



County Officials E-News

*Promoting better county government through
direct assistance to county officials and their associations*

NEW POSTING REQUIREMENTS & LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY Effective July 1, 2017

Public Chapter 467
SB 445 - HB 508

Pursuant to T.C.A. 39-17-1359, a county can prohibit the possession of weapons in and on county property by "posting" the property.

This statute does not apply to the grounds of any public park, natural area, historic park, nature trail, campground, forest, greenway, waterway or other similar public place that is owned or operated by a county. The carrying of firearms in those areas is governed by T.C.A. 39-17-1311, which prohibits the possession of firearms when the property is in use by a school.

NEW POSTING REQUIREMENTS

Effective July 1, 2017, local governments cannot POST county property unless all of the following are provided at each public entrance to the property: (1) metal detection devices, (2) a law enforcement or private security officer who has been trained to conduct inspections with metal detection devices, and (3) each person along with their possessions are inspected by a law enforcement or private security officer or an authorized representative with the authority to deny entry to the property.

EXCEPTIONS:

The new requirements for POSTING do not apply to the following properties: (1) facilities that are licensed under Title 33, Title 37, or Title 68; (2) schools and public parks while in use by any school; (3) courthouses and criminal justice centers (regardless of whether judicial proceedings are in progress); (4) buildings that contain a law enforcement agency; (5) libraries; or (6) facilities that are licensed by the Department of Human

Services under Title 71, Chapter 3, Part 5, and administer a Head Start program.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY

Effective July 1, 2017, a party who is adversely affected by an ordinance, resolution, policy, rule, or other enactment that is adopted or enforced by a county, that violates the new law, may file an action against the county for declaratory and injunctive relief and damages.

The new cause of action applies to any aforementioned ordinance, resolution, policy, rule, or other enactment that is adopted or enforced on or after July 1, 2017.

A prevailing plaintiff is entitled to recover from the county the following: (1) the greater of: (a) actual damages, including consequential damages, attributable to the ordinance, resolution, policy, rule, or other enactment; or (b) three times the plaintiffs attorney's fees; (2) court costs, including fees; and (3) reasonable attorney's fees; provided, that attorney's fees will not be awarded if the plaintiff recovers treble damages.

We recommend that counties immediately consult their county attorney to ensure that they are in full compliance with the new law.

See [NEW POSTING REQUIREMENTS & LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY](#) for a more detailed analysis.

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Training Opportunities

All classes are 8:30am-12:30pm local time.

OSHA

June 22-23—Alcoa | Alcoa Hilton Hotel

Risk Management

August 1—Johnson City | Carnegie Hotel

August 2—Knoxville | UT Conference Center

August 8—Jackson | Jackson Energy Authority

August 9—Murfreesboro | Embassy Suites

ACM Annual Conference

August 9-11—Murfreesboro | Embassy Suites



Register Today!

Online:

<http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu>

By Email:

ctas.training@tennessee.edu

By Phone:

615-532-3555

(Ask for Training)

Participant Cancellation Policy

Please cancel 3 days prior to a class if you cannot attend. Expenses are incurred for our classes based on the number of registrations that we have in each class.

Class Cancellation Policy

Each class requires a minimum of 15 participants for the class to be held. Classes with less than 15 participants enrolled will be cancelled.

Network of Care: Helping Veterans and Service Members Within Montgomery County

Montgomery County is a member of the Network of Care for service members, veterans and their families. This organization is a one-stop shop for virtually all services, information, support, advocacy, and much more. This public service brings together critical information for all components of the veterans' community, including veterans, family members, active-duty personnel, reservists, members of the National Guard, employers, service providers, and the community at large.

Fort Campbell US Army Base, home to the 101st Airborne Division and the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, is located partially in Montgomery County. With a population of over 189,000 (in 2014) in the portion of the base within Clarksville, support for veterans and service members is an

important topic for the county.

Network of Care offers many services including the ability to browse local, regional and national services, search and save articles, and research medications. The website also contains a personal health record tool for users to keep up with their medical information and records.

For more information, visit the Network of Care website for Montgomery County: <http://montgomery.tn.networkofcare.org/veterans/index.aspx>.



County Spotlight

Jefferson County

The county seat, Dandridge, was named for Martha Dandridge Washington, wife of the first American president, George Washington. During World War II, the Tennessee Valley Authority decided to build a dam over the French Broad River in Dandridge. Under the original plans for the dam, the city of Dandridge would have been subject to flooding by the dam. Concerned citizens made an appeal to First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt to save Dandridge, noting that it was the only city in the U.S. named after Martha Washington. Mrs. Roosevelt heard their appeal and made sure that a levee was built to protect Dandridge from flooding. The levee is visible today just behind the Dandridge City Hall.

County Seat: Dandridge
2010 Census Population: 51,407
County Government Consultant:
Rick Hall
rick.hall@tennessee.edu



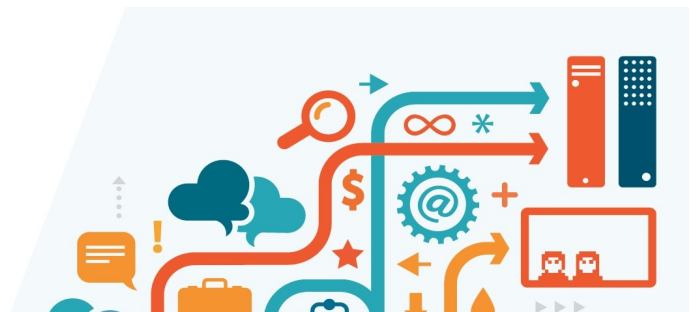
That's Cool! Hartsville/Trousdale County Metropolitan Government County Commission Student Representative Program

The County Commission in Hartsville/Trousdale County offers an interesting opportunity for high school seniors: the chance to be a student representative on the county legislative body.

The Commission Chairman sends a letter of invitation each year to high school seniors to apply for the program. Students write an essay along with their application to describe their what they hope to learn from serving as a student representative.

Student representatives meet with the County Commission from September to August and are offered opportunities to attend committee meetings, work sessions, and the commission meeting every month. It is the hope of the Hartsville/Trousdale County Commission that student representatives come away from the experience with a unique perspective gained from witnessing local government in action.

Last year's application and letter are available on our website if you are interested in this type of program for your county. Download them here: <http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/sites/default/files/Student%20Representative%20Application.pdf>.



Comptroller's Annual Budget Memo to Counties

On March 28, 2017, the Comptroller's Office of State and Local Finance (OSLF) released its [Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Budget Memo for Tennessee Counties](#). The budget memo contains important information related to the annual budget process, including the following –



- ♦ All counties that have issued debt or entered into a loan agreement with a Public Building Authority must obtain approval of their budget from the OSLF.
- ♦ The complete budget, with required supporting documentation, should be sent to OSLF within 15 days after adoption. The budget package must include physical copies of all documents with relevant schedules, and a signed and certified original copy of the appropriation and tax levy resolution.
- ♦ County legislative bodies are to adopt a budget for the upcoming fiscal year by June 30.
 - ◊ If the county is operating under the general law, the County Budgeting Law of 1957, or the Financial Management Act of 1981, and fails to adopt a budget by June 30, the county may continue operations under a continuation budget until August 31.
 - ◊ In those counties, an appropriation resolution must be adopted by August 31 (unless the county obtains approval from OSLF to extend its continuation budget through September 30 under extraordinary circumstances).
- ♦ County legislative bodies have a duty to adopt a property tax levy by the first Monday in July or as soon as possible thereafter.
- ♦ The property tax levy or amended property tax levy must be adopted in sufficient time for property tax notices to be sent prior to the first Monday in October.

The budget memo also contains the contact information for the OSLF budget analysts. Each analyst is assigned counties based on alphabetical listing.

As always, you may contact your [CTAS County Government Consultant](#) with any budget questions. We are here to help you.



County Technical Assistance Service
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