

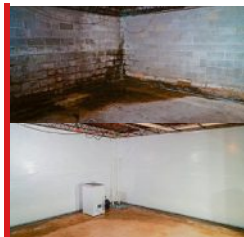
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The Gleaner

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Funeral services for Bardstown airman on April 11

Service member killed while supporting Operation Epic Fury

Caroline Neal

Louisville Courier Journal
 USA TODAY NETWORK

The funeral service for a Kentucky service member who died while supporting Operation Epic Fury will be April 11.

Tech. Sgt. Ashley B. Pruitt, 34, of Bardstown, and five other airmen were killed while aboard a KC-135 refueling tanker aircraft in western Iraq when the plane crashed in what military officials said was an accidental mid-air collision. President Donald Trump previously attended the crew's dignified transfer March 18 at Dover Air Force Base.

According to her obituary, Pruitt will arrive at Samuels Field Airport in Bardstown April 9 for a dignified transfer and escort through Bardstown. A funeral service for Pruitt will be April 11 at New Salem Baptist Church Cemetery. Cremation will follow the services.

She was a member of the 99th Air Refueling Squadron, based at the Sumpter Smith Joint National Guard Base in Birmingham, Alabama, according to an Air Force biography. Pruitt, who joined the Air Force in 2017 and accrued 2,749 flight hours during her career, served as an assistant flight chief of operations and boom operator for KC-135 aircraft.

"She was widely regarded as fierce, a true force of nature, and radiant — someone who could light up any room she entered," her obituary states. "Her determination, paired with a genuine sincerity in how she carried herself, earned her trust and respect far beyond her rank."



Former Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin questions his son, Jonah Bevin in Family Court on March 21, 2025. Jonah Bevin, 18, was seeking an emergency protective order against his parents. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CLEVENGER/COURIER JOURNAL

Arrest warrant against ex-Gov. Bevin recalled

Lucas Aulbach

Louisville Courier Journal
 USA TODAY NETWORK

An active warrant for the arrest of former Gov. Matt Bevin has been recalled by a Kentucky Court of Appeals judge.

In a March 27 order signed by Judge Audra J. Eckerle, the court determined the order of arrest was issued after Bevin had moved to disqualify Jefferson Family Court Judge Angela Johnson from his divorce case, which has remained open amid a push by one of the former governor's adopted sons for retroactive child support related to time he spent in his teen years at boarding schools for "troubled teens," one of which was closed over abuse allegations while he was in its custody.

Eckerle's order noted that under

Kentucky case law, a judge is barred from proceeding in a case after an affidavit to disqualify them is filed until the state Supreme Court rules or until a special judge is assigned to the case. Bevin filed an affidavit to disqualify Johnson on March 23, while she did not issue an arrest warrant until March 24.

Johnson found Bevin in contempt of court on March 20, arguing he had missed deadlines to turn over needed documents related to his finances ahead of his since-postponed March 27 trial in Family Court. Sentencing was set for March 24, but Bevin filed his motion to disqualify a day earlier, arguing Johnson had shown "personal bias and prejudice" and could no longer afford him "an impartial or fair trial in this action."

Johnson, at the March 24 hearing,

See **WARRANT**, Page 2A



Jefferson Family Court judge Angela Johnson listens to testimony but ultimately found that former Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin in contempt of court, March 20.

Raw beef, pork products may not have been inspected

Cheryl V. Jackson

USA TODAY NETWORK

There might be some uninspected meat in your fridge.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is warning that some raw beef and pork products are carrying a false mark of USDA inspection and have not actually been inspected by the federal agency.

Food that hasn't undergone USDA inspection might contain undeclared allergens, harmful bacteria, or other contaminants that put consumer health and safety at risk, the FSIS said.

The alert affects Blackwing meats produced between April 2024 and March 2026.

FSIS is concerned that some products are in currently in stores or con-

sumer freezers.

FSIS said the problem was discovered as part of an ongoing investigation, and it might expand the alert to include more products.

Where were the uninspected meats products sold?

Blackwing is an Illinois-based organic and all-natural meats distributor. Its products are in stores and food service operations across the U.S., according to the company's website.

What products are affected by the public health alert?

The following beef and pork products produced from April 2024 through March 2026 are subject to the public health alert:

- 5-lb. box of 8-oz. packages containing a VACUUM-PACKED piece of "BLACKWING ORGANIC MEATS ORGANIC BEEF NEW YORK STRIP STEAK," with "EST. 1996" inside the USDA mark of inspection.

- 10-lb. box of 16-oz. packages containing a VACUUM-PACKED package of "BLACKWING ORGANIC MEATS ORGANIC GROUND BEEF."

- 5-lb. box of 8-oz. packages containing a VACUUM-PACKED package of "BLACKWING ORGANIC MEATS GRASS FED ORGANIC BEEF STEW MEAT," with "EST. 1996" inside the USDA mark of inspection.

- 5-lb. box of 8-oz. packages containing a VACUUM-PACKED piece of "BLACKWING ORGANIC MEATS ORGANIC BEEF STEAK STRIPS," with "EST. 1996" inside the USDA mark of inspection.

- 1-lb. VACUUM-PACKED package of "BLACKWING MEATS BLACKWING BEEF GROUND FROM ORGANIC BEEF," without USDA mark of inspection.

- 12-oz. VACUUM-PACKED package of "BLACKWING MEATS PORK GROUND MADE FROM ORGANIC PORK," without USDA mark of inspection.

- 12-oz. VACUUM-PACKED package of "BLACKWING MEATS Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops 2-6oz Made from Organic Pork," without the USDA mark of inspection.

The first four products include the unauthorized use of establishment number "EST. 1996" inside a false USDA mark of inspection and were shipped to wholesale and retail locations nationwide.

See **INSPECTED**, Page 2A

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