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## Mission Statement

The Mission of the Tennessee Auctioneers Commission is to protect the public through the establishment and administration of minimum requirements for candidates and licensees, effective professional education of licensees and enforcement of professional conduct.

State of Tennessee  
Department of Commerce & Insurance  
500 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1152  
Phone: 615-741-3600  
Fax: 615-253-1179  
[www.tn.gov/commerce/section/auctioneers](http://www.tn.gov/commerce/section/auctioneers)

## How to Renew a License: CORE

In September 2015, the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance implemented a new online platform. The Comprehensive Online Regulatory and Enforcement (CORE) platform has been implemented with the goal of simplifying the license renewal process for all licensees. The Tennessee Auctioneer Commission has fully implemented the CORE platform.

CORE allows licensees to renew multiple licenses from one location using a variety of payment options without added processing fees. It also provides an easy-to-use method for attaching continuing education certificates for licensees.

Registration with the new CORE system is simple and user-friendly. Licensees will need to set up a user account the first time they use the CORE platform. Once registered, licensees can simply log-in to verify expiration dates and complete renewal processes.

All auctioneers, apprentices, gallery and firm license holders are encouraged to visit the CORE site at <https://core.tn.gov> to register their secured user account.

Below is a screen shot of the CORE homepage. Information needed to register is your license number, the last four digits of your social security number and your mailing address zip code as on file with the licensing office - then simply follow the prompts.

*"The Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access, and affirmative action." Contact the EEO Coordinator or ADA Coordinator at 615-741-2177(TDD).*

## Auction Business Licenses: Gallery, Firm & Non-Auctioneer Firm

The Tennessee auctioneer licensing law requires all auctioneer and apprentice auctioneer licenses to be affiliated with a properly licensed auction firm (T.C.A. § 62-19-111(g)). There are two (2) types of firm licenses offered under T.C.A. § 62-19-111(h) that address the differences between an auction firm owned by an auctioneer and a firm owned by a non-auctioneer. Tennessee also has a gallery license for an auction house, auction barn, auction gallery or any other type of auction operating at a fixed site that is different from the firm licenses (T.C.A. § 62-19-125).

The following chart outlines the differences between the licenses. Note: The auctioneer owned firm does not require Qualifying Education or a State Exam because these requirements are met with the Auctioneer license. A detailed explanation of each license type follows the chart.

License Type	HS Diploma or GED	Age	Education	State Exam	Other
Gallery	No	18	30 Hour Qualifying Education	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Business location with sign</li> <li>2. Escrow account</li> <li>3. Gallery owner hires auctioneer to call bids</li> <li>4. Can conduct business at licensed address only</li> </ol>
Non-Auctioneer Owned Firm	yes	18	30 Hour Qualifying Education	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal Auctioneer (non-owner)</li> <li>2. Business location with Sign</li> <li>3. Escrow account</li> <li>4. Can conduct business within Tennessee</li> </ol>
Auctioneer Owned Firm	Yes	18	None	No	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal Auctioneer (owner)</li> <li>2. Business location with sign</li> <li>3. Escrow account</li> <li>4. Can conduct business within Tennessee</li> </ol>

### Gallery License (T.C.A. § 62-19-125):

A gallery license is issued to the owner and operator of an auction house, auction barn, auction gallery or other auction business operating at a fixed location for the purpose of selling consigned or purchased goods.

The gallery license holder can only operate at the licensed location; may sign consignment agreements, issue closing statements and manage the escrow account. The gallery license holder must hire a licensed auctioneer to call bids at all auctions.

The gallery license holder may not call bids or act as an auctioneer at any time.

To obtain a gallery license, one must be eighteen (18) years of age, have successfully completed at least thirty (30) hours of approved classroom education, take and successfully pass an examination prescribed by the commission, provide an escrow affidavit and pay all licensing fees as set by the commission.

### Firm License (T.C.A. § 62-19-111(h)):

A firm license is issued to either an auctioneer or non-auctioneer wishing to own and operate an auction business for the purpose of selling real or personal property at any location in the state of Tennessee (T.C.A. § 62-19-115). The requirements of this license will vary based upon the license status of the owner and are provided in the chart above.

A licensed auctioneer associated with an auction firm must arrange all auctions conducted in the state of Tennessee and every firm must have a principal auctioneer of record who is responsible for the actions of the firm.

## Gallery, Firm & Non-Auctioneer Firm (continued)

A non-auctioneer owned firm must have at least one (1) licensed auctioneer to conduct and call auctions for the firm at each location involved in the auction sales (TENN. COMP. R. & REGS. 0160-01-.16(2)). The licensed auctioneer will be recorded as the principal auctioneer and is responsible for the advertising and management of an auction sale and shall be responsible for the accounting and distribution of auction proceeds and sign the closing statement.

To obtain a non-auctioneer owned firm license, one must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, have successfully completed thirty (30) hours of classroom education, take and successfully pass an examination prescribed by the commission, provide an escrow affidavit and pay all licensing fees as set by the commission.

When the licensed principal auctioneer is also applying as the owner of the firm license, no class-room education is required.

The applicant for a firm license must have attained a high school diploma or a GED prior to making application.

To reference the full legal descriptions, requirements and limitations of these licenses, please carefully review T.C.A. §§ 62-19-111, 62-19-115, 62-19-125, and TENN. COMP. R. & REGS. 0160-01-.01 and 0160-01-.16.

**Legal Disclaimer:** *This article is for educational and informational purposes only, and is not legal advice. No action should be taken in reliance upon this information. While efforts have been made to provide current information, the above information may not include the latest developments in the law or may be incomplete. You should contact an attorney with any questions regarding the above information.*

## COMMISSION CALENDAR

April 4, 2016	9:00 am	Commission Meeting Conference Rm 1-B
May 2, 2016	9:00 am	Commission Meeting Conference Room 1-B

Commission Meetings are held at  
500 James Robertson Pkwy, Nashville, TN

### Continuing Education Seminar

May 23, 2016	9:00 am	Middle TN CE Seminar TSCPA Education Center 201 Powell Place Brentwood, TN
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## Did you know?

- Tennessee has more than 3,800 documented caves.
- When Tennessee Became a State in 1796, the total population was 77,000.
- The Tennessee State Capitol was designed by noted architect William Strickland, who died during its construction and is buried within its walls.
- The city of Murfreesboro lies in the exact geographical center of the state.

## Legal Reminder

### TENN. COMP. R. & REGS. 0160-01-.21 Disclosure of Buyer's Premium.

*(1) An auctioneer, auction firm or gallery shall disclose the existence and amount of any "buyer's premium", commission, or fee to be charged to the buyers at an auction sale. Such disclosure shall be made in all advertising and orally announced immediately prior to the start of an auction.*

Remember: Your email and social media campaigns are advertising and any buyer's premium must be disclosed in these campaigns along with your firm license or gallery license number.

## Disciplinary Action

### November 2015

**Respondent:** Arthur Adam dba  
Arthur Auction Gallery, Lawrenceburg, TN

**Violation:** Unlicensed Conduct

**Action:** \$500 Civil Penalty plus costs of \$ 200

### February 2016

**Respondent:** Tammy Andrews dba  
Mule Town Auction, Columbia, TN

**Violation:** Unlicensed conduct

**Action:** \$3000 Civil Penalty



## Safe Disposal of Ordnance, Explosives and Unstable Components

From time to time, estate auctioneers encounter unexploded ordnance, explosives and components that require safe disposal.

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security employs the Tennessee Highway Patrol Special Operations Unit for these unusual circumstances.

The Special Operations Unit is highly trained and certified as Bomb Technicians. Their duties require them to locate and render safe all suspected bomb devices and components that may be potentially harmful; including destroying old and unstable explosives.

Some items of concern are unexploded Civil War ordnance and cannonballs; and WWII era and later mortars and hand grenades.

If items are found in an estate, please secure the area and contact the Special Operations Unit immediately at (615) 741 5660 or (615) 741 2060.

Tennessee Auctioneers Commission  
500 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243-1152

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Telephone 615-741-3600 Fax 615-253-1179  
[www.tn.gov/commerce/section/auctioneers](http://www.tn.gov/commerce/section/auctioneers)

***Please be sure to forward a copy of the NewsLine to licensees in your firm.***

*To receive email or text alerts from the Tennessee Auctioneer Commission  
go to the direct link at [www.tn.gov/notify-app/sign\\_up](http://www.tn.gov/notify-app/sign_up)*

## Continuing Education Seminar



*If you missed Robert Mayo's presentations in East or West Tennessee, don't miss this final opportunity to learn from one of the auction industry's most notable speakers presenting on Social Media Marketing (2 hours) and Online Only Auctions (2 hours). We will also present (2) hours on Auction Dynamics.*

*The meeting will be at the TSCPA Education Center at 201 Powell Place, Brentwood, TN on Monday, May 23, 2016 from 9:00—4:00 pm.*

*Watch your mail for your reminder postcard.  
Remember: TAC mail goes to your auction firm's mailing address.*