



Foster D. Arnett, Jr. Knox County Clerk

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2010 - Knox County Clerk Employee Terminated for Violation of Law

Knox County Clerk this afternoon terminated a 14 year veteran of the office for attempting to register a stolen vehicle. Phylicia Washington currently of the Training Unit was removed from her job after it was discovered during a routine check she attempted to register the stolen car.

Upon learning of the violation, Foster D. Arnett, Jr, immediately contacted the Tennessee Department of Revenue and the Tennessee Comptroller's Office. An investigation began immediately by revenue's Special Investigations Unit and an inquiry was begun.

"I contacted the proper authorities last Thursday when I was informed of this action and requested immediate assistance from the State of Tennessee. I met within hours with investigators on this issue. I have also requested a full audit by the Tennessee Comptroller's office with whom I have been in contact", Arnett said.

"We hold all our employees to the highest of standards and we are asking for a full investigation into this matter. The Comptroller's audit will also focus on the overall performance of all our employees," Arnett said.

Because of the ongoing investigation by the TDR, Arnett referred any questions to Sarah Jo Houghland, Public Information Officer (615) 532-8972. Arnett has also been in touch with Knox County District Attorney General Randall Nichols on this matter.

Clerk's Office Employee Dismissed

May 19, 2010

Page Two

The Knox County Clerk's Office employs 88 people in 6 offices across Knox County.

"Our office acted swiftly on this matter because the public trust is of the utmost importance to me. When we discover violations, we will investigate completely and with the proper authorities," Arnett concluded.

The office handles license renewals, motor vehicle registrations, hotel/motel taxes, marriage licenses, and notary and passport applications.

-30-

For More Information Contact:

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