

T.C.A. 55-10-301
Court Safety Program
Information Needed for D.O.S. Approval

Court Programs:

The Legislative body (County Commissions) for the county must adopt a resolution establishing a court program.

1. Copy of the exact resolution
 - A. With rules and guidelines of the program.
 - B. Who will be attending the court program?
 - C. Copy of curriculum to be taught or reference list of material to be taught (example: Tennessee Drivers Manual, T.C.A. Laws and Rules of Road).
2. Adoption of instructors position for teaching or instructing the programs.
 - A. Answer – is instructor on government contract with county for salary?
 - B. Will instructor qualify under government entity program or under a non-profit sanction program?
3. Fees: Explanation of disbursement of money collected from attendees to go through the program.
4. Non-profit Organized Court Programs: Must have copy of I.R.S. approved non-profit status sent in with request for D.O.S. approval. City courts must follow same guidelines as county courts, except the City Council / Alderman must act as Governing Legislative Body.

Instructors:

1. Court approved recommendation with resume of the instructor.
2. For four (4) hour to eight (8) hour defensive driving course the instructor must be a certified instructor for Defensive Driving Course approved by National Safety Council, Tennessee Regional Safety Council, or AAA for that time span safety program.
3. For safety program under time frame of less than four (4) hours.

- A. Must send resume of education and experience in motor vehicle laws, enforcement and traffic control. Also of knowledge of safety laws and procedures for operators and passenger to use while on public highways in a motor vehicle or on a motorcycle.
1. A three (3) year experience (minimum) police officer or court officer may be accepted for instructing a less than four (4) hour safety program.
 2. Need curriculum and/or reference materials to be used for the safety programs (examples: safety films, videos, slides); text (examples: T.C.A. Motor Vehicle Section, Tennessee Drivers Manual, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) approved materials and Tennessee Department of Safety statistic materials also accepted).
 3. An instructor with minimum experience in teaching highway safety – such as a driver's education teacher with the State Board of Education will be approved for the short safety programs under four (4) hours.
 4. A certified Defensive Driving Course (DDC) instructor will qualify for any program up to eight (8) hours.
 5. An approved instructor for the court program doing an eight (8) hour defensive driving course will not be accepted to do driver improvement course for referrals of drivers to complete a (DDC) unless they are approved by the Department of Safety Driver Improvement Division for the state.