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Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Page 1

Athens, Tennessee

Don Moul named new TVA President and CEO



The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Board of Directors has appointed Don Moul as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the nation's largest public power utility, effective April 9, 2025. Moul will succeed Jeff Lyash, who announced his retirement in January.

With 38 years of experience in power generation and operations, Moul has a proven track record of leadership in improving operational performance, driving innovation, and strengthening teamwork. Since June 2021, he has served as TVA's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, overseeing power generation, transmission, and power supply functions. Under his leadership, TVA has:

- ✓ Set record peak power demand levels during severe weather
- ✓ Delivered strongest safety performance in TVA history
- ✓ Led advancements in nuclear energy technologies

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Moul's extensive background includes key leadership roles at FirstEnergy and NextEra, where he significantly improved nuclear fleet performance and operational efficiency. He also serves on Tennessee's Nuclear Energy Advisory Council, working to position the state as a hub for nuclear innovation and investment.

TVA's Continued Commitment to the Region

- \$22 billion invested in power system improvements over the past decade, including \$4 billion in 2024
- Lower energy costs, with TVA retail rates are lower than 80% of the U.S. and industrial rates lower than 95% of top utilities
- Economic growth: Over 326,000 jobs created/retained and \$45.9 billion in capital investments in the past five years

With TVA serving a seven-state region experiencing growth at three times the national average, Moul's leadership will be critical in driving forward energy infrastructure and innovation to meet increasing demands. *Source: LaKevia Perry, JD, TVA Government Relations, East Region*

Listening Reminder: Women at the Well founder, Robin Nation invites you to listen to *Hope From the Well* this week with guest Barbara Price! They will be discussing "Unity Group of Quilts of Valor." *Hope From the Well* is heard every Thursday morning at 8:15 am on WYXI RADIO, AM-1390 & FM-94.5.

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Time: 11am-1:30pm

Location: Sherman Dining Hall
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WEATHER FORECAST

Wed. - Partly Sunny. High 77.
Wed. night - Mostly Cloudy.
Low 66.

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Thurs. night - Mostly Cloudy.
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Athens, Tennessee

Cleveland Habitat for Humanity Construction Director Reported Missing



Habitat for Humanity of Cleveland is asking for the public's help in locating **David Cowan**, the organization's construction director, who has been reported missing.

According to a [post](#) on the non-profit's Facebook page, Cowan, 45, was last known to be traveling toward Sweetwater, Tennessee.

His current whereabouts remain unknown.

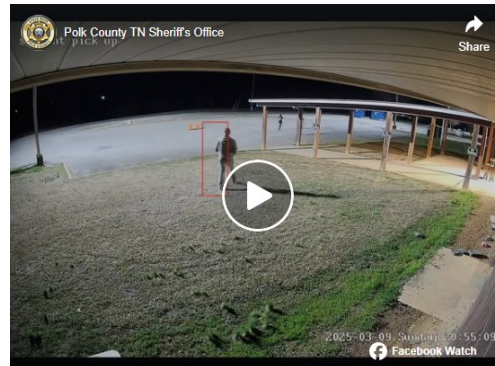
Cowan is described as **5 feet 11 inches** tall, weighing approximately **215 pounds**.

Today's News. This Morning.

He was last seen **driving a white 2018 Ford F-250 crew cab 4x4**.

Authorities urge anyone who sees Cowan or has information about his location to **call 911 or contact their local law enforcement agency immediately**.

Searching for vandalism suspects at S. Polk Elementary



The Polk Co. TN Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's help to identify suspects seen vandalizing an elementary

school. They say the crime was captured on camera at South Polk Elementary on March 9.

If you have any information, they ask you to call SRO Sgt. Cru Ross at South Polk Elementary (423-299-4196) or Detective Cody Day at 423-338-8215 (ext. 1010).

Click Image to watch Video.

Source: [Local 3 News](#)

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April 5th, 2025
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Athens, Tennessee

"Operation Hands Free" kicks off across Tennessee



Photo of Chattanooga THP, Courtesy THSO

On Tuesday, April 1, the Tennessee Highway Safety Office (THSO) and Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP), divisions of the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, partnered with Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), local law enforcement, and other traffic safety partners for "Operation Hands Free" to crack down on violators of Tennessee's Hands-Free Law during National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. To kick off the campaign, the THSO hosted press events in Nashville, Memphis, Chattanooga, and Knoxville followed by distracted-driving enforcement bus tours. During each bus tour, troopers and officers inside the bus observed traffic for distracted drivers then radioed patrol vehicles to execute enforcement action. TDOT assisted by providing HELP trucks for traffic management. They also utilized the digital highway message boards to spread awareness.

"We're not just here to write tickets—we're here to save lives," said THP Colonel Matt Perry. "Our goal is to get drivers to think twice before picking up their phones or letting distractions take their focus off the road. When drivers see increased enforcement like this, they're more likely to put their phones down and pay attention, which is exactly what we want. If you notice dangerous behaviors like texting and driving, you can reach THP dispatch by dialing *THP (847) using your hands-free device, or have a passenger make the call."

According to Tennessee's Hands-Free Law, it is illegal for drivers to hold a cell phone or mobile device with any part of their body. Violation of this law can result in points on your driving record. Drivers can learn more at www.HandsFreeTN.com.

Source: [TN Highway Safety Office](http://TNHighwaySafetyOffice.com)

Congratulations Trevor on achieving your Eagle Rank



A special thank you to his Grandpa for guiding him through his Eagle Project - building a Bunker Gear Dryer for the Decatur Fire Department. Additional thanks to all of his scout leaders, family, and friends for their support! We will be planning a ceremony and all are welcome with a RSVP. Feel free to reach out for a date.

The following sponsors were instrumental in making his project a reality:
 Glaze Electric Company (Cleveland TN), Lowe's of Athens, Hiwassee Builder Supply,
 Tractor Supply Company (Dayton, TN), Home Depot (Cleveland, TN),
 Webb Plumbing, and Roto Rooter (Riceville, TN)



Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

McMinn County Arrest Reports

Marion Kitchens, 41 of Cleveland was arrested by the MCSO for Unpaid Child Support. Total Bond: \$2,500.

Jerry Counts, 47 of Caburn, VA, was arrested by the MCSO for Facilitation of Methamphetamine for Resale. No Bond. Must serve 5 years.

Tyler English, 30 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Unpaid Child Support. Total Bond: \$2,500.

Clarence Macon, 47 of Sweetwater, was arrested by the MCSO for Public Intoxication. No Bond.

Larry Trueblood Jr., 31 of Nashville, was arrested by the MCSO for Felony Evading and Driving on a Revoked License. Total Bond: \$20,000

Natasha McTeer, 40 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for Violation of Probation. Total Bond: \$2,695.90

Dale Kryzak, 28 of Lebanon, was arrested by the Athens PD for Shoplifting. Total Bond: \$2,000.

Diamond Stamey, 18 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Domestic Assault, Hit & Run, Reckless Endangerment, Joyriding, and Operating a Motor Vehicle without a Driver's License. Total Bond: \$4,500

Aaron Fisher, 33 of Harvest, AL, was arrested by the THP for DUI and Violation of Implied Consent. Total Bond: \$3,000.

Joseph Pressley, 47 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Altering a Tag, and Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia. Total Bond: \$3,000.

Brittney Paris, 21 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for State Violation of Probation. No Bond.

Christian Marsh, 24 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Felony Evading, Reckless Driving, Financial Responsibility, Vehicle Registration Violations, Driving on a Revoked License and Operation of an Unregistered Vehicle. Total Bond: \$6,000

Tiffany Howard, 30 of Athens, was arrested by the Athens PD for Simple Possession of (Schedule II Substance & Alprazolam) Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, and Criminal Trespassing. Total Bond: \$34,500

Timothy Evans, 44 of Athens, was arrested by the MCSO for DUI (2nd Offense), total Bond: \$2,000.

Khara Cooper, 33 of Knoxville, was arrested by the MCSO for Theft of Property (Knox Co.), No Bond.

**Those accused are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
Information gathered using public sources.**



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Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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Athens, Tennessee

TN Driver Services Centers to Open for REAL ID Appointments on April 5

With the federal REAL ID travel requirement **taking effect on May 7**, the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security will open select Driver Services Centers across the state on Saturday, April 5, for REAL ID appointments only.

- **By appointment only** – Must be scheduled in advance at www.tnrealid.gov
- For current Tennessee license/ID holders with required documentation
- No state-imposed deadline – REAL ID can still be obtained after May 7

Starting May 7, a REAL ID (or an alternative like a passport or military ID) will be required to:

- Board commercial domestic flights
- Enter secure federal facilities (e.g., military bases, federal buildings)

Your Tennessee driver's license or ID will remain valid for purposes like driving, voting, and emergency services.

East TN Driver Services Centers Offering REAL ID Appts (April 5)

Oak Ridge
Knoxville – Strawberry Plains
Rockwood

Bonny Oaks
Morristown
Johnson City

To avoid long wait times, residents in high-demand areas may consider scheduling at centers in neighboring counties.

Obituaries

Judy Sharon Bortle, 77 of Athens, passed away on Monday, March 31 surrounded by her family. She loved horses and was a member of Suburban Ranches Riding Club for over 40 years. A celebration of life service will be planned for a later date. Good Samaritan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Grace Ann Green Fugate, 85 of McMinn County, passed away on Monday, March 31. Visitation will be held on Thursday, April 3, from 5:00 -7:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 4, at 2:00 PM at Ziegler Funeral Home with interment to follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Cleveland. Ziegler Funeral Home has been entrusted with serving the family of Grace Ann Green Fugate.

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