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Three New York City firefighters raise an American flag at Ground Zero, site of the World Trade Center, on Sept. 11, 2001.

RICKY FLORES The Journal News/USA TODAY Network via Reuters Connect

On Sept. 11, 2001, a series of terror attacks in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania carved scars across our nation that continue to heal. To mark the anniversary, we pause to reflect on the tragedy of that day and the triumphs that rose from the ashes.

- Inside:** Read the story of a firefighter and the man he couldn't save, learn about the ways 9/11 changed our world, and see unforgettable images of loss and heroism.
- Special section in Edition:** Expanded coverage of the 25th anniversary, with more in-depth stories and striking visuals, can be found by visiting kentucky.com/edition.
- Online:** View a photo story of enduring images of Sept. 11 and its aftermath, and search a Legacy database of victims. kentucky.com.

FACT CHECK

Where do Lexington mayoral candidates stand on Flock cameras?

BY ADRIAN PAUL BRYANT
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Lexington has 125 Flock license plate reader cameras throughout the city, and has embraced the technology in the past, but the cameras have been controversial since they arrived in 2022 and have emerged as a talking point in the race for Lexington mayor.

Residents opposed to the cameras have cited fears about growing government surveillance and potential misuse by

police officers. Several Kentucky cities have gotten rid of their Flock cameras due to growing community opposition.

LINDA GORTON, INCUMBENT

Even as controversy around Flock cameras has persisted, Gorton says the Lexington Police Department's policy when the cameras were adopted, written with feedback from the ACLU, NAACP and other community groups concerned about the technology, has prevented misuse by Lexington officers.

"We have all heard the horror

stories in other cities where the (license plate reader) technology has been misused; however, in Lexington that has not happened because of our early work to set strict limits and protect the public," she told the Herald-Leader.

She says the cameras have been vital to the police department's work over the past four years. They've led to 32 missing persons being located, \$5.5 million worth of stolen vehicles being recovered and 166 weapons seized, she says.

In response to increased com-

munity pressure to remove the cameras, Gorton announced on Sept. 4 that she is creating an external review panel to look at the technology and recommend changes in the city's policy or perhaps recommend leasing the same type of cameras from a company other than Flock.

"Strong leadership means taking an unbiased, nonpolitical look at these issues rather than bending with the political winds," she said.

SEE CAMERAS, 12A

Former school superintendent ineligible for state retirement

BY VALARIE HONEYCUTT SPEARS AND BETH MUSGRAVE
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Former Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent Demetrus Liggins is not eligible to receive retirement benefits from the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, according to documents obtained by the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Liggins announced Aug. 14 he was retiring from the district, four days before the Fayette County Board of Education released a review of Liggins' conduct after months of back-and-forth over Liggins' fate.

The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System is a retirement plan for Kentucky's public school educators.

Liggins told Fayette school district officials Sept. 1 he did not retire through the state retirement system and was not seeking a payout of his unused sick days, according to documents received by the Herald-Leader through an Open Records Act request.

In an interview Wednesday, Fayette County Board of Education Chairman Tyler Murphy said "there was not a retirement settlement" or to his knowledge any other kind of payout as part of Liggins' departure from the district.

Emails obtained by the newspaper show district officials had questioned if Liggins qualified for retirement benefits.

In an Aug. 19 email, Kimberly M. Stevens, a school payroll specialist, asked Courtney Hill, a district retirement specialist, to contact KTRS to verify

SEE SUPERINTENDENT, 4A

Beshear says Bevin's arrest shows no one is above law

BY HANNAH PINSKI
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FRANKFORT

Gov. Andy Beshear said he doesn't believe that the arrest of former Gov. Matt Bevin gives Kentucky a "black eye."

Rather, Beshear said Wednesday afternoon at his weekly press conference that Bevin's arrest shows that no one is above the law.

"I think what it shows is the rule of law still applies in this commonwealth, even if it doesn't apply apparently in Washington D.C. to some in this country," Beshear said.

"You must obey a court order. You've had a chance to appeal it. It is basically final for that point in your process. You don't get to ignore it. This is what the rule of law is, and in Kentucky, it applies to everyone."

Bevin was arrested Sept. 3

SEE BESHEAR, 2A



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