

Statement on Kentucky Charges Against Woman for Self-Managed Abortion - January 2026

Reproductive Futures

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Kentucky law explicitly exempts "any acts of a pregnant woman that caused the death of her unborn child" from prosecution under its fetal homicide statute. This is not ambiguous. The law enforcement officials who brought these charges either fundamentally misunderstand the law they are charged with enforcing, or are willfully ignoring it to advance an anti-abortion political agenda.

Reproductive Futures knows that continuing to protect the right to bodily autonomy and self managed care without criminalization is essential for all reproductive healthcare, but is particularly essential to preserving telemedicine abortion access nationwide.

— *Julie F. Kay, JD, Founder and Executive Director, Reproductive Futures*