

# County Officials E-News Promoting better county government through direct assistance to county officials and their associations.

## **County Officials Orientation Program (COOP) Murfreesboro - Embassy Suites Hotel**

### Save the Date!

August 20-21, 2018

Clerks of Court, County Clerks, Registers, & Trustees August 22-23, 2018

County Mayors/Execs, Highway Officials, & Commissioners

The **County Officials Orientation Program (COOP)** provides county officials, both newly elected and re-elected, with important information as they prepare to assume office on September 1. Topics include county offices and authority, oaths and bonds, personnel issues, ethics, conflict of interest, open meetings and records. All sessions carry credit for the County Officials Certificate Training Program (COCTP). Information about COCTP will be presented at COOP.

COOP will be held at the **Embassy Suites Hotel in Murfreesboro**, 1200 Conference Center Blvd, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

#### Registration

You will receive program agendas and registration information in the mail after the general election on August 2, 2018.

Information and incumbent registration for COOP will be available at www.ctas.tennessee.edu soon.

#### Lodging

Make your hotel reservations now. To reserve a room at the Embassy Suites hotel special conference rate of \$139, call (615) 890-4464 and use code COO before July 20.

This rate will increase significantly after July 20.

We need to ensure all attendees are able to stay at the conference rate. *Please do not reserve more rooms than you need.* 



County Spotlight: Scott County



New InfoByte: Why Can't I Get Married?



Statewide Purchasing Forum: Sept 13



County Training Survey: Tell Us Your Needs

## County Spotlight Scott County



County Seat: Huntsville 2010 Population: 22,228 County Government Consultant:

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The USS (that is, United States Ship) Tennessee was a battleship commissioned in 1919 and taken out of service 40 years later.

It was one of the battleships damaged, but not sunk, at Pearl Harbor, and later in World War II. The USS Tennessee took part in battles in the Philippines, Leyte Gulf, at Tarawa, Iwo Jima and at Okinawa, where a kamikaze airplane attack killed 22 of its sailors.

Today there is a museum devoted to memory of the USS Tennessee next to Scott County High School, of all places. It exists mainly because of the devotion of Paul and Karen Dawson.

Scott County is known for having seceded from Tennessee in protest of the state's decision to join the Confederacy during the Civil War, and subsequently forming The Free and Independent State of Scott. The proclamation was finally repealed, over a hundred years later, by Scott County in 1986.

## New InfoByte: Why Can't I Get Married?

Effective May 21, 2018 the state legislature changed the marriage laws regarding applicants under the age of 18. It's important for county clerks, as well as other county officials, to understand the new requirements. Why Can't I Get Married explains the changes

as well as the penalty for violations.

Click here to view this new InfoByte: Why Can't I Get Married?



## Statewide Purchasing Forum: September 13, 2018

Save the date for September 13, 2018 when the Tennessee Central Procurement Office will host a Statewide Purchasing Forum. The one-day event will highlight statewide contracts available to local governments, higher education and non-profits.

Statewide contracts are negotiated and managed by the State of Tennessee Central Procurement Office. a division of the Department of General Services. These contracts are available to local government, higher education and qualifying non-profits, who may purchase from these compliant contracts to save time and money.

Registration information will be available soon from the Central Procurement Office.



Central Procurement Office

ONE-DAY EVENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, HIGHER EDUCATION AND NON PROFITS

### Statewide Purchasing Forum

#### CTAS Conducting Training Needs Assessment

In an effort to better understand the county-related training needs of officials and staffs, we at CTAS are asking for input about past experiences and future needs. The hope is to collect data during the next couple of months to determine what county officials want from their training, whether or not it is offered by the agency, as well as what methods of receiving that training might look like in the future.

We have rolled out an online survey that should only take about five minutes to complete. Questions include educational opportunities county officials/employees are already using; preferred methods of receiving training; and why, if applicable, officials are not currently participating in training.

For officials/employees who are interested in county-related training, we also would like to know dates and times of day

live courses would be preferred and the types of courses they most want, including topics.

We will use the data we collect to determine possible improvements to its training activities. Given this is an election year, the results should give us a better idea of what those in office want from the agency.

To participate in the survey, please click here: http://bit.ly/countytraining.

#### Flag Displays: Amendment Prohibiting Restrictive Resolutions

Public Chapter 857 amended Tennessee Code Annotated Title 5, Chapter 5, Part 1, effective May 3, 2018, to prohibit a county legislative body from adopting or enforcing a resolution or ordinance that prohibits or restricts, or has the effect of prohibiting or restricting, a property owner from displaying a flag of the United States of America, a flag of the state of Tennessee, the MIA/POW flag, or an official or replica flag of any branch of the United States armed forces on the property owner's property. A county legislative body may adopt and enforce a resolution or ordinance that reasonably regulates the manner and placement of the display of a flag of the United States of America, a flag of the state of Tennessee, the



MIA/POW flag, or an official or replica flag of any branch of the United States armed forces only when necessary to promote public health and safety.

Have questions? Give your County Government





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