



KENTUCKY

# General News

November 2010

## Electronic Warrant System Implemented in 10 Kentucky Counties

Attorney General Jack Conway is pleased to announce that his office has completed implementation of an electronic warrant management system (eWarrants) in 10 Kentucky counties under a \$3.9 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant awarded to his office in 2009. The eWarrant system facilitates the sharing of information among all law enforcement concerning active warrants in jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth. It replaces the manual protocols for processing warrant information that resulted in a backlog of nearly 300,000 un-served warrants in the state.



“This is an important step forward in giving Kentucky’s law enforcement and judicial branch the 21st century tools they need to fight crime and better protect our citizens,” General Conway said. “In counties with eWarrants, we are now seeing service rates on arrest warrants of up to 80% compared to about 25% with paper warrants.”



*Attorney General Conway with officials from Kentucky's 53rd Judicial Circuit.*

General Conway’s office is working in partnership with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security and Open Portal Solutions, Inc. to implement eWarrants in 100 rural Kentucky counties by the end of 2011. In addition to modernizing law enforcement infrastructure, the ARRA grant has created 16 jobs.

Since the end of October, the Attorney General’s Office has successfully launched eWarrants in Anderson, Shelby, Spencer, Harrison, Nicholas, Pendleton, Robertson, Bracken, Fleming and Mason counties. Work is currently underway to implement the system in Hart, Larue and Nelson counties in December 2010.

## Kentucky Voters Call Attorney General’s Election Fraud Hotline

More than 200 Kentucky voters called the Attorney General’s Election Fraud Hotline during the Nov. 2 General Election. The hotline received 202 calls from 62 counties while the polls were open on Election Day. The calls generated 212 issues, 44 of which involved procedural questions. Eleven involved allegations of vote buying/selling.

“I appreciate all of the voters who helped serve as our eyes and ears on the ground to report any possible voting irregularities,” General Conway said. “My office will take the appropriate action if we find violations of Kentucky’s election laws.”

In addition to the Election Fraud Hotline, General Conway had investigators in precincts across Kentucky to provide timely responses to allegations of voting irregularities.

More information — <http://goo.gl/vv9bv>



*Kentucky Attorney General Jack Conway*

## Attorney General’s Post-Election Audit Underway in Six Kentucky Counties

Post-election audits are underway in six Kentucky counties following the November 2, 2010 General Election. The counties selected in a random drawing on November 16 were Bell, McCreary, Union, Powell, Pendleton and Carter counties. The Office of the Attorney General is required by law to conduct a post-election audit investigation in no fewer than 5% of Kentucky’s counties following each primary and general election.

“The post-election audits are one of numerous steps this office takes to ensure a fair and equitable election process,” General Conway said.

As part of the audit, investigators from General Conway’s Department of Criminal Investigations will meet with local election officials, check election forms and absentee ballots, review election complaints and talk to voters in each county. The investigators will present their findings to a grand jury.

## **New Regulations in Place for the Registration of Debt Adjusters**

New regulations went into effect in Kentucky on November 5, 2010 to help ensure that debt adjusters operating in the Commonwealth are complying with Kentucky's laws. The regulation completes implementation of HB 166 (2010 Regular Session), which added several new protections for consumers entering into debt-adjusting contracts.

"For instance," said General Conway, "debt adjusters must have certain types of insurance and must post a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit. The amounts of insurance and bond coverage go up if the adjuster is dealing with debts secured by a mortgage on a consumer's residence. The regulation requires that insurance and bond information be provided when a debt adjuster registers with the Office of Consumer Protection."

More information about the regulation, forms, and Kentucky's debt adjusting laws is available at the Attorney's debt adjusting web page: <http://ag.ky.gov/civil/consumerprotection/debt/>.

## **Two Radcliff Women Indicted in Financial Exploitation of Elderly Clinton County Woman**

A Hardin County grand jury has indicted two Radcliff women on charges they financially exploited an elderly disabled woman, resulting in the loss of nearly \$86,000.

Seventy-three-year-old Hazel Martin faces four counts of financial exploitation involving Marie Farmer of Clinton County. Farmer is now deceased. The indictment also alleges that Martin's co-defendant, 63-year-old Iris Hodge, facilitated the exploitation of Farmer by helping provide means and opportunity to carry it out. Hodge is also charged with receiving stolen property of a value greater than \$10,000 by knowingly possessing funds stolen from Martin.

The arrests of Martin and Hodge follow an investigation by General Conway's Department of Criminal Investigations with assistance from the Hardin County field office of Adult Protective Services. General Conway's Office of Special Prosecutions is handling the prosecution of the case at the request of the Hardin County Commonwealth's Attorney.



## **CYBERCRIMES**

### **Franklin County Man Arrested for Possession of Child Pornography**

Attorney General Conway and his Cybercrimes Unit have announced the arrest of a Franklin County man on child pornography charges, including possession of more than 80,000 images and videos child porn.

Investigators from General Conway's Cybercrimes Unit arrested 26-year-old Joshua Thompson on November 9 and charged him with 10 counts of possession of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor and one count of distribution of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor.

Thompson's arrest is the result of an ongoing, joint investigation between the Cybercrimes Unit and the Hamilton County Indiana Child Exploitation Task Force.

**Since its creation in June of 2008, General Conway's Cybercrimes Unit, a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, has seized 160,000 child pornographic images and videos from the Internet and investigated more than 100 child pornography cases in Kentucky.**

### **Woodford County Man Pleads Guilty to Child Porn Charges**

A Woodford County man has entered a guilty plea in federal court to receiving child pornography. Thirty-eight-year-old Johnny Todd will be sentenced on February 3, 2011.

Investigators from General Conway's Cybercrimes Unit, with assistance from Versailles Police, arrested Todd after executing a search warrant at his Versailles home. Todd, who previously served 7 ½ months of a one-year sentence for distribution of matter portraying a sexual performance by a minor, is a registered sex offender.



## MEDICAID FRAUD & ABUSE

### **Attorney General Conway Announces \$3.5 Million Settlement with Dey, Inc.**

Kentucky will receive \$3.5 million as a result of a settlement with generic drug manufacturer Dey, Inc. The settlement resolves allegations Dey published inflated or bogus average wholesale prices (AWPs) for its drugs. This settlement is the latest in a number of settlements in lawsuits filed by the Office of the Attorney General against 47 major drug companies.

“My office is committed to ensuring that drug companies truthfully report their prices,” General Conway said. “Companies that inflate their drug prices are not only breaking the law, they are stealing money out of taxpayers’ pockets.”

### ***Conway also announces settlements with GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Ameritox***

The GSK settlement resolves allegations the drug company knowingly manufactured, distributed and sold tainted drugs. The tainted drugs in question were manufactured by GSK subsidiary SB Pharmaco of Puerto Rico and included the antidepressant Paxil CR, the diabetes drug Avandamet, the anti-nausea drug Kytril and Bactroban, an antibiotic. Kentucky’s Medicaid program will receive \$2.4 million as part of the settlement.

The Ameritox settlement resolves claims asserted by the federal government, Kentucky and other participating states that the drug company paid illegal kickbacks to doctors who utilized Ameritox’s urine- testing services. Kentucky will receive more than \$434,000, which represents more than three times what the Kentucky Medicaid program paid for the tests.

**Since Attorney General Conway took office in January 2008, his Office of Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control has recovered or been awarded more than \$145 million for the state and federal Medicaid programs.**

### **Community Alternatives of Kentucky Employee Charged With Abuse**

A former employee of Community Alternatives of Kentucky-Morehead is accused of sodomizing a 24-year-old mentally disabled resident. An investigator with General Conway’s Office of Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control arrested 41-year-old Anne Marie Jones on a charge of sodomy 3rd degree, a Class D felony. Jones was a staff member at Community Alternative’s Morehead facility at the time of the offense. The charge follows an investigation by the Office of Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control.

**A charge is merely an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.**