

TBA Local Government Forum 2023

Hybrid: University of Tennessee College of Law
May 12, 2023



Program Producer: Shelly Wilson

Total Credits: 3 General, 1 Dual

Government law is an ever-changing practice area with a unique blend of constitutional, statutory, and case law. This year's program features a legislative update as well as sessions covering school resource officers, sovereign citizens, and annexation.

- 11:00am – 12:00pm ET **The Tennessee General Assembly in Action: A Review of Recently Passed Legislation**
Every year, the Tennessee General Assembly passes a number of bills that impact how local governments exist and operate. This session will include a review of legislation recently passed by the General Assembly that impacts local governments. The session will also include a review of legislation that did not pass during the most recent Session but could resurface in 2024.
Elisha Hodge, University of Tennessee, MTAS
- 12:00pm – 12:15pm ET **Networking Break**
- 12:15pm – 1:15pm ET **Stopping the Havoc Caused by Sovereign Citizens!**
This course will inform program participants of the criminal actions taken by sovereign citizens who steal property and identities when they file false documents in the Register of Deeds. Nick will share some incredible stories of the lengths these sovereign citizens will go to when committing their crimes. These fraudulent documents wreak havoc with not only the government offices where the false documents are being filed, but the citizens who are victimized by the thefts of their valuable property and identities. Mr. McBride will also speak on the legislation that has been adopted to stop these sovereign citizens and protect property owners from victimization. This is a helpful and very informative session which will assist local government attorneys in understanding the crimes being committed by sovereign citizens in their jurisdictions and the processes that can be put in place to prevent them.
Nick McBride, Knox County Register of Deeds
- 1:15pm – 1:45pm ET **Lunch**

1:45pm – 2:45pm ET

DUAL

The Ethical and Professional Challenge of Police in Schools

According to the United States Justice Department, School Resource Officers (SROs), are trained law enforcement officers who engage in community-oriented policing activities and are assigned to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations. In many Tennessee, localities, SROs—also called school safety officers, school police officers, or school liaison officers—are employees of the local police department. In others, they are employees of the school district. The presence of SROs in Tennessee’s schools provides unique ethical and professional challenges for Tennessee attorneys who practice local government law due to the various and often conflicting opinions of stakeholders regarding school-based law enforcement.)

Joe Jarret, University of Tennessee

2:45pm – 3:00pm ET

Networking Break

3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Annexation in Tennessee 2023

This presentation will cover the current requirements for annexation under Tennessee law, legal challenges that may be launched, case law update and proposed legislation that may change annexation next year.

Melissa Ashburn, University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service