full-time Assistant County Attorney I position upon successful completion of the Bar exam effective June 16, 2025.
8. Stacy Tapke, Kenton County Attorney, requested approval to raise full-time salary for an Assistant County Attorney I position effective June 16, 2025 with no additional funds necessary.
9. Martin Hatfield, Pulaski County Attorney, requested approval to reallocate a part-time Administrative Specialist I position to a full-time Administrative Specialist I position with no additional funds retroactive to June 1, 2025.
10. Corey Thomas, Spencer County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a part-time Assistant County Attorney I position to a part-time

Assistant County Attorney II position and further requests to reclassify a full-time Administrative Assistant I position to a full-time Administrative II position with no additional funds and both effective June 16, 2035.

Joe Ross made a motion to approve no additional funds request A 5-10, the motion was seconded by John Estill, and passed by voice vote.

Jenny Oldham abstained from participating in the vote for no additional funds request A7.

Martin Hatfield abstained from participating in the vote for no additional funds request A9.

B. ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED

1. Herb McKee, Commonwealth's Attorney 51st Judicial Circuit, requested Council reconsideration to reallocate a full-time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney I position to a full-time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney III position with additional funds effective June 16, 2025.
2. Amanda Troutman Hernandez, Commonwealth's Attorney 55th Judicial Circuit, requested approval to reclassify a full-time Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney II position to a to a full-time First Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney III position with additional funds to supplement minimum salary requirements effective June 16, 2025

Rob Sanders made a motion to deny additional funds request B 1-2, the motion was seconded by Brian Wright, and passed by voice vote.

3. Jennifer Hutchison-Corbin, Adair County Attorney, requested additional funds for to establish a part-time County Detective position with additional funds to support salary effective June 16, 2025.

Joe Ross made a motion to table additional funds request B-3 until the August PAC meeting, the motion was seconded by John Estill, and passed by voice vote.

4. Robert Wiedo, Anderson County Attorney, requested approval to reclassify a quarter-time Administrative Specialist I position to a full-time Administrative Specialist I position with additional funds for fringe benefits effective June 16, 2025.

Joe Ross made a motion to approve additional funds request B-4, the motion was seconded by Jennie Haymond, and passed by voice vote.

5. Monica Hill, Fleming County Attorney, requested additional funds for a part-time Executive Administrative Assistant position to retain SCCP funds and increase salary above the minimum for position classification.

John Estill made a motion to deny additional funds request B-5, the motion was seconded by Joe Ross, and passed by voice vote.

C. TABLED REQUESTS ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED

1. Jeremy Logsdon, Grayson County Attorney, requested additional funding to supplement salary of a full-time Assistant County Attorney I position.

Joe Ross made a motion to withdraw tabled additional funds request C-1, the motion was seconded by Jackie Steele, and passed by voice vote.

Bobby Stokes concluded the agenda by addressing the selection of the 2025 Sonogo Award recipients. He noted that all nominations were due by June 9th and announced that two individuals had been nominated: Amanda Hampton, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the 39th Judicial Circuit, and Stephen Dasenbrock, Assistant Campbell County Attorney. Brian Wright made a motion to name both Amanda Hampton and Stephen Dasenbrock as the 2025 Sonogo Award recipients, the motion was seconded by Rob Sanders, and passed by voice vote.

ADJOURN

Bobby Stokes reminded the Council that the next scheduled meeting was August 19th, coinciding with the 2025 Kentucky Prosecutors Conference.

Margaret Daniel made a motion to adjourn at 11:01 AM EST the motion was seconded by Rob Sanders and passed by voice vote.

