

Bonding Company Application Process in the 12th Judicial District of Tennessee

1. All petitions (qualifying, re-qualifying, adding/deleting agents, etc.) must be filed in the Circuit Court of Franklin County Tennessee. The filing fee for qualifying a new bonding company is \$374.50.
2. We will file your petitions and send copies to our District Attorney's Office for their approval. Once approved by them, then it will be sent to our Circuit Judges for hearing by them en banc under Rule 25.01B. They will not sit en banc in regular session, but will do so when needed.
3. Simultaneously, upon the filing of your petition, we'll deposit your cashier's check for the amount of your proposed certificate (10,000.00 min.) of deposit into our clerk's checking account and hold the money pending approval of your petition by our Judges. Upon approval, we'll obtain the certificate of deposit, as required by Rule 25. If you are using insurance collateral we will need all power of attorneys for each agent.
4. Please make your cashier's checks for these deposits payable to Robert Baggett, Circuit Court Clerk. We must have Social Security Numbers and Driver's License of individual owners and federal employer identification numbers (EIN) for corporations.
5. In compliance with Rule 25.02 and state auditing requirements, we will handle your certificates of deposit for collateral as we do other trust funds in the custody of the clerk.

As with our other trust funds, withdrawals will be made only upon court order. Accrued interest will be paid to the bonding company upon maturity of the certificate of deposit, as provided by Rule 25.02A(2), subject to a 5% clerk's commission on the interest, as provided by T.C.A. 18-5-106. This fee is provided by statute, and the clerk does not have the authority to substitute a flat handling fee.

6. The clerk will try to obtain the highest interest rate available in Franklin County on the certificate of deposit.
7. The bonding companies are required to provide TBI Background checks on each agent and must be licensed through the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance by the Board of Professional Bondsmen (TCA 40-11-321) and submit all certificates with their petitions.
8. Once approved by our Circuit Judges, you will be put on an approved bonding list that is sent to all clerks and sheriff's department in the district.