

Ernie Fletcher
Governor



LaJuana S. Wilcher
Secretary

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Office of Insurance

Contact: Ronda Sloan
502/564-6098
502/330-1804 Cell

MUHLENBERG COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON
Filed fraudulent auto insurance claim

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Nov. 30, 2004) - A Muhlenberg County man was sentenced to five years in prison and ordered to pay \$800 in restitution after filing a fraudulent insurance claim for lost wages and injuries allegedly sustained in an automobile accident.

John W. Lyons of Belton was sentenced in Muhlenberg Circuit Court on Nov. 29. On Nov. 4, a jury found him guilty of committing fraudulent insurance acts over \$300. According to court documents, Lyons was not in the vehicle at the time of the accident.

The maximum penalty for committing fraudulent insurance acts over \$300 is five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine, or both imprisonment and a fine.

The Coalition Against Insurance Fraud estimates that insurance fraud totals \$80 billion annually and may cost the average American family up to \$950 annually.

KOI is an agency of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet.