



County Technical Assistance Service

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Motor Vehicle Races

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS electronic library known as e-Li. This online library is maintained daily by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other e-Li material.

Sincerely,

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Motor Vehicle Races

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County legislative bodies are authorized to provide the times, dates, and conditions under which motor vehicle races may be conducted, and establish any other rules relative to the regulation and licensure of automobile race tracks that the county legislative body deems prudent and advisable. T.C.A. § 55-22-102. Special provisions for motor vehicle races in tourist resort counties are set out in T.C.A. § 55-22-105.

The county clerk is required to verify that anyone conducting a motor vehicle race in the county has met the minimum insurance coverage requirements set out in T.C.A. § 55-22-101(a), and the county clerk thereupon issues to the applicant confirmation that the requirements have been met. T.C.A. § 55-22-101(c).

This law does not define “motor vehicle race.” While T.C.A. § 55-22-102 does mention “automobile race tracks,” the Attorney General has found that because the legislature repeatedly used the broader term “motor vehicle,” it did not intend to limit the statute’s requirements to automobile races. As used in this law, “motor vehicle” should be interpreted in its broadest sense, which would include any self-propelled wheeled conveyance not running on rails. Op. Tenn. Att’y Gen. 17-20 (3/21/17).

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