

# Supreme Court of Kentucky

2024-38

## ORDER

**IN RE: Preventing Kentucky Court of Justice Fraud, Waste, and Abuse**

The Kentucky Court of Justice (KCOJ) is committed to ensuring public trust and confidence in the state court system by operating in an ethical and transparent manner and being a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

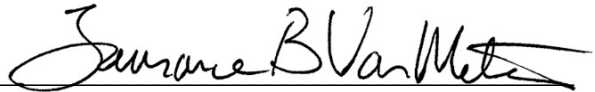
Accordingly, pursuant to Section 110(5)(b) of the Kentucky Constitution and Supreme Court Rule 1.010, and in consideration of the need to develop and implement preventative measures and processes to decrease the risk that fraud, waste, or abuse will occur within the KCOJ, it is **HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

- (1) The Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) shall establish and maintain a mechanism that allows members of the public to report fraud, waste, or abuse as it relates to the administration and operation of the Kentucky Court of Justice.
- (2) The AOC shall define fraud, waste, and abuse, as follows:
  - (a) Fraud is a wrongful or dishonest course of action, intended to result in financial or personal gain to which a KCOJ employee or official would not normally be entitled.
  - (b) Waste is the thoughtless or careless expenditure of resources to the detriment (or potential detriment) of the Commonwealth. Waste also includes incurring unnecessary costs or expenses resulting from inefficient or ineffective practices, systems, or controls.
  - (c) Abuse shall include the intentional, wrongful, or improper use of a thing, which may be tangible or intangible, such as someone's title or authority.

- (3) The AOC is responsible for responding to all reports received pursuant to subsection (1) of this Order and if appropriate, forwarding the report to the appropriate entity or department for investigation.

Entered this 19th day of December 2024.

All sitting; all concur.

  
CHIEF JUSTICE