

COUNTY OFFICIALS E-NEWS

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

November 2014

TCSA Recognizes County Success Stories

At the recent Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA) Fall Conference, several counties were recognized for innovative, successful programs. We are presenting the winning programs and projects in the hope that one county's success may provide others with inspiration. Click the link below to learn more about these projects and to obtain county contact information.



[TCSA Success Stories 2014](#)

Greene County

Constructed the second county-owned hot-mix asphalt plant in the state, saving the county approximately \$2,380,500 in production costs.

Lawrence County

Implemented the county's own geographic information system (GIS) database of all roads and bridges, which assisted in applying for disaster relief for the county.

Knox County

Installed a video monitoring system at convenience centers for \$1,000 per center and improved customer service.

Roane County

Developed several initiatives to improve communication between county executive's office, county commission, and the public. Also developed three successful fiscal policies to address issues facing the county.

Tipton County

Implemented a joint venture with the Dyersburg State Community College Tipton County campus and the Tipton County Public Library to expand library services.



Please take a moment to review and confirm your listing in the CTAS County Officials Directory.

You can view your listing via the CTAS website at <http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/public/web/ctas.nsf/Directory?readform>.

We appreciate your helping us keep the Directory up to date!

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CTAS Training Opportunities for January 2015

CTAS is excited to announce the following training opportunities coming up in January. You may register for these classes on the [CTAS Training webpage](#).

All January classes will be open for registration on December 1, 2014.

Legal Issues for County Clerks, Registers of Deeds, and Trustees

Category A/Core

Date: January 30, 2015

Time: 8:30am — 12:30pm central time

Location: Franklin Embassy Suites

Instructors: Libby McCroskey (County Clerks), Kristy Brown (Registers of Deeds) and Steve Austin (Trustees)

Course Description: These three classes will discuss legal issues that pertain to each office.

Managing Your Office Efficiently

Category B/Elective

Dates & Locations: January 6, 2015 Johnson City – Carnegie Hotel
January 7, 2015 Knoxville – UT Conference Center
January 14, 2015 Jackson – TDOT Regional Office
January 15, 2015 Franklin – Embassy Suites

When: 8:30am — 12:30pm local time

Instructor: Dan Elkins

Course Description: *Coming soon* — The CTAS website will be updated with this information as soon as it is available.

Incident Command

Category A/Elective

Dates & Locations: January 13, 2015 Murfreesboro – Doubletree Hotel
January 21, 2015 Johnson City – Carnegie Hotel
January 22, 2015 Knoxville – UT Conference Center
January 27, 2015 Jackson – TDOT Regional Office

Time: 8:30am — 12:30pm local time

Instructors: Kevin Lauer and Mac Purdy

Course Description: When disaster strikes your community, it is imperative that the local officials be able to understand the basis, as well as the federal requirements, of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This course will introduce key leaders from cities and counties to this concept to not only assist with the mitigation of the disaster, but also prepare for the recovery phase of the operations which includes the complex reimbursement procedures of the federal government.

Don't forget to attend!

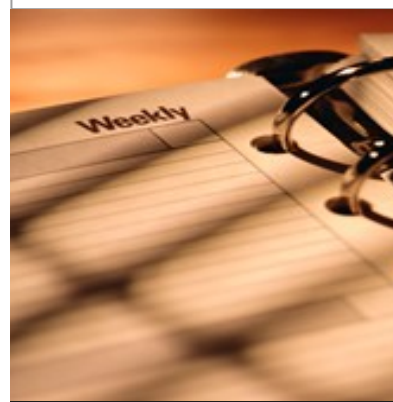


ACM Strategic Leadership Conference

December 17-19, 2014

**Sheraton Downtown
Nashville**

[Registration Form](#)



Mark your calendar!



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County Spotlight
Lawrence County



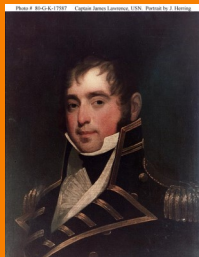
County Seat:
Lawrenceburg

Population: 41,869

County Government Consultant:

Doug Bodary

Lawrence County was named in honor of Captain James Lawrence (1781-1813), who became known for his famous quote:

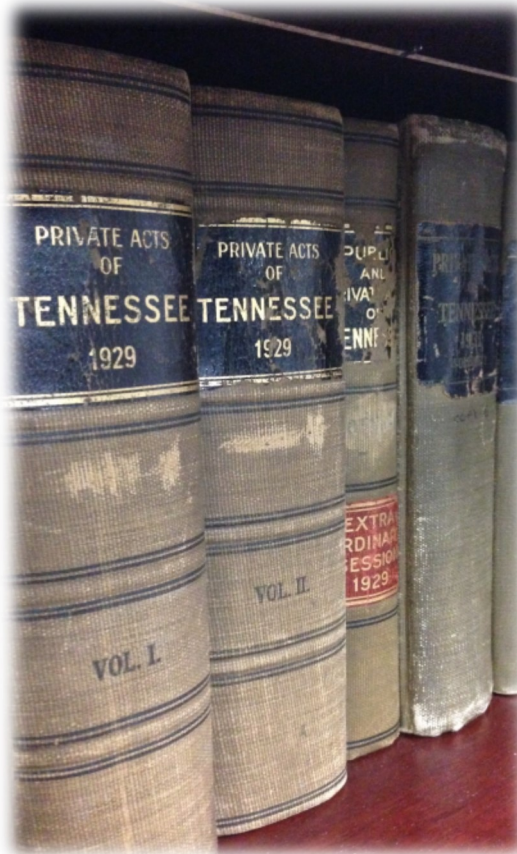


“Don’t give up the ship! Blow her up.”

Captain Lawrence commanded the USS *Chesapeake* in an 1813 battle with the Royal Navy’s ship, HMS *Shannon*.

For more information, visit:
<http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org>

Amending Private Acts This Year?



If your county will be asking the General Assembly to enact new or amended private acts this legislative session, there’s no need to wait for the legislature to reconvene in January. You can send your resolutions requesting these changes to your legislator now and get the review process started. The General Assembly’s Office of Legal Services must review all proposed legislation, including private acts, and they have more time before the session starts to process your private act requests.

If you need assistance with private acts or amendments, CTAS can help. Please contact your CTAS county government consultant.



TCHOA

Regional Highway Meetings Schedule

<u>Region</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Region 1	Thursday, December 4	6:00pm	The Point, Dandridge, TN
Region 2	Thursday, December 11	11:30am	Sewanee Inn, 1235 University Ave, Sewanee, TN
Region 3	Tuesday, December 9	11:30am	Elk Lodge, Columbia, TN
Region 4	Wednesday, December 10	11:00am	Double Tree Hotel, Jackson, TN

Clean Tennessee Energy Grants Cycle Now Open

Governor Haslam and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation have [officially announced](#) the next cycle of Clean Tennessee Energy Grants. This grant program is open to local and quasi-governments only and provides an excellent opportunity to address energy issues such as:



- Cleaner Alternative Energy - biomass, geothermal, solar, wind
- Energy Conservation - lighting, HVAC improvements, improved fuel efficiency, insulation, idling minimization
- Air Quality Improvement - reduction in greenhouse gases, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, oxides of nitrogen, hazardous air pollutants

The maximum grant amount per project is \$250,000 and requires a match from the applicant. **Grant applications are [available on TDEC's website](#) and will be accepted until January 30, 2015.**

Recipients are expected to be announced by late spring. Grant recipients will be selected with careful consideration given to the projects that meet the selection criteria and express the greatest need.

To learn more about the Clean Tennessee Energy Grant or to obtain an application, please visit www.tn.gov/environment/grants_energy.shtml or contact Kathy Glapa at (615) 253-8780 or kathy.Glapa@tn.gov.

Tennessee Weatherization Assistance Program

Available in All 95 Counties

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) administers the Weatherization Assistance Program to help low-income households reduce their fuel costs. THDA coordinates with local agencies in all of Tennessee's 95 counties to provide this assistance. Weatherization assistance

provided by this program includes weather stripping, caulking, and adding insulation to attics, walls and floors. Households that include children, elderly or disabled members are given priority in the program.



The [THDA website contains more information](#) about this valuable program. A [list of agencies](#) that help coordinate the Weatherization Assistance Program is also available.

Education Funding Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How can money generated in the Basic Education Program (BEP) formula be spent locally?

A: Funds generated in the **Instructional** category must be spent in the Instructional category. Funds generated in the **Classroom** category can be spent in the Classroom or Instructional category. Funds generated in the **Non-Classroom** category can be spent in the Non-Classroom, Classroom or Instructional category.

Q: What is the difference in the BEP required local match and maintenance of effort (MOE)?

A: The **BEP required local match** is calculated through the BEP and is the funding requirement the formula places on a local government's funding body. **MOE is a state law** requiring a local funding body to fund K-12 education at the same level it funded K-12 education the prior year, unless there has been a reduction in enrollment. The BEP required local match and MOE can be the same amount until the local funding body raises K-12 funding above the BEP required local match. At that point the MOE is chief funding requirement for the local government's funding body.

Q: Where can I find resources on the BEP?

A: The State Board of Education website <http://www.tn.gov/sbe/bep.shtml> and specifically the [BEP Blue Book](#). Your CTAS county government consultant can also provide a copy of your county's actual BEP calculation.

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE 
COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE

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County Officials E-News is published on a monthly basis by The University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service to bring important information to county officials across Tennessee. For any questions or comments about this newsletter, please email Liz Gossett, CTAS E-Media & Information Specialist, at liz.gossett@tennessee.edu.