

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

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December 27, 2022

Michael Scott Conkright 320 Deerfield Circle Benton, KY 42025

Dear Mr. Conkright:

On January 3, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the courtroom of the Marshall County Fiscal Court, the fiscal court will decide whether to extend the prohibition of you entering or being upon any premises of the Marshall County Parks system. This is your notice and opportunity to be heard before the fiscal court at that time and place.

Sincerely

Jason Darnall Marshall County Attorney

## January 3, 2023

Michael Scott Conkright 320 Deerfield Circle Benton, KY 42025

## Dear Mr. Conkright:

On January 3, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the courtroom of the Marshall County Fiscal Court, the fiscal court was made aware of the following update concerning your conduct and behavior:

- 1. Prior to your criminal mischief trial on January 28, 2022, you were afforded the opportunity to have your prohibition from entering the park system lifted and your criminal charges dismissed if you would simply sign an agreement stating that you would follow the rules of the park. You declined to sign this agreement and insisted on a trial.
- 2. At your criminal trial, the evidence presented to the jury included, but was not limited to, the following:
  - a. Jessica Treas, a current 911 Dispatcher and former employee of the Marshall County Park System, testified that on November 4, 2019, she observed you inside Miller Park standing near a running water spigot at closing time around 10:00 p.m. Treas stated that you just stood there for approximately 7-8 minutes with the water running, and that you were not using any of the water for any purpose. Treas stated that when you saw her, you took off running away from her.
  - b. Treas stated that on the morning of November 10, 2019, she reported to Miller Park as part of her routine duties and observed that multiple water spigots had been turned on and left running all night, causing flooding issues at various areas within the park. Treas testified that all of the spigots were running "wide open" when she arrived that morning and flooding was visible around the areas of those spigots.
  - c. Treas authenticated two photographs she took that morning depicting the flooding near the entrance of the park which were introduced as Commonwealth's Exhibit 1 and 2. Treas affirmatively testified that the flooding was not due to normal

- morning dew and that there had been no rain the night before or that morning. Therefore, the areas near the spigots were the only areas that had been flooded.
- d. Britney Hargrove, Director of Marshall County Parks, also testified. Hargrove stated that she also observed the two Exhibit photographs regarding the flooding. More importantly, Hargrove testified extensively as to the problems that this either caused the park or could have caused the park.
- e. Hargrove stated that, because of the water being left on, the following problems either did occur or were in danger of occurring: (1) soil and grass erosion around the areas being flooded; (2) inability to properly maintain those areas with routine groundskeeping; (3) water wasted and the accompanying money wasted from the park having to pay for that wasted water; (4) inherent damage caused to the pavement from running water; (5) the dangers of water freezing for both pedestrian and vehicle traffic (this occurred in late November); and (6) dangers to both people and property due to the soaked grass and grounds because at this particular time, the park staff was installing Christmas lights with electrical wiring all over the park.
- f. Sheriff Matt Hilbrecht of the Marshall County Sheriff's Office also testified. Sheriff Hilbrecht stated that he conducted an interview with you regarding the allegations made against you. Sheriff Hilbrecht testified that you unequivocally admitted that you were the individual who had both turned the water spigots on and left them running. He also stated that you admitted to doing this multiple times and that at no point during the interview did you deny that you were the individual in question responsible for these acts. Sheriff Hilbrecht further stated that you told him that it was not your responsibility to turn the water off since you were not an employee of the park. Sheriff Hilbrecht also testified that at one point he asked you if you would agree to cease this behavior and simply stop leaving the spigots running continuously. Amazingly, per Sheriff Hilbrecht's testimony, you stated that you would not agree to do so.
- 3. Not surprisingly, the jury convicted you of Criminal Mischief, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, a Class B Misdemeanor. The Marshall District Court then placed certain conditions upon you as part of your sentence, which you are still under to this day. One of these conditions is not to be on any park property as ordered by the Marshall County Fiscal Court.
- 4. You have since then continued to waste court resources by filing an appeal which was denied, and a request for the Court of Appeals to hear your case, which was also denied.
- 5. You have furthermore continued to post bizarre videos on YouTube, one of which refers to Hargrove as "007 Park Boss."

In short, for the past several years, you have shown no remorse for your actions, nor have you shown any willingness that you would abide by park rules even if given access. In addition, park staff have stated to this body that they still do not feel safe or comfortable with you having

access to the park. Accordingly, it is the decision of the Marshall County Fiscal Court that you continue to be banned from entering or being upon any premises of the Marshall County Park System until at least the probationary period ends in your criminal case, which will be January 28, 2024. Shortly before the expiration of that date, you may once again ask this body to reconsider your request to be allowed back on county park property. Lastly, as before, please be advised that if you are found to be on park property in violation of this body's decision, you are subject to immediate arrest and prosecution for criminal trespass or other charges.

Sincerely,

**Kevin Spraggs** 

Marshall County Judge-Executive