

36TH

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

20
25

FEBRUARY 11
8:30AM - 12:00PM
CENTRAL BANK CENTER



Agenda

8:00 A.M.

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 A.M.

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Simon Sheather

Dean, Gatton College of Business and
Economics, University of Kentucky

Dr. Kenneth Troske

Richard W. and Janis H. Furst Endowed Chair
of Economics, Gatton College of Business
and Economics, University
of Kentucky

8:50 A.M.

A View from the Federal Reserve

Beth Hammack

President, Federal Reserve Bank
of Cleveland

9:20 A.M.

Q & A Federal Reserve

9:30 A.M.

Kentucky's Economic Outlook 2025

Dr. Michael Clark

Director of the Center of Business and
Economic Research, Gatton College of
Business and Economics, University
of Kentucky

10:00 A.M.

Break

10:20 A.M.

Price Dynamics in the Bourbon and Scotch Markets

Dr. Kenneth Troske

Richard W. and Janis H. Furst Endowed Chair
of Economics, Gatton College of Business
and Economics, University
of Kentucky

10:50 A.M.

Bluegrass Area Housing Market

Richard Gibbens

CEO, Bluegrass Realtors

11:30 A.M.

Q & A Speaker Panel

12:00 P.M.

Adjourn



Beth
Hammack

Beth M. Hammack serves as president and chief executive officer of the Cleveland Fed, responsible for all the Bank's activities, including those related to monetary policy, bank supervision, and payments services. Hammack has more than 30 years of experience in finance, capital markets, and risk management, as well as service on several advisory groups to the US Department of the Treasury and the financial industry. Most recently, she was cohead of global financing at the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., where she was a member of its management committee. Hammack has worked closely with US policymakers as chair of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee and as a member of the Financial Research Advisory Committee and the Treasury Market Practices Group, the latter of which aims to advance financial industry best practices. She is the chair of the board of the nonprofit Math for America and is also a member of the City Harvest board of trustees.



Dr. Michael
Clark

Mike Clark is the Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Kentucky's Gatton College of Business and Economics. Prior to coming to UK, Dr. Clark was the Chief Economist for the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission. His research focuses on labor, health, and economic development policies. He has conducted research for various Kentucky state agencies including the Department of Public Health, the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, and the Department of Income Support. He also forecasts revenues for the city of Lexington, Kentucky and Kentucky's unemployment insurance program. He earned a B.A. in Management and an M.S. and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Kentucky.

Speakers



Dr. Kenneth
Troske

Kenneth Troske is the Richard H. and Janis W. Furst Endowed Chair in Economics in the Gatton College of Business and Economics at the University of Kentucky (UK) and a Research Fellow with the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany. His primary research areas are labor and human resource economics. His papers have appeared in many leading journals in economics including the Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Review of Economics and Statistics, and the American Economic Review. Previously he worked at the University of Missouri-Columbia and the U.S. Census Bureau. He has also been a visiting scholar at the Melbourne Institute at the University of Melbourne and Australian National University.



Richard
Gibbens

Richard Gibbens serves as the CEO of Bluegrass Realtors and Imagine MLS in Lexington, Kentucky. With a proven track record of leadership, Richard has spearheaded innovative solutions and industry-first initiatives, earning recognition for his strategic vision and technology-forward approach. Previously, he was the Executive Director of Southwest MLS in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he brought awareness to his organization by embracing pilot programs and early-adopter technology. He also led the Central Panhandle Association of Realtors in Panama City, Florida as MLS Director, transforming the organization with a rebrand and policy overhaul to better serve its members. Richard holds several industry certifications, an MBA, and recently received the 2025 Inman News MLS Reinvented Award that celebrates the forward-thinking leaders who are shaping the future of the MLS. He will also be featured on the cover of the February 2025 issue of MLS PropTech Digest.