



English Lucas Priest & Owsley, LLP | *Strength. Knowledge. Experience.*

June 18, 2025

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

Mr. Leonard Whalen, Superintendent  
Dawson Springs Independent School District  
118 E. Arcadia Avenue  
Dawson Springs, KY 42408

Re: Representation by English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, LLP

Dear Superintendent Whalen:

We typically write to our clients annually to advise of our hourly rates for the upcoming year. While we would like to maintain our rates at their current level, the expenses associated with operating our firm necessitate a rate increase. As you know, we are all experiencing rising business costs in the areas of insurance premiums, vendor contracts, and technology, to name a few. We propose an increase of \$10 per hour effective July 1, 2025, and \$10 per hour beginning July 1, 2026. Enclosed is the fee summary of our charges.

It is a privilege to represent your board of education, and we value our relationship with you. We will continue to donate our time to the Kentucky School Boards Association, the Western Kentucky University/GRREC Law Conference, the Kentucky Association of School Business Officials (KASBO), the Kentucky Association of School Human Resource Managers (KASHRM) and other related activities. We will also continue to provide the best service possible to your district as effectively and efficiently as we can.

We look forward to continuing to work with you for many years to come. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,

*English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, LLP*

Michael A. Owsley  
Regina A. Jackson  
W. Cravens Priest, III  
Lindsay Tate Porter

/tlw  
Enclosure





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**SUMMARY OF FEES AND EXPENSES  
2025-2026 and 2026-2027 School Years**

**TO: DAWSON SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing our firm to represent your interests. In maintaining our commitment to keep you advised, the following is an outline of the schedule of fees and expenses to be charged by English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, LLP for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years. If you have any questions about the firm's billing practices, please contact our office.

FEES: The hourly rate charged depends on the nature of the work being performed and who is providing the service. Generally, the rate will be higher for the more senior attorneys who have broader experience. Rates for partners effective July 1, 2025 will be \$265 per hour, rates for associates will range from \$210 to \$235 per hour, and time for paralegals or legal assistants will be billed at \$145 per hour.\* Rates for partners effective July 1, 2026 will be \$275 per hour, rates for associates will range from \$220 to \$245 per hour, and time for paralegals or legal assistants will be billed at \$155 per hour. Statements are computerized and time is recorded to the nearest one-tenth of an hour. All statements reflect the initials of the timekeeper, description of the work performed, the amount of time (in .1 of an hour increments) for each entry. Detailed statements are sent to you monthly.

EXPENSES: Your statement will contain an itemization of expenses incurred on your behalf. Out-of-office reimbursable expenses include travel expenses, which may involve airfare (coach rate), mileage (at IRS approved rate, currently \$0.70/mile), motel, meals, parking, photographs, outside copy service and related out-of-pocket expenses. Office expenses include express mail service, messenger service, staff overtime directly related to this matter, preparation of presentation or trial exhibits, rental value of audio-visual equipment, etc. Investigator and expert charges, court reporter charges for deposition transcripts and witness statements, etc. may be forwarded directly to you for payment or, at the option of the firm, paid and included in your statement. **No charge is made for postage, long-distance telephone charges, in-house photocopies, or the expense of incoming or outgoing faxes.**

\* In some highly specialized areas, such as environmental, etc., a higher rate may apply. In that event, a separate engagement letter will be submitted.