



County Officials Association of Tennessee

Dear COAT Member,

We just wanted to reach out quickly to give everyone an update on our Hall of Fame (HOF) guidelines. The Hall of Fame Committee met, via conference call in February, to discuss what is and is not working when it comes to our Hall of Fame inductees. They elected to make some changes.

As I'm sure you know, the purpose of COAT's Hall of Fame is to honor those extraordinary county officials who have served for a minimum of 20 continuous years. While the majority of the guidelines remained the same, there were a few changes recommended by the HOF Committee:

- *Each affiliate association shall name one (1) inductee each year, except the Clerks of Court. The Clerks of Court have the option of naming two (2) inductees, due to the size difference in their association - one (1) Circuit Court Clerk and one (1) Clerk and Master, Criminal Court Clerk General Sessions Court Clerk, Juvenile Court Clerk, or Probate Court Clerk.*
- *Inductee name, biography, and photograph shall be submitted to COAT (Rodney, Lori, or Carol) no later than the September Board Meeting (2nd Tuesday in September) by the Affiliate Presidents.*
- *Each Affiliate President shall be responsible for making contact with their inductee(s) to ensure his/her presence at the COAT Annual Convention Awards Banquet.*
- *Each affiliate association shall be responsible for room, meal, travel expenses that may be incurred by their inductee(s). COAT will cover the cost of the actual awards.*

You can view the complete Hall of Fame Guidelines on the next page.

Since your Spring Meetings are just around the corner, it may be a great time to go ahead and make your decisions about who you will induct this year.

As always, if you have questions - or if we can be of additional assistance - please let us know!

Hope everyone is having a great week!

Your COAT Team

County Officials Association of Tennessee Hall of Fame Guidelines

Purpose: The purpose of the County Officials Association of Tennessee Hall of Fame shall be to recognize and honor those individuals who have served their association, county, and the State of Tennessee in an extraordinary manner through leadership, integrity, individual achievement, community involvement, and charitable endeavors with emphasis on excellence and selflessness in their field. Hall of Fame inductees shall exhibit only the highest caliber of professionalism by elected and appointed officials from counties of the great State of Tennessee. The inductees set the precedent for all who follow to strive and achieve.

Requirements for Admission: In order to be considered for admission in the Hall of Fame, the inductee shall have worked in the specified office or been duly elected or appointed by their respective county, for a minimum of twenty years of continuous service. The inductee should be no longer holding the position for a minimum of four years in order to qualify. Under extraordinary circumstances, exceptions may be made as long as the integrity of the Hall of Fame is maintained.

Number of Inductees: Each affiliate association of the County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT) shall name one inductee each year, except for Clerks of Court. That affiliate association may select one Circuit Court Clerk and one Clerk and Master, Criminal Court Clerk General Sessions Court Clerk, Juvenile Court Clerk, or Probate Court Clerk – not to exceed a total of two inductees per year.

Nomination Process: It is in the sole discretion of each affiliate association as to whom shall be selected to be inducted each year. Nominations should come from within each of those groups by whatever means they deem appropriate.

Conditions for Submission: The award recipient names – along with a biography and photograph - shall be submitted to COAT by the Presidents of the affiliate associations no later than the September COAT Board Meeting.

Notification of Recipients: Each affiliate association President shall extend an invitation to their recipient(s), by whatever means they deem appropriate, to the COAT Annual Convention Awards Banquet in order to be recognized by the entire convention assembly.

Expenses Related to Recipients: Each affiliate association will be responsible for any expenses incurred in regard to the recipient and his/her guest(s), including rooming, travel, and meal costs. The cost for the awards themselves will be underwritten by the County Officials Association of Tennessee, as directed by the President and the Board of Directors.