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# Hearing Examiners

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Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee  
County Technical Assistance Service  
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
615.532.3555 phone  
615.532.3699 fax  
[www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

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# Hearing Examiners

Reference Number: CTAS-1514

The State Board of Equalization is authorized to appoint members of the staff of the Division of Property Assessments to serve as hearing examiners. Hearing examiners conduct preliminary hearings and investigations for the board or the Assessment Appeals Commission regarding complaints and appeals from assessments and classifications, or regarding any other matter for which the board has responsibility by law. Based upon the evidence presented in a preliminary hearing or facts gained in an investigation, the hearing examiner prepares proposed findings of fact and conclusions for the state board or the Assessment Appeals Commission and notifies each property owner who may be affected by the hearing examiner's recommendation. Unless a party to the appeal objects in writing, the hearing examiner may render a proposed decision. The proposed decision is limited to words and/or figures reflecting conclusions as to the proper classification or valuation of the subject property.<sup>1</sup> Appeals from initial decisions of hearing examiners for the state board must be filed within 30 days from the date the initial decision is sent.<sup>2</sup> In the absence of an exception to the recommendation of the hearing examiner by either the property owner or the property owner's agent, the county assessor of property or the taxing jurisdiction, the State Board of Equalization or the Assessment Appeals Commission may adopt the recommendation of its hearing examiner as its final decision without the necessity of a hearing before the board or commission. If an exception to the recommendation of the hearing examiner is taken by any of the parties or the State Board of Equalization or the Assessment Appeals Commission does not adopt the recommendation of the hearing examiner, a hearing shall be scheduled before the state board or commission before final action is taken.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>T.C.A. § 67-5-1505.

<sup>2</sup>T.C.A. § 67-5-1501(c).

<sup>3</sup>T.C.A. § 67-5-1506.

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**Source URL:** <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/eli/hearing-examiners>