

County Officials E-News

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

New Requirements for CDL Drivers Working in Counties

Employees who drive exclusively for the county and do not drive for private companies are exempt from obtaining a medical examiner's certificate (DOT medical card). However, they are required to complete and submit the "Supplemental Application For Commercial Driver License." A copy of the form and instructions [can be found here](#).

1. Drivers should complete the *Supplemental Application For Commercial Driver License* located [here](#).
2. Employees driving exclusively for counties should certify the exemption by checking box 2 on the form.
3. In addition to the form, if driver is claiming medical examiner's certificate exemption for being a county employee, then they are required to submit with the form a copy of the employee's county identification card or a letter on the county's letterhead stating the employee is a county employee.



The due date for this form has already occurred. There is a 60-day waiver period for drivers to submit this form. **The waiver period ends March 31, 2014.**

Please note:

All CDL drivers are required to complete this form. If you are required to have a medical card you will need to follow the instructions and submit a copy of your card. County CDL drivers with a *hazmat*, *school bus*, or *passenger vehicle* endorsements are required to have a DOT medical card.

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Middle Tennessee Rural Reentry: Improving Communities

On February 11 at County Government Day, Christine Hopkins, M.Ed., and Warren Laux, Ed.D., presented the Middle Tennessee Rural Reentry program to the County Mayors and to the County Commissioners. This program, started in 2007, has three goals: 1) Reduce recidivism of prisoners; 2) Train prisoners to become productive members of society; and 3) Improve public safety.

The goals of the program are achieved through partnership with sheriffs, mayors, county commissioners, and businesses to provide education and training for inmates. Opportunities for completing a GED (General Educational Development) program, learning employment skills such as interviewing, resume writing, and job searching, and computer training. Inmates also receive training for responsible parenting, dealing with addiction and mental illness and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT). MRT is a 12-step program designed to help individuals break self-destructive cycles and learn to make positive choices.

To date, three Tennessee counties have joined the program – Franklin, Coffee and Warren. Since October 2012, 78 inmates have been successfully employed through the Middle Tennessee Rural Reentry program.

Future plans for the program include seeking partnerships with manufacturers, designing mobile training, and expansion into other counties.

For more information on the Middle Tennessee Rural Reentry program, please contact:

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The presentation slides are available on the [CTAS website](#).



Hickman County

County Seat:**Population: 23,805****Field Consultant:**

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Hickman County was named for Edwin Hickman, an explorer and surveyor who was killed in an Indian attack in the area in 1791.

The county was established in 1807, and named for Hickman at the suggestion of Robert Weakley, a legislator who had been a member of Hickman's surveying party.

Some notable Hickman County natives include songwriter Beth Slater Whitson ("Let Me Call You Sweetheart") and Grand Ole Opry star Minnie Pearl. The county has a total area of 613 square miles and boasts of numerous water resources including the Duck River, which bisects the county and is the most bio-diverse river channel in the northern hemisphere.

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



Spotlight on CTAS Services

County Government Consultants

County government covers a vast array of services that range from licensing to accounting to water management. Many counties find that they need some technical assistance for certain aspects of running a local government. CTAS provides this technical assistance directly to counties via our County Government Consultants.

County Government Consultants provide technical assistance to county governments for a wide range of needs, including the following:

- Developing budgets
- Creating revenue projections
- Conducting debt analysis & developing debt policies
- Navigating personnel issues
- Training officials and employees
- Assisting in development of policies and policy implementation
- Assisting with reports on highway department five year averages of local funding
- Developing jail cost reports
- Assisting with accounting issues and implementing changes in accounting standards
- Providing counties with assistance in legal compliance and information on changes in laws and regulations
- Assisting with litter grant reporting
- Assisting with understanding and working through planning issues
- Developing animal control policies



Also, if you need assistance in identifying your County Government Consultant, please call CTAS at 615-532-3555.

Upcoming Events

[CTAS Training](#) | [Events Calendar](#)

March 4, 5, 11, 12 – Writing Quality Job Descriptions (Various locations)

April 1, 2, 15, 16 - New Regulations in Workers Compensation (Various locations)

May 7, 8, 27, 28 – Workplace Safety (Various locations)

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE 

COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE



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<https://www.facebook.com/UTCountyTechnicalAssistanceService>



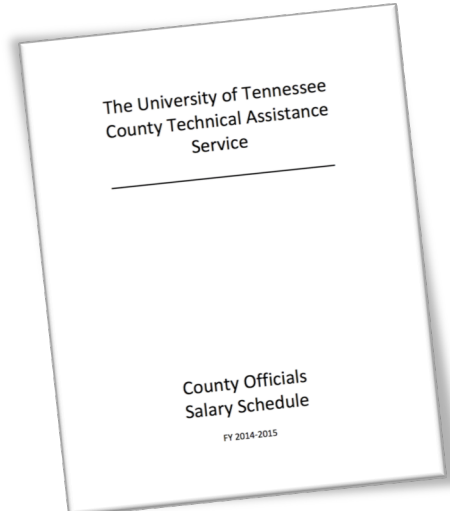
County Officials' Salaries Now Available

CTAS has posted the required minimum county officials' salaries for FY 2015 on the Reference Materials section of the CTAS website available at

<http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/public/web/ctas.nsf/Reference?readform>.

To access the salary schedule, select 2014-2015 from the dropdown box titled "County Officials Salaries." The salary schedule should automatically open in a new tab in your browser.

Please be sure to enable pop-ups for the CTAS website prior to downloading the salary schedule.



THE UNIVERSITY of
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County Officials E-News is published monthly to bring important information to county officials. For any questions or comments about the newsletter, please send Liz Gossett, CTAS E-Media & Information Specialist, an email at liz.gossett@tennessee.edu.