RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SAFETY ACT

We have received your request for information pertaining to your eligibility to carry a firearm as a retired law enforcement officer. The State of Tennessee currently provides two (2) options for retired law enforcement officers to obtain certification to carry a firearm in the same manner and to the same extent as authorized for an active law enforcement officer pursuant to T.C.A. §38-8-116 and §38-8-123.

**Option 1-Valid in Tennessee only:** This certification, pursuant to T.C.A. §38-8-116, does not meet the requirements of 18 U.S.C § 926C (Retired Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act) hereinafter referred to as LEOSA. A retired officer certified under this option is not permitted to carry a firearm outside of the State of Tennessee, unless otherwise authorized. A TBI/FBI criminal history record check and qualification to carry a firearm of the same type according to the standards established by the State of Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission are required every four (4) years. This certification is valid only in the State of Tennessee for a period of four (4) years.

**Option 2-LEOSA Compliant (valid nationwide):** This certification, pursuant to T.C.A. §38-8-123, conforms to the requirements of 18 U.S.C. §926C. A retired officer certified under this option is eligible to carry a firearm nationwide under federal law. Please note that a certification issued to a retired officer in accordance with this option shall be automatically revoked by operation of law upon the retired officer becoming ineligible to carry a firearm under federal law. This certification requires an annual qualification to carry a firearm of the same type according to the standards established by the State of Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission, and an annual TBI/FBI criminal history check. This certification is valid for one (1) year.

In order for our office to process your application correctly and promptly, please indicate clearly the option in which you are selecting. All applicants are required to complete the application in its entirety and provide all of the requested information. Fingerprints may be taken at any IdentoGo vendor, or any other private vendor.

At the IdentoGo vendor, an applicant’s fingerprints will be taken electronically and submitted directly to the TBI/FBI. The criminal history report will then be sent to the State of Tennessee, P.O.S.T.
Commission Office within five (5) to seven (7) business days. A fee of $35.15 is required to be paid directly to the IdentoGo at the time the applicant’s fingerprints are taken. To utilize the services of IdentoGo and properly complete the process, please comply with the IdentoGo Tennessee applicant processing services form.

To file an application, please submit forms IN-1733, IN-1735, a copy of your certificate and firearms roster qualification from a State of Tennessee P.O.S.T. certified instructor, a copy of your retired photo identification card that was issued by the agency from which the applicant retired from service as a law enforcement officer, two fingerprint cards (if applicable), and a check/money order or cashier’s check for ten-dollars ($10.00) to be made out to the State of Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission.

When the LEOSA application is approved, a certificate and card will be issued to you. You may obtain a renewal application for LEOSA on the website https://www.tn.gov/commerce/post.html.

If you have any questions, please contact the State of Tennessee P.O.S.T. Commission office directly during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (615) 741-4661.