



July 20, 2020

Dear Clerks of Court:

I am writing to advise you of the status of the continuing education for professional bondsmen in Tennessee. In most years, the association fulfills its statutory mandate by presenting classes in February, May, August and November. This year, however, the outbreak of COVID-19 caused the association (TAPBA) to cancel the class in May.

The impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt and, with the recent guidance from the Governor, we will not be able to hold an in-person class in August. Instead, the association will be providing two eight-hour classes, one to be held on August 20 and the other on August 27.

All continuing education will be provided online in a single, 8-hour educational block with a specific start and end time. That block has been divided into four sections that the professional bondsmen and bail enforcement agents will be required to sign into. These sections have a specific beginning and ending time. At the end of these sections the attendees will be required to fill out a survey, and then at the end of the completed 8-hour block sign a statement, made under penalty of perjury, that they were present for the entire 8-hour class.

If the association becomes aware that any professional bondsman in your district has signed the certifying statement without completing the required time, we will forward the evidence to your office for further action. This is not an ideal solution for classes, but these uncertain times require all of us to make the best use of the resources at hand.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernie Arredondo', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Ernie Arredondo  
TAPBA President