



ALLISON BALL
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

August 13, 2025

Governor Andrew Beshear
Office of the Governor
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Secretary Jim Gray
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
200 Mero Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Governor Beshear and Secretary Gray,

As Kentucky's duly elected Auditor of Public Accounts, it is my responsibility to ensure that all executive branch officials and entities follow the law. As Auditor, I do not take this role lightly because I believe Kentuckians deserve to have confidence that their tax dollars are funding a government that acts fairly and lawfully and is accountable to them.

Public reporting has revealed potential serious irregularities occurring within the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. A whistleblower has alleged that the Cabinet's agents have essentially created a black market to sell driver's licenses to illegal noncitizens.¹ This appears to be the latest information relating to an "ongoing criminal investigation" that began around eight months ago and about which the public has yet to hear any updates.² In fact, when the public has sought information and answers about these irregularities, the Cabinet has refused to turn over any of the approximately 2,300 records connected to this topic.³ On top of all of that, Kentuckians who are actually legally eligible to receive driver's licenses are still waiting in line to lawfully obtain them.⁴

If these reports prove true, this is very concerning as it will mean not only that licenses are being issued illegally, but also that these "contraband" licenses are issued in a manner faster and more efficiently than those provided to legal citizens who are following the rules, waiting their turn, and doing everything asked of them under the law. In consideration of these many concerning reports, pursuant to my authority as Kentucky's Auditor of Public Accounts, I am writing to formally request an explanation of your action plan to address all of these serious matters.

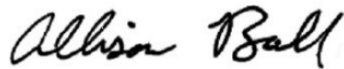
In particular, KRS 43.050(2)(j) affords me the authority to "[r]eport immediately to the Governor . . . any unauthorized, illegal, irregular, or unsafe handling or expenditure of state funds, or other improper practice of financial administration, or evidence that any such handling, expenditure, or practice is contemplated." This reporting authority contemplates a response by the Governor and the entity that is the subject of the inquiry as to the matters outlined in the inquiry. *See also* KRS



43.090(1). Please provide your response to this letter by September 1, 2025, to Deputy State Auditor Shari Scott at Shari.Scott@ky.gov.

As always, I stand ready to work with you and your administration for the betterment of all of Kentucky. My office is willing to offer its abundance of auditing knowledge and experience to ensure government is accessible and accountable to those it serves. While I hope we can collaboratively reach a solution in this matter, should your response to this letter prove unsatisfactory, my office is prepared to take the necessary next steps to address and resolve these issues. Kentuckians deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Allison Ball
Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts

¹ Gil Corsey, Former clerk says illegal immigrants paid \$200 ‘under the table’ for Ky. driver’s licenses, WDRB (Aug. 11, 2025), available at https://www.wdrb.com/wdrb-investigates/former-clerk-says-illegal-immigrants-paid-200-under-the-table-for-ky-driver-s-licenses/article_715c9abf-05a0-4a93-abbd-d8ab093edaf4.html.

² Gil Corsey, Kentucky withholds records of fraud investigation after drivers obtain licenses without a test, WDRB (Apr. 29, 2025), available at https://www.wdrb.com/wdrb-investigates/kentucky-withholds-records-of-fraud-investigation-after-drivers-obtain-licenses-without-a-test/article_a326f668-28d1-46f2-9949-97900b2e4c59.html.

³ Id.

⁴ Clarice Shay, Long lines at Kentucky Drivers Licensing offices still persist despite changes from state, WHAS11 (July 11, 2025), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBhI6q0eJRc>.

