

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky 2021-230 April 5, 2021

# RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE KENTUCKY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FRAUD DETECTION AND PREVENTION TASK FORCE

The Commonwealth of Kentucky, like many other states across the nation, is experiencing a surge in fraudulent unemployment insurance claims. Organized crime rings, using stolen identities that were accessed or purchased from the dark web, are responsible for many of these fraudulent unemployment insurance claims. Criminals are using these stolen identities to collect fraudulent benefits across multiple states, including Kentucky.

Numerous federal and state agencies are investigating fraud schemes targeting the unemployment insurance programs of various state workforce agencies across the United States. Immediate steps are necessary to identify vulnerabilities and develop solutions to counter, prosecute, and recover funds related to fraudulent unemployment insurance claims that have been filed in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of authority vested in me pursuant to Sections 69, 78 and 81 of the Constitution of Kentucky and KRS 12.029, do hereby Declare, Order and Direct the following:

- I. The Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Fraud Detection and Prevention Task Force ("Task Force") is hereby created and established. Its duties shall include coordinating between state and federal entities in detecting, investigating, prosecuting, and preventing unemployment insurance fraud in the Commonwealth.
- II. The Task Force shall consist of the following members:
  - 1. The Commissioner of the Kentucky State Police or his or her designee;
  - 2. The Executive Director of the Kentucky Department of Homeland Security or his or her designee, who shall serve as chair of the Task Force;



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- 3. The Secretary of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet or his or her designee; and
- 4. The Chief Information Officer for the Commonwealth of Kentucky or his or her designee.
- 5. The Executive Director of the Kentucky Office of Unemployment Insurance or his or her designee.
- III. Designees from the following federal and state entities may also be represented:
  - 1. The United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Kentucky;
  - 2. The United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Kentucky;
  - 3. The Federal Bureau of Investigation;
  - 4. The Homeland Security Investigations Branch of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security;
  - 5. Department of Homeland Security Office of Intelligence and Analysis;
  - 6. The United States Secret Service;
  - 7. The Office of Inspector General for the Department of Labor;
  - 8. The Diplomatic Security Service;
  - 9. The Kentucky Office of the Attorney General; and
  - 10. Other investigative entities that exercise purview and investigations for fraud, theft and conspiracy, as determined by the Governor.

ANDY BESHEAR, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky