

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sara Sgantas Phone: 859-392-1404 Sara.Sgantas@KentonCounty.org

KENTON COUNTY EXPANDS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANS WITH NEW CODERED SYSTEM Download the App and Enter Your Information Today

INDEPENDENCE, Ky. (May 8, 2017) – After a regional bidding process, Kenton County has joined Boone County in the implementation of the CodeRED system, a high-speed emergency notification service provided by Emergency Communications Network.

Kenton County has been provided an initial database of residential and business telephone numbers, however, all residents are encouraged to visit <u>http://bit.ly/KCCodeRED</u> to enroll additional contact information including cell phone numbers, text and email addresses. If you live in an area with reduced cellular/internet connectivity, please make sure to register your land line phone in addition to cellular devices. No one should automatically assume they are in the emergency contact database.

"The CodeRED system will provide County officials with a reliable, easy-to-use interface to quickly disseminate critical information to our citizens during emergencies. We are very eager to use this technology to enhance our emergency preparedness plans," said Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann. The County anticipates using the system to notify residents in specific geographic locations of emergencies such as fires, floods, and Amber Alerts and other critical announcements such as shelter information boil notices, shelter in place and evacuations.

The CodeRED system will be imperative to the County's emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and County personnel by using the system capabilities to send telephone calls, text messages, emails and social media in an effort to effectively inform residents to protect life and property.

"We need all residents to take the time to update their information," said Homeland Security & Emergency Management Director Steve Hensley. "The success of this system is dependent upon citizens entering their information. The more accurate contacts we have, the better we can notify County residents of emergencies."

The App can be downloaded for free from the iPhone App store as well as the Android Google Play store.