



March 14, 2025

Rest Periods or Breaks

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

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,

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Reference Number: CTAS-987

The FLSA does not require that employees be given rest periods or breaks, but if rest periods are provided, they must be counted as hours worked. Coffee and snack breaks are compensable rest periods and cannot be excluded from hours worked as meal periods. Periods of greater than 30 minutes might become meal periods or off time, and if so could be excluded from compensable time.

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