

1 AN ACT relating to county law libraries.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 172.100 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) A county law library shall be established in each county seat and the fiscal court of  
5 each county shall designate sufficient room in the courthouse, in a building of good  
6 construction adjacent to the courthouse, in the local public library, or in a building  
7 where sessions of the District or Circuit Court are regularly held, or a combination  
8 of the foregoing, where such library shall be located and where the books and  
9 materials of the library may be safely kept.

10 (2) The books of the county law library shall consist of all volumes belonging to the  
11 state heretofore sent to the various county officials directed by law to receive such  
12 books, and all volumes hereafter sent to such library by the state, and all books now  
13 owned or hereafter acquired by the county for the library. The counties may provide  
14 on-line legal resources, including access and subscriptions to computer-assisted  
15 legal research facilities and the related infrastructure required to access the  
16 internet, and may acquire books, maps, computers and related equipment, or other  
17 articles for the library by purchase, gift, or devise.

18 ➔Section 2. KRS 172.200 is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) Upon the adoption of this optional plan, in counties other than those containing a  
20 city of the first class or consolidated local government, the Circuit Judge shall  
21 appoint one (1) member of the county's bar, and the members of the county's bar  
22 shall, by majority vote, elect another of their number, which two (2) attorneys shall,  
23 with the county attorney of the county, constitute and be designated as "Trustees, ....  
24 County Law Library." In counties containing a city of the first class or consolidated  
25 local government, the Chief Circuit Judge shall appoint one (1) member of the  
26 county's bar; the members of the county's bar shall, by majority vote, elect another  
27 of their number; the fiscal court or consolidated local government pursuant to the

- 1 provisions of KRS 67C.139 shall appoint one (1) member, and one (1) member  
2 shall be appointed by the Commonwealth's attorney, which four (4) attorneys shall,  
3 with the county attorney of the county, constitute and be designated as "Trustees,  
4 ..... County Law Library" or in a county containing a consolidated local  
5 government, "Trustees, ...../.....County Law Library," which shall be a  
6 combination of the names of the largest city in existence on the date of the approval  
7 of the consolidated local government and the county.
- 8 (2) The trustees shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are  
9 elected or qualified.
- 10 (3) The trustees shall be in charge of the county law library, and they shall make  
11 purchases of the various state and federal case reports, textbooks, legal  
12 encyclopedia, computers and related equipment, including access and  
13 subscriptions to computer-assisted legal research facilities and the related  
14 infrastructure required to access the internet, and all other books or equipment  
15 usually incident to or customarily found in law libraries, or necessary to the  
16 protection of the rights of litigants, and they shall cause same to be properly  
17 arranged in the county law library or Court of Justice facilities, directing the ex  
18 officio librarian in the exercise of his or her duties. The trustees may also provide  
19 on-line legal resources for the use of library patrons.
- 20 (4) The trustees shall exercise their absolute discretion in the purchase of books,  
21 pamphlets, periodicals, and other materials and equipment, and in the appointment  
22 and compensation of personnel to assist the ex officio librarian in the handling of  
23 materials and in the maintenance of the library, but the trustees shall not contract  
24 for any such purchases and appointments so as to create an indebtedness greater  
25 than the anticipated revenue for the following eighteen (18) months, the anticipated  
26 revenue being based upon the preceding eighteen (18) months' revenue, and any  
27 indebtedness of the county law library fund shall not be considered in any way an

1 indebtedness of the county, but shall be an indebtedness of the county law library  
2 fund only, and all creditors must look only to the county law library fund for  
3 satisfaction of their indebtedness.

4 (5) The trustees shall designate one (1) of their number as treasurer and he or she shall:

5 (a) Be accountable for the receipt, deposit, and disbursement of all sums received  
6 for the operation of the county law library; ~~by him. He shall~~

7 (b) Be bonded by a corporate bond, the cost of which shall be paid out of the  
8 receipts of the library fund; ~~by him. He shall~~

9 (c) Deposit all sums received by him or her as treasurer in a regular banking  
10 depository, and he or she shall pay for all purchases made by the trustees by  
11 check or draft, keeping a true and accurate account of all sums received and  
12 expended; ~~by him. He shall~~

13 (d) Annually file a written report with the Circuit Judge of the county showing all  
14 sums received ~~by him~~, together with the court from which they were  
15 received, and an itemized statement of all expenditures made; and ~~by him.~~  
16 ~~The treasurer shall~~

17 (e) Turn all funds over to his or her successor, together with a full inventory of  
18 the county law library, and together with a full and complete itemized  
19 statement of all outstanding accounts.