



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
EXECUTIVE BRANCH ETHICS COMMISSION

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FRANKFORT, KY – At its May 14, 2025 meeting, the Executive Branch Ethics Commission (“the Commission”) found Edward J. Smith, Nicholasville, Kentucky, in violation of KRS Chapter 11A, the Executive Branch Code of Ethics.

In a Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission, Edward J. Smith admitted violating one (1) count of the Code of Ethics, KRS 11A.020(1)(a) and (d). Specifically, between 2022 and 2023 while employed as a Correctional Officer with the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Mr. Smith misused a state office to have sexual contact with another employee on state time for his own prurient interests in conflict with conducting his duties as a Correctional Officer and in derogation of the public interest at large.

Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, Edward J. Smith agreed to pay a \$2,000.00 civil penalty, receive a public reprimand, and waive any right to appeal. The Commission concluded the matter by issuing an Agreed Final Order.