15.020 Chief law officer and adviser -- Duty to attend to litigation, write opinions, draft writings -- Communication with Legislative Research Commission -- When to appear for Commonwealth.

The Attorney General is the chief law officer of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and all of its departments, commissions, agencies, and political subdivisions, and the legal adviser of all state officers, departments, commissions, and agencies, and when requested in writing shall furnish to them his written opinion touching any of their official duties, and shall prepare proper drafts of all instruments of writing required for public use, and shall exercise all common law duties and authority pertaining to the office of the Attorney General under the common law, except when modified by statutory enactment. He shall communicate with the Legislative Research Commission as required by KRS 418.075. Except as otherwise provided in KRS 48.005 and 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 483, sec. 8, he shall appear for the Commonwealth in all cases in the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals wherein the Commonwealth is interested, and shall also commence all actions or enter his appearance in all cases, hearings, and proceedings in and before all other courts, tribunals, or commissions in or out of the state, and attend to all litigation and legal business in or out of the state required of him by law, or in which the Commonwealth has an interest, and any litigation or legal business that any state officer, department, commission, or agency may have in connection with, or growing out of, his or its official duties, except where it is made the duty of the Commonwealth's attorney or county attorney to represent the Commonwealth. When any attorney is employed for any said agency, the same shall have the approval of such agency before such employment. If any funds of any kind or nature whatsoever are recovered by or on behalf of the Commonwealth, in any action, including an ex rel. action where the Attorney General has entered an appearance or is a party according to statutory or common law authority, those funds shall be handled under KRS 48.005.

Effective: April 11, 2012

History: Amended 2012 Ky. Acts ch. 110, sec. 8, effective April 11, 2012. -- Amended 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 483, sec. 2, effective April 21, 2000. -- Amended 1996 Ky. Acts ch. 202, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1996. -- Amended 1976 Ky. Acts ch. 62, sec. 7. -- Amended 1944 Ky. Acts ch. 7, sec. 1. -- Amended 1942 Ky. Acts ch. 106, sec. 4. -- Recodified 1942 Ky. Acts ch. 208, sec. 1, effective October 1, 1942, from Ky. Stat. secs. 112-1, 112-5, 2711a-159.