



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

Matt Sawyers
COMMISSIONER

100 Airport Road, Third Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 573-2382
Fax: (502) 227-8691

January 27, 2026

Dear Magistrates, County Commissioners, Justices of the Peace and County Coroners:

In accordance with the provisions of KRS 64.527, the Department for Local Government calculates, by the second Friday in February of each year, the maximum allowable annual compensation for **County Magistrates, County Commissioners, Justices of the Peace and County Coroners**.

The calculation below is the result of the conventional application of the Consumer Price Index as adopted by the courts in Matthews v. Allen, KY, 360 S.W.2d 135 (1962), and results in a maximum allowable annual compensation of \$97,887.93 for county constitutional officers in calendar 2026.

Under the prescribed formula, salary maximums set in the 1949 Amendment of Section 246 of Kentucky's Constitution, to be paid to constitutional officers, are adjusted to reflect the current purchasing power of the dollar. The adjustments are based upon the Consumer Price Index maintained and reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. A news release issued by the Bureau establishes the Consumer Price Index, as of December 2025, at 970.722. The percentage increase over the previous twelve-month period is 2.7%. The Consumer Price Index for 1949 was 71.4.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{CPI in 1949} &= 71.4 & \text{CPI in 2025} &= 970.722 \\
 \frac{970.722}{71.4} &= \frac{X}{\$7,200} \\
 71.4 X &= (970.722)(\$7,200) \\
 X &= \$97,887.93
 \end{aligned}$$

The compensation amount generated by this computation reflects a maximum salary rather than a mandated salary.

If you have questions concerning these maximum salary levels, Robert Brown in the Office of Financial Management and Administration will welcome your call at 502-892-3433.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Matt Sawyers
Commissioner