

Official statement from West Louisville Minister's Coalition:
[as reported by WHAS News]

"While we appreciate Attorney General Jack Conway's timely response to our deadline of October 1, 2015 by issuing an official Opinion of the Attorney General (OAG 15-015) today, we are disappointed with his legal analysis and respectfully disagree.

His definition of a racial minority, for the purposes of board and commission appointments in Kentucky is incorrect.

The Opinion wrongfully cites KRS 12.070(1) as confirmation that a Hispanic is a racial minority. Indeed, KRS 12.070(1) only defines a minority, not a racial minority. We are not disputing that Hispanics and/or Latinos are considered minorities as it relates to the general representation and numbers in the population and demographics.

However, KRS 164.821(5) requires a racial minority which is not mentioned or defined in either KRS 164.821(5) or KRS 12.070(1). The Opinion acknowledges that the federal government does not include Hispanic as a category of race. Therefore, the University of Louisville Board of Trustees is still at least two (2) minorities away from complying with Kentucky law.

Moreover, we are even more disappointed that Attorney General Jack Conway merely suggested that Gov. Beshear voluntarily correct his wrongful actions. This kind of defiance of the law requires strong, fierce and quick legal action. We expect nothing less than what occurred the last time a Kentucky governor defied KRS 164.821 (*Galloway v. Fletcher*, 241 S.W.3d 819(Ky. Ct. App. 2007) and will be only be satisfied with legal compliance, even if by court order.

We will explore our next legal steps."
September 29, 2015