



Auditor of Public Accounts  
Mike Harmon

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Harmon Releases Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagement of Boone County  
Sheriff's Office**

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** – State Auditor Mike Harmon today released the 2021 agreed-upon procedures engagement of Boone County Sheriff Michael A. Helmig. State law requires the auditor to annually audit the accounts of each county sheriff. In compliance with this law, the auditor issues two sheriff's reports each year: one reporting on the audit of the sheriff's tax account, and the other reporting on the audit of the fee account used to operate the office.

In 2018 the Kentucky General Assembly, following a recommendation by the State Auditor, passed legislation that allows county sheriffs and clerks that met certain criteria to apply for an Agreed-Upon Procedures (AUP) engagement in lieu of an audit of their fee account. The intent of the change, which became effective in July 2018, was to reduce audit costs for sheriffs and clerks that have a history of clean audits, while still maintaining an appropriate level of accountability.

The Boone County Sheriff applied for and received approval from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) to obtain an AUP engagement for calendar year 2021 in accordance with KRS 43.070(1)(c). AUP reports present the procedures performed and the results of those procedures, called findings. Auditors performed the procedures, which were agreed to by the Boone County Sheriff, on receipts and disbursements, excess fees, recordkeeping, and leases, contracts, and liabilities for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

The following exceptions were identified during the AUP engagement:

- **The December 31, 2021 bank reconciliations were not accurate. The recomputed combined fee accounts reconciled balance differs from the sheriff's reconciled balance by \$3,140,348 due to an outstanding check left off the sheriff's reconciliation. No additional funds are due to the state repository for the 75% or 25% accounts.**

- **Receipts are not being properly accounted for. Daily deposits are not being made intact as the sheriff's office takes cash out of the daily receipts to make disbursements for court ordered juror meals.**

*County Sheriff's Response: We will review this process.*

The sheriff's responsibilities include collecting property taxes, providing law enforcement and performing services for the county fiscal court and courts of justice. The sheriff's office is funded through statutory commissions and fees collected in conjunction with these duties.

The agreed-upon procedures report can be found on the [auditor's website](#).

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