



**REGISTER ONLINE/MAIL/FAX TO:**  
 Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program  
 (TTAP)  
 Attn: Diana Webb  
 Center for Transportation Research  
 The University of Tennessee  
 Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4133  
 Tel: 865-974-5255 Fax: 865-974-3889  
 Web:ttap.utk.edu

**KEEPING YOU AND YOUR AGENCY OUT OF COURT**  
 (Copy and fill out one for each registrant)

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Free (Employee of City or County)

Please check appropriate boxes:  
 \$120 (Others)

Payment by:  
 Check (payable to The University of Tennessee)  
  Cardholder's Name/Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**REGISTRATION**  
 This is a **free** workshop for all city or county employees. Pre-registration is required. The registration fee for other attendees is \$120 per person. TDOT employees must register through their local TDOT Training Office at least 10 working days in advance. Please note your employment status on the registration form. A course may be canceled if there is low enrollment. Forty-eight hours notice will be given to registrants if a course is canceled. **Register early! Limited enrollment!**

**CANCELLATION POLICY**  
 Due to commitments to our instructors and facilities, the registration fee is not refundable if a registrant withdraws less than forty-eight hours before the workshop. You may substitute registrants; please notify us in advance if possible. Please register early as attendance to our workshops has increased. We may not accommodate walk-ins on the day of the workshop.

**HOW TO REGISTER**

Register online or fax/mail to the address below:

Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program (TTAP)  
 Attn: Diana Webb  
 Center for Transportation Research  
 The University of Tennessee  
 Suite 309, Conference Center Bldg.  
 Knoxville, TN 37996-4133  
 Tel: 865-974-5255 Fax: 865-974-3889  
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 THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
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 TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH



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## WHAT THIS IS ABOUT

This road safety workshop provides an overview of the legal duties and responsibilities of roadway personnel. The overall goal of the class is to use the lessons learned from tort claims filed against road agencies to develop countermeasures to enhance traffic safety and reduce crashes. Key legal concepts relating to the liability of roadway agencies and their employees are reviewed from a risk management standpoint. Common types of claims/lawsuits brought against street departments and roadway agencies are identified through examples/case studies. Examples include traffic control devices, temporary traffic control, roadway/shoulder surface condition, drainage, vegetation management and pedestrian incidents. Risk management principles, aimed at: (1) reducing/preventing crashes and claims and (2) helping agencies defend claims, are highlighted. Practical risk management strategies and activities (for both individuals and organizations) are identified.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This workshop should be of interest to state and local roadway agency employees who deal with design, construction, traffic operations, and maintenance.

## WHEN-WHERE

**May 7-8, 2024**

**(9:30am-12:30pm Eastern)**

Online Workshop (Instructions will be emailed to you when you register for the workshop.)

The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status.

## PDHs AVAILABLE

6 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) can be granted for this course. No partial credit available. Attendees must attend at least 90% of the workshop to get 6 PDHs.

## INSTRUCTOR

### Ronald W. Eck, P.E.

Ronald W. Eck is Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at West Virginia University and Director of the West Virginia Local Technical Assistance Program (WV LTAP). His 45-year traffic engineering career has focused on roadway safety. He has developed (for the WVDOT) a handbook and training materials on crash reconstruction as an element of risk management. He has organized numerous mock trials at national and regional roadway conferences. He is a past chair of the Expert Witness Council of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He has testified as an expert witness in 20 states.

## TENNESSEE ACADEMY FOR TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING (TATE)

The Tennessee Academy for Transportation Engineering (TATE) is an educational program providing continuing education for engineers, planners, designers and technicians. The program focuses on the basic design of transportation facilities, the evaluation of traffic operations, and the collection of data to support various transportation studies. Successful completion of the required curricula of core and elective courses, confers TATE certification. For more information, contact Dr. Airton Kohls at 865-974-5255.

# AGENDA

**May 7, 2024**

**(9:30am-12:30pm Eastern)**

### *Session 1—Tort Liability*

- What Is a Tort and How Does it Relate to Road Safety?
- Duties of Road Agencies and Related Concepts
- Elements of a Tort Claim
- Defenses to Tort Liability
- The Tort Claims Process
- Discovery (including tips for giving depositions)
- Agency and Employee Liability
- Examples of Common Tort Claims

**May 8, 2024**

**(9:30am-12:30pm Eastern)**

### *Session 2—Risk Management Strategies and Lessons Learned from Actual Claims*

- Principles of Risk Management
- Strategies/Activities to Reduce the Risk of Liability
- Case Studies: Lessons Learned from Actual Tort Claim

*\* For participants who want to receive credit for the course toward the Tennessee Academy for Transportation Engineering Certificate.*