

April 17, 2014

City of Shelbyville Tennessee
Ms. Vickie Haskins
City Recorder
201 N. Spring Street
Shelbyville, Tennessee 37162

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Ms. Haskins:

You have asked whether any state law prevents a public employee, i.e. city firefighter, from owing a retail liquor store. In response thereto, the following is provided by legal consultant Josh Jones:

T. C. A. § 57-3-210 (b) is the controlling statute which reads:

(b)(1) No wholesaler's or retailer's license shall be issued to a person who is a holder of a public office, either appointive or elective, or who is a public employee, either national, state, city or county. It is unlawful for any such person to have any interest in such wholesale or retail business, directly or indirectly, either proprietary or by means of any loan, mortgage, or lien, or to participate in the profits of any such business.

This is a clear prohibition against any public employee having any interest in a liquor license.

Please let us know if you have further questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey J. Broughton
Municipal Management Consultant

Cc: Josh Jones