



Pickett County Courthouse

County Spotlight: *Pickett*

Population: 4,945
County Seat: Byrdstown

Did you know?

Pickett County lost a majority of its best farmland in 1943 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dammed the Obey River and created the Dale Hollow Reservoir.

Pickett County is the birthplace of Cordell Hull, U.S. congressman and senator and secretary of state under Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Hull received the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in founding the United Nations.

For more information, visit:
www.tennesseeencyclopedia.net

REMINDER: Statements of Disclosure of Interest due by January 31

All local public officeholders and all candidates for a local public office are required to file a Statement of Disclosure of Interests (Form SS-8005) with the Tennessee Ethics Commission. This requirement also applies to those officials who have been appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected public office. This year's deadline for filing the statement for current officeholders is January 31. The deadline for local candidates is 30 days after the last day provided by law for qualifying as a candidate.

Form SS-8005 can be accessed by clicking [here](#). The form can be filed online by going to www.tennessee.gov/sos/tec/forms.htm or can be filed by mail by printing and mailing to the Tennessee Ethics Commission, 404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 104, Nashville, TN 37243. If you have questions about the disclosure requirement or form, contact the commission office at (615) 741-7959 or e-mail ethics.counsel@state.tn.us.

Public Chapter 1084: EMS Background Check Requirement

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) directors should be aware that legislation is now in effect concerning background checks for applicants who will be providing direct patient care. This legislation became effective October 1, 2010.

According to Public Chapter 1084, before any person who will be providing direct patient care is hired, health care facilities, emergency medical services, and individual health professionals are required by law to conduct background checks using the state sex offenders registry, the state abuse registry and the abuse registries for states in which the prospective employee has lived in the previous 7 years.

Directors may find the legislation and a link to abuse registers on the Tennessee Department of Health EMS Division's website: <http://health.state.tn.us/ems/>. Once there, select the link "Background Checks Required for Those Providing Direct Patient Care."

EMS directors also need to check with their human resources and risk managers to determine how they wish to handle compliance with the new legislation.

Jail Management Training Opportunity

Starting next month, CTAS will offer a series of state-wide workshops entitled "Managing the Jail through Effective Staffing."

This course will discuss the challenges that jail administrators are faced with in staffing their facilities. It will look at the symptoms versus causes in the overuse of compensatory time and overtime. The workshop will briefly cover the staffing analysis process and describe when they should be conducted. Participants will explore the benefits of managing the jail through effective staffing and discuss the characteristics of the jail setting that impact staffing. Ideas on basic data collection, establishing daily routines and managing both internal and external jail activities as they relate to jail staffing will be discussed. The class will also look at the topic of net annual work hours and address the importance of monitoring these hours and how they can be managed.

Please Note: This training is strictly for jail administrators, personnel in leadership positions in jails (not a line officer), chief deputies and sheriffs. The class size will be limited to 30 participants. For more information, please see the attached postcard (📄).

Have comments or suggestions for this newsletter?
Contact Claire Marsalis at claire.marsalis@tennessee.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 1	Incident Command for Local Officials, Franklin
Feb. 10	County Budgeting Workshop, Athens
Feb. 14	County Budgeting Workshop, Jackson
Feb. 16	County Budgeting Workshop, Franklin
Feb. 18	GASB Statement 54 Workshop, Athens
Feb. 18	Managing the Jail Workshop, Knoxville
Feb. 22	Managing the Jail Workshop, Murfreesboro
Feb. 23	GASB Statement 54 Workshop, Jackson
Feb. 24	GASB Statement 54 Workshop, Franklin

*For more detailed event information, click [here](#)

P.O.S.T. Adopts Model Policy on Citizenship Status

The Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission has established a model policy to be used to verify the citizenship status of individuals who are arrested, booked or confined for any period in a county or municipal jail or detention facility.

The adopted policy requires the keeper of a jail to ask an individual two questions during processing: (1) What is your place of birth? (2) Are you a citizen of the United States? If the individual indicates he/she was born in a foreign country and/or states he/she is not a citizen of the U.S. then a booking package should be forwarded to the local office of the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE).

To view this new policy in its entirety, double-click the icon (📄).

County Officials E-News is a monthly newsletter provided by the University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service in an effort to promote better county government through direct assistance to county officials and their associations.

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