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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Clerk Foster D. Arnett, Jr. Partners with Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security to Provide Photo Driver Licenses to Registered Voters

Knox County Clerk Foster D. Arnett, Jr. announced today that he has partnered with the Department of Safety and Homeland Security to make more outlets available for registered voters to get photo driver licenses for voting purposes. Under a new state law, starting in 2012 voters will have to show a state or federal issued photo ID to cast a ballot at the polls in Tennessee.

Commissioner Bill Gibbons announced earlier this week that Arnett is one of 30 county clerks across the state who has agreed to issue photo driver licenses at no charge to registered voters who currently have non-photo driver licenses. The Knox County Clerk is an existing partner with the Department and currently issues renewal and replacement driver licenses and identification cards to Tennessee residents. Under the new agreement, The Knox County Clerk's Office will forgo the \$4 service fee normally paid to for providing this service. Arnett and the 29 other county clerks have agreed to provide this service starting October 15 and will continue through March 12, a week after the presidential primary election.

The Secretary of State's office reports there are approximately 126,000 registered voters who have non-photo driver licenses in Tennessee. Drivers age 60 or older may choose to get a non-photo driver license in Tennessee.

"We very much appreciate Clerk Arnett and his willingness to help the taxpayers of Tennessee. This partnership greatly increases the number of locations where registered voters may get photos added to their driver licenses," Commissioner Gibbons said.

"We are most happy to provide this service to our citizens. It is of the utmost importance that everyone who is eligible to vote do so", Arnett said. "I look forward to working with Commissioner Gibbons and Governor Haslam on many safety issues in the future."

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