COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
# EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS COMMISSION
CAPITAL COMPLEX EAST
1025 CAPITAL CENTER DRIVE, SUITE #104
FRANKFORT, KY 40601
(502) 564-7954
FAX: (502) 696-5091
HTTPS://ETHICS.KY.GOV/

CRIT LUALLEN
CHAIR
JUSTICE DANIEL J. VENTERS (RET.)
VICE-CHAIR

DAVID S. SAMFORD
RICHARD H. CAMPBELL, JR.
AUDREY TAYSE HAYNES

SUSAN STOKLEY CLARY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUCHETA MEENA MOHANTY
GENERAL COUNSEL

KEMBRA SEXTON TAYLOR
DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

## PRESS RELEASE

**CONTACT: Susan Stokley Clary**
**(502) 892-3400**
**SUSAN.CLARY@KY.GOV**

**November 19, 2026**

FRANKFORT, KY

At its November meeting, the Executive Branch Ethics Commission presented Randy White. Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, with the Fourth Annual Governor Brereton C. Jones Outstanding Ethics Officer Award for 2026. In honor of Governor Brereton C. Jones and the role he played in establishing the Executive Branch Ethics Code and in the establishment of this Commission, the Commission renamed its annual award to the "Governor Brereton C. Jones Outstanding Ethics Officer Award." In 1992, it was Governor Jones' vision and leadership that first established an Ethics Code for the Executive Branch of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He then worked with the legislature to draft and enact legislation that codified the Ethics Code and established an independent ethics commission, the Executive Branch Ethics Commission. Ethical requirements were placed upon state workers, and an independent body was set up and funded to enforce those requirements-a truly positive step forward for the Commonwealth. This award program was established to recognize an individual serving as a designated Ethics Officer for an executive branch agency for his or her outstanding achievement and contributions in promoting the ethical conduct of executive branch employees.

Randy White was awarded the Governor Brereton C. Jones Outstanding Ethics Officer Award-2026 for his efforts to enforce the Executive Branch Code of Ethics while serving as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and for implementing policies and procedures for the effective enforcement of the Ethics Code.

Randy White has served as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice since his appointment by Gov. Andy Beshear in April 2024. As Commissioner, White prioritizes reducing youth crime and recidivism, increasing mental health treatment, enhancing

employee training, staff and juvenile safety, and securing all 27 juvenile facilities to better protect juveniles and staff. Commissioner White brings over three decades of experience from his career with the Kentucky Department of Corrections, from which he retired in November 2023, and his time with Juvenile Justice. During his career he served in numerous leadership positions, including Deputy Warden of the Luther Luckett Correctional Complex, Warden of the Green River Correctional Complex, Warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary, and as Deputy Commissioner of Adult Institutions, where he oversaw the operations of all 14 state prisons. During his time as Deputy Commissioner, Kentucky secured the lowest recidivism rate in state history. White was also instrumental in increasing inmate access to programming and developing a Narcan program for the department, leading the nation as the first prison system to train staff on how to administer the lifesaving drug to prevent overdose deaths. White is a veteran of the United States Army, a decorated Iraq combat veteran, and a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University.