

A BURDENSOME TUNE How Music City's Regulations Harm Entrepreneurs

by Justin Owen, Marcus Bauer, and Kristen Lawson

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NASVILLE IS A THRIVING SOUTHERN CITY.

Tourists and residents enjoy the music, entertainment and other amenities the city has to offer. The ones being shut out are the entrepreneurs who are told by the government what work they can do and how they should do it.

Nashvillians have a right to **ECONOMIC LIBERTY**— to earn an honest living in an occupation of their choice, free from arbitrary and needless government regulations.



by Justin Owen, Marcus Bauer, and Kristen Lawson Tori Stewart LaPlue contributed to this report

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The laws of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County are an entangled web of barriers and burdens that hit simple entrepreneurs the hardest. Home-based businesses, street vendors, food truck vendors, sidewalk salesmen, taxi drivers, valet service operators and auctioneers, just to name a few, face a myriad of rules just to get off the ground and continue serving the people of Nashville. Unfortunately, while these people have an entrepreneurial spirit, they are often disheartened by the enormous challenges they face thanks to the Nashville Metro Government.

DOING BUSINESS

Before they can even open their doors, all aspiring entrepreneurs in Nashville must first obtain their business tax license. In addition to paying a fee, entrepreneurs must also remit \$42 plus a percentage of their business income every year. Further, they are required to pay state taxes on top of the local business tax. Business owners must also comply with a litany of building and zoning codes enforced by Metro and state government.

While this in itself is enough to deter many would-be entrepreneurs, especially low-income

Nashvillians, it represents the tip of the iceberg for what certain entrepreneurs face when attempting to start their own business in the Music City.

CONFLICTING LAWS

One of the most complicated aspects of Nashville ordinances is the distinction between the general law and the law inside the urban services district. This is due to the formation of a metropolitan government in 1963, eliminating the distinct city and county forms of government. The urban services district primarily encompasses the area that was previously inside the Nashville city limits, while the general services district covers the former Davidson County land area. The urban services district typically has special ordinances that apply only within its boundaries and are almost always more stringent than the general law.

This distinction is problematic because the laws are different depending on location, forcing many entrepreneurs—especially those running mobile businesses—to play a guessing game as to what law applies or take extra precautions to comply with the very different laws for each district. This dichotomy represents yet another obstacle in a long line of red tape found in the Metro Code.



Nearly half the businesses in America are home-based.² This makes sense, because most entrepreneurs must start small and work their way into a full-blown brick and mortar company. Virtually everyone has a friend or relative that started, or still operates, a business from home. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, there was an estimated 13,000 home-based businesses in Nashville alone.³

Unfortunately for many aspiring entrepreneurs, it is very difficult to work from home in the Music City. First, home-based businesses can only hire one employee that does not live in the home, making it a tremendous challenge to get a business off the ground.⁴ The business portion must take up less than 20 percent of the total home, and must never exceed 500 square feet (about the space of a 22' x 22' room).⁵

In a move that chills the free speech of home-based entrepreneurs, Metro Government forbids them from indicating that they operate a business out of their home. As the Metro Code strictly commands, the home occupation cannot display "any exhibit whatsoever that would indicate that the dwelling unit or accessory building is being utilized for any

purpose other than a residence." Coupled with the other restrictions, this provision makes it nearly impossible to successfully start and advertise a business from a Nashville home.

To make starting a home-based business even more cumbersome, the business owner can never sell her goods or serve patrons from the home. Piano teachers cannot conduct music lessons in their home to make the experience less nerve racking for children and adult students alike. Music engineers cannot bring clients to their home studios that they've spent hard-earned money creating. Not even a jewelry designer or make-up artist can have friends over to buy her products.

Such was the case of Nashville resident Pat Raynor, a widow trying to make an honest living on her own who was unaware of all the restrictions placed on home-based businesses. Pat set out to create a hair salon that she would operate out of her home. She remodeled her garage and prepared all the paperwork necessary for a legitimate business. Unfortunately, the ordinance on serving patrons from the home posed too big of a risk for her to take.⁸

Things started looking up for home-based business owners like Pat when Metro Councilman Mike Jameson proposed a bill that would change Nashville's archaic home occupation code. The goal was to give residents who operate home businesses the ability to service clients inside their homes. Unfortunately, in July 2011, the Metro Council rejected the bill by a vote of 21-11 due to concern over traffic, parking, and neighborhood sanctity. Councilman Carter Todd was among those who opposed Jameson's proposal, and from his point of view, a "don't ask, don't tell" policy works best for home-based businesses.¹⁰ However, folks like Pat Raynor feel differently. "Do I just take a chance of spending money and putting in a salon with the hopes that nobody turns me in? I can't do that. The county has to have a set rule on it. Mr. Todd's theory does not apply at all," says Pat.11

Another viewpoint comes from Keith Newcomb, a wealth advisor for Full Life Financial, LLC. He plays by the rules related to his home-based business, but believes the codes are a little outdated. "I think it's silly that the city regulates what guests I can host

at my home based on the topic of conversation," says Keith. As Keith notes, a homeowner could potentially host hundreds of visitors for a personal party, but not a single visitor for business. He goes on to point out that many great American entrepreneurs, such as Apple's Steve Jobs, would have been unable to get started if they resided in Nashville.¹²

While many might like the idea of regulating home-based businesses, legal remedies already exist for neighbors who might be disturbed by business activity. Too much traffic, offensive noise or smells, and interference with television or radio signals are all considered nuisances that can be eliminated without the need for additional onerous regulations on these entrepreneurs.¹³

Starting a home-based business is the only way for many entrepreneurs to get their feet off the ground and realize their dreams. Metro Government should support and promote this avenue to business ownership, not thwart it at every turn.



A touchstone illustration of entrepreneurship can be seen when walking down a city street lined with vendors selling goods. Food, souvenirs, jewelry, and other items are readily available to tourists and urban dwellers in major cities across the country. Nashville is no exception to this, though what Nashville vendors must endure to earn a living is anything but easy.

Take the story of Tim Smith for example. The owner of Unique Product Sales, Tim sells sunglasses and other items at special events, such as air shows, fairs, and festivals like the annual CMA Music Festival in downtown Nashville. In June 2009, Tim set up his small stand on Broadway Avenue to sell sunglasses to the 65,000 people that attended the festival each day.¹⁴

A meticulous businessman, Tim made sure he complied with all the laws, including obtaining his business tax license and permit, and measuring off the distances around his stand to comply with the local encroachment ordinances. After he sold sunglasses at the same spot for an entire day, a Metro police officer approached him. He was told he could sell the remaining water he had left, but

was unable to sell sunglasses, which makes up the vast majority of his business.

The next day, Tim set up in the same spot, where he was legally allowed to be. Soon thereafter, the police officer reappeared with a code enforcement officer carrying a tape measure. The officer refused to even measure the distances. Instead, he demanded that Tim shut down his stand because he had already asked everyone else on the block to leave, and he couldn't justify allowing Tim to remain even though Tim was not breaking a single law. After a brief back-and-forth, the police officer stepped in and gave Tim an ultimatum: either leave or be arrested and have his products confiscated.¹⁵

Because Tim had another event scheduled later in the week and would lose thousands of dollars if his sunglasses were confiscated even temporarily, he relented. Tim was instructed to move to the sidewalk across from the Country Music Hall of Fame, where the pedestrian traffic was miniscule compared to his previous location. Just a few minutes later, yet another police officer approached Tim and demanded that he leave. He pleaded with the officer, but to no avail. Again, he was told to

leave or face arrest and confiscation of his products. Although Tim fully complied with every law, he was arbitrarily forced to shut down his business during one of Nashville's busiest events of the year. Tim estimates that he lost upwards of \$10,000 in income as a result.

Tim is obviously frustrated by the incident, and rightfully so. "This is how I feed my family, and I was well within my legal right to be there. Whether they were just protecting a competitor of mine, I don't know, but they had no legal authority to make me leave. That's why they threatened to confiscate my things, because they knew they could bully me into shutting down my business."

Tim's remarkable story highlights the excessive and abuse-prone regulations surrounding street vendors in the Music City. Metro Government requires all persons seeking to set up shop as a street vendor to obtain an annual permit for \$100.16 The person must provide his or her name, home address, a phone number, and a driver's license number on the application.¹⁷ They must also submit three copies of a "full-face photograph" of the owner and each employee, a photograph of each vendor stand, as well as "a brief description of the nature and character of the food, beverages, goods or services to be sold."18 Vendors must maintain insurance and pay to have Metro Government listed as an additional insured on the policy.¹⁹ Finally, vendors operating multiple stands must procure a permit for each individual stand, further increasing the costs and bureaucracy involved with entering into the business.²⁰

In addition to these requirements, vendors selling food or beverages, like the numerous hot dog vendors in downtown Nashville, are required to obtain a health permit and subject their vendor stands to health inspections.²¹ The annual permit fee is \$30 for temporary vendors and a whopping \$210 for all other street vendors.²² They must also comply with extensive health codes that run on for dozens of pages.

While requiring street vendors to comport to the same health requirements as other food vendors makes sense, forcing them to pay the same amount as full-service restaurants who serve far more consumers is unfair. Further, the litany of other regulations makes the dream of becoming an entrepreneur a far bigger challenge than is necessary.

Temporary vendors might escape the outrageous fees that long-term vendors must pay, but they are no less regulated. While transient vendor fees amount to only \$80 for permits, transient vendors must comply with several additional state law mandates. such as the requirement that they "specify the dates, place or places, and times during which business shall be conducted."23 Whether one is considered a transitory vendor is also complicated, as the Metro Code defines a temporary vendor as one that operates for 10 total days during a given year, while state law defines it as one that operates for no more than 14 consecutive days.²⁴ Inconsistencies between state and local law can make even the savviest attorney dizzy with confusion, let alone the average Nashvillian who already faces the difficult task of starting a new business.

As Tim's case highlights, vendors must also comply with complicated sidewalk encroachment rules promulgated by the Metro Traffic & Parking Commission.²⁵ Further, all vendors are restricted to specific areas and are outright prohibited from setting up in some of the most heavily trafficked areas of town. Because of this, it is nearly impossible to figure out where to lawfully set up a vendor stand. For instance, according to one set of regulations found in the Metro Code, street vendors are barred from setting up along Second Avenue between Broadway and Church Street, one of the most tourist-filled area in Nashville.26 But in the additional regulations provided to vendors by the county clerk, they can set up in these areas as long as they are in designated spaces.²⁷

Ben Dixon, Operation/Catering Manager of Freshii, says the fresh food franchise also experienced the burdens placed on street vendors when it set out to add a service on wheels to its existing permanent location business. "Nashville tries to make it a little tough on you to do," he says with respect to Metro's tedious sidewalk encroachment codes. "We get out here and do what we can do though."

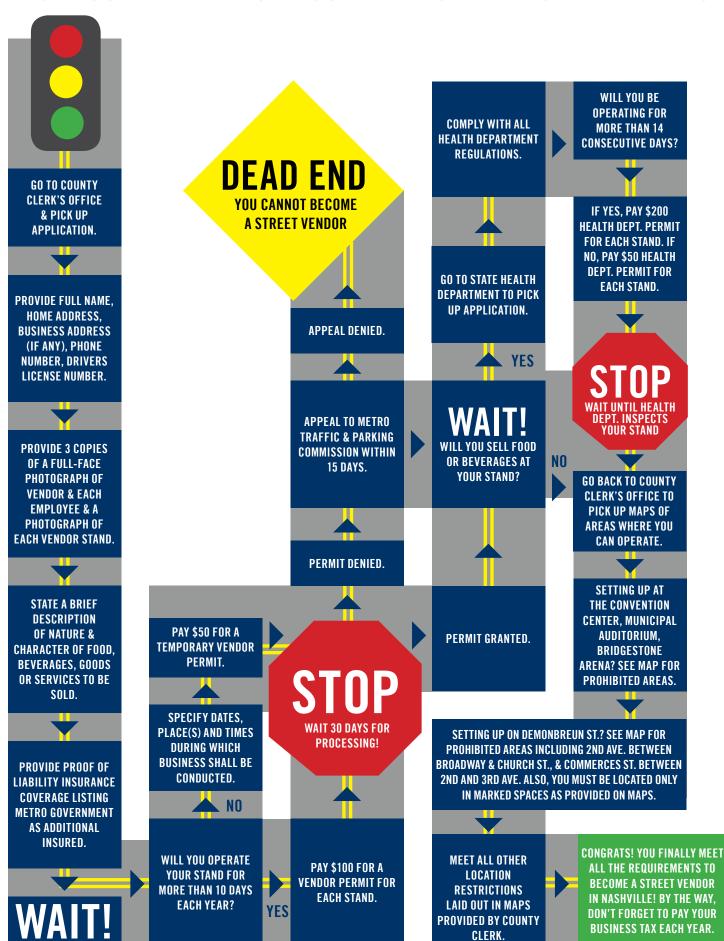
Additional rules temporarily prohibit setting up in otherwise permissible sections when an event is being held at the Nashville Convention Center, Municipal Auditorium, or the Bridgestone Arena, homes to frequent large events such as conventions, concerts, and sports games.²⁸ These prohibitions make setting up in the correct location even more of an impossibility, as the permissible areas are constantly changing. Setting up in the wrong location can cost vendors valuable time to relocate, and worse, result in costly fines or revocation of their licenses.²⁹ Because street vendors' success is directly tied to number of people that trek past their stands, these restrictions on location only make it more difficult for them to thrive.

Even if vendors meet all the requirements and comply with the location rules, they still face being arbitrarily shut down by power-hungry bureaucrats without any legal explanation, just like the one that cost Tim thousands of dollars. Brick and mortar businesses also push for protectionist restrictions Enforcement and Metro Code involvement because they see the vendors as posing a direct competitive threat to them. These restrictions limit vending opportunities, which ultimately squash out competition and make profitable vending nearly impossible.³⁰ In a recent study by the Institute for Justice, a national nonprofit law firm, Nashville is among several cities in the United States that impose these protectionist restrictions. They are often backed by brick and mortar businesses and involve confusing legal jargon that discourages would-be entrepreneurs from even starting a business.31

Etwin "Skip" Link, owner of Skip's Links, a hotdog stand in downtown Nashville, believes this "unfair" competition idea that established businesses harbor isn't for government to settle. "The free market would take care of all this," Skip says in regards to the city stepping up restrictions to "level the playing field." Skip has operated a hot dog cart for nearly a year and a half within the Nashville area. He's been around the area long enough to know the system, and where he can and cannot set up shop. He turns to media outlets like Facebook to advertise where he will be located each day. Skip says he won't let the restrictions stop his drive for business, though Metro sure doesn't make it easy on him.

The opportunity to open a mobile, often transient, business might be the only option for many Nashvillians trying to earn a living to support their families, particularly in a harsh economic climate. The recent recession has forced individuals to look for alternative solutions to job losses, which in turn has heightened the interest in vending. These barriers are unnecessarily burdensome and should be scaled back to encourage individuals to consider becoming street vendors. Not only would this provide them with a meaningful livelihood, but it would add culture to the Nashville community and provide consumers with more convenience and less costly goods.

TEST YOUR ABILITY TO BECOME A NASHVILLE STREET VENDOR



FOOD TRUCK VENDORS

Mobile versions of street vendors, food trucks have been cropping up all over Music City since the downturn in the economy. Of late, the city has issued licenses to 70 applicants seeking to open a food truck business.³³

Nashville currently lacks regulations specifically aimed at food truck vendors. The ease of establishing a business without forging through a maze of protective regulations has likely contributed to the sharp rise in the number of food truck vendors opening in the city. This does not mean that food truck vendors are free and clear of all regulations, however. They are currently regulated as both restaurants and vehicles.³⁴

It has not taken long for bureaucratic regulators and brick and mortar businesses to take notice of food truck vendors' recent success. Numerous brick and mortar restaurants are screaming that food truck vendors are harming their businesses. And the Metro Traffic & Parking Commission is proposing a litany of new regulations on these traveling entrepreneurs—

in addition to those already imposed upon food truck vendors as restaurants and vehicles.

Among the proposed regulations include a cutoff time of 2:00 a.m., after which food truck vendors would be unable to sell food. The proposed regulations would also prohibit more than two vendors from setting up on the same block at one time, and like the draconian restrictions on street vendors, limit the locations in which food trucks could park and serve food.³⁵

Entrepreneurs like Ryan Bussey, operator of Loveshack, a food truck with a selection of grub, sees this as an infringement upon his ability to provide customers with what they want. Ryan recently told the *Tennessean*, "If I were to leave a bar late at night, I would rather eat at a food truck that has fresh food, instead of processed food."³⁶ If Metro's regulators and certain competitors have their way, Ryan will be out of luck, as food truck vendors will soon find themselves entangled in a web of regulations designed to thwart competition and give unbridled power to the city's bureaucratic class.



Similar to street vendors, "hucksters" and "peddlers" are heavily regulated in Nashville. Although both terms have held negative connotations since the 16th Century, they are still used in the Metro Code to refer to those that sell items on the street. This is a prime example of how common entrepreneurs are often viewed by those in power: with callous disdain.

Like with street vendors, those referred to as hucksters and peddlers must comply with a myriad of rules as to where they can sell their goods. The most traversed areas of town are walled off to these entrepreneurs, making it more difficult for them to earn a living. For instance, hucksters and peddlers are prohibited from selling items in the entire areas surrounding the Nashville Convention Center and the Bridgestone Arena when events are taking place.³⁷ Similarly, the area surrounding Municipal Auditorium is off-limits between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on event days.³⁸

While maps are provided through the county clerk's office, they are often difficult to read and contain confusing overlays. Even an accidental violation of these complicated rules will result in a criminal misdemeanor and a \$50 fine.³⁹ This may sound trivial, but the law is written so that each time an

item is sold or merely offered for sale, the person can be slapped with an additional fine.⁴⁰ Thus, a person unwittingly selling 20 t-shirts in the wrong location could face a \$1,000 fine, enough to shut down even a flourishing entrepreneur.

The law becomes even more complicated when the items being sold are vegetables, produce, berries, fruits, fresh or salted meats, or other eatables. Anyone selling these items must obtain a peddler or huckster's permit from Metro. 42

Those seeking to sell items on the streets of Nashville face tough penalties for working in the maze of prohibited areas, the negative undertones of being called a huckster or peddler, and inconsistent requirements depending on the good they choose to sell. Alas, these unfriendly laws deter many aspiring entrepreneurs to shun this line of work. Nashville has a thriving downtown area that is enjoyed by tourists and residents alike. Local entrepreneurs should be allowed to join in on the fun.



A taxicab company might be one of the toughest businesses to break into in Nashville. The taxicab provisions literally add inches to the Metro Code, with nearly sixty different sections devoted to taxicab operators.⁴³

Few people can afford to raise the necessary money to start a taxicab business in Nashville. Whereas most entrepreneurs start small and grow their companies, anyone seeking to start a taxicab company must first purchase at least 20 vehicles that are no more than nine years old, making it highly risky to enter this line of business. 44 This is especially true because aspiring taxicab company owners are at the mercy of the Metro Transportation Licensing Commission. It is only if the commission finds that additional taxicabs are necessary for the public convenience that it will issue a certificate to operate a taxicab company. 45 Moreover, before receiving the certificate, the applicant must comply with several extensive requirements.

The application itself must include: the name and address of the applicant, which is limited to Metro residents only; proof of United States citizenship or residency; the financial status of the applicant,

including any court judgments against him or her; the experience of the applicant in the transportation of passengers; any information that proves that public convenience and necessity require the granting of the certificate; the number of vehicles and their year and model; the color scheme and insignia to be used to designate the vehicles of the applicant; any commitment to deliver services areas that are not currently served or are inadequately served; procedures for training drivers; rules and regulations governing driver appearance and conduct; and finally, such further information as the commission may require.⁴⁶

Once approved, the applicant must pay a \$75 fee for every vehicle in his fleet, which will cost at least \$1,500 because of the 20-car minimum requirement.⁴⁷ In addition, he must provide extensive details about each car in the fleet four times a year—even those temporarily out of service—at a total cost of \$180 per car.⁴⁸ Each car must contain a unique color scheme, insignia, and serial number approved by the commission.⁴⁹ Every person hired to drive the taxis must also undergo a background check and physical, pass a "taxi driver knowledge test," and obtain a special license, at a

total cost of \$95.⁵⁰ In total, it would cost a person more than \$156,000 just to meet the application requirements and pay the fees associated with starting a taxicab company in the Music City.⁵¹

If a person successfully jumps the excessive hurdles and is finally able to start operating, he must continually comply with various requirements or risk being fined or even shut down. The owner must keep his office open 24-hours-per-day and subject his vehicles to thorough examination.⁵² He must also keep a log of every trip, including the origin and destination, time of trip, fare charged, and number of occupants, further increasing the

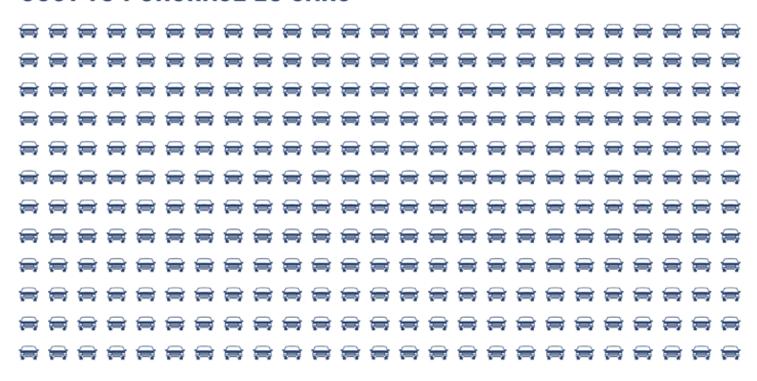
bureaucracy and costs involved in doing business.⁵³ As if these requirements were not enough, the commission—not the free market—regulates fare rates, which can place even more burdens on taxicab companies.⁵⁴

It should not be surprising that, because of these far-reaching regulations, there are only five authorized taxicab companies in Nashville.⁵⁵ These regulations not only harm aspiring entrepreneurs, but they limit choice and convenience and drive up costs to taxicab customers by limiting competition.

MINIMUM COST IN METRO FEES TO START A TAXICAB COMPANY

(EACH CAR REPRESENTS \$500)

COST TO PURCHASE 20 CARS



ANNUAL PERMIT FEES

DRIVERS' RENEWAL FEES

QUARTERLY REPORTING FEES

8888888

DRIVERS' TESTS/LICENSES



Though not as stringent as taxicabs, there are regulations that surround those providing valet services in Nashville. Any hotel, restaurant, or small business that provides valet services to its customers must obtain a \$50 permit from the Metro Department of Public Works, plus pay the cost of using any metered spaces.⁵⁶ Failure to obtain a valid permit results in a fine of \$50 per day.⁵⁷

Only hotels are permitted to operate 24-hour valet services, giving them an unfair advantage over other businesses. All other businesses must cease operations between 6:00 to 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.⁵⁸ Valet service companies are limited in who they can hire, as all employees must have a Tennessee drivers' license, preventing nonresidents without a Tennessee license from serving as valet drivers in Nashville.⁵⁹

Finally, the Metro Code gives the Traffic & Parking Commission wide latitude in determining just who can obtain a valet services permit and also

gives them expansive discretion to shut down valet service operators if the commission simply believes it is unfavorable to the public health, safety, or welfare. Like other provisions of the Metro Code, these ambiguous and vague provisions make valet service operators susceptible to abuse and inconsistent regulations, as well as significant fines. To avoid risking these fines and costs, many Nashville businesses, restaurants, and hotels refuse to provide this convenient service to their many customers.

AUCTIONEERS

Auctioneers in Nashville are no less burdened. The Metro Code places strict requirements on auctioneers and is written so that even entrepreneurs that sell items online through eBay and other online auctions could potentially be subject to its requirements. Anyone wishing to sell items in an auction-type format must first file an inventory of their merchandise, along with an affidavit describing the quantity, quality, kind or grade of each item. This record must be kept on file and is subject to public inspection.

The Code then places more exacting requirements on auction sales of "diamonds, watches, clocks, jewelry, silverware, oriental rugs, or like articles" by prohibiting the sale of such items between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.⁶⁵

While unnecessary for any auctioneer, these requirements could be most detrimental to those that sell items online. At a time when finding gainful employment is extremely difficult, many Nashvillians have embraced the technological age by selling items on the Internet. Thanks to the vague and overbroad provisions of the Metro Code, these entrepreneurs will be lucky to make ends meet.

The regulations are even more rigorous when the auction involves the sale of automobiles or jewelry. While this is limited to automobiles or jewelry sold at "public auction," the Metro Code does not define public auction, meaning that it could be read by the government to include any sale of those items in an auction format, including online.

If one wishes to sell a car or jewelry at auction, he must first apply for a permit, providing his name, address, and occupation, as well as the same information for the owner of the car or jewelry if not the same person. The person must state the place and hour of the auction, with an estimate of the duration. 66 This last requirement can be particularly difficult—if not outright impossible—for those selling items online.

Once the application is submitted, the fees begin to pile up. The applicant must post a \$3,000 bond, a permit fee of \$5, as well as a \$50 vendor fee.⁶⁷

If approved, the permit is only good for six days, and the applicant can only receive one permit every year.⁶⁸ As if Metro Government were the Grinch Who Stole Christmas, Nashvillians are prohibited from auctioning off watches, clocks, jewelry, precious gems, glassware, or ornaments during the entire month of December!⁶⁹

CONCLUSION

Nashville residents deserve better from their political leaders. Especially in this tough economic climate, paths to entrepreneurship should not be rife with obstacles that prevent Nashvillians from earning an honest living. Local leaders must tear down the barriers to economic liberty for all entrepreneurs, the home-based business owner, the street vendor, and the auctioneer alike.

The Tennessee Center for Policy Research recommends the following steps to reforming the local economic landscape:

- 1. Review every law, rule, fee, and paperwork requirement in the Metro Code and eliminate those that are not absolutely necessary to protect public safety.
- 2.Reform the extensive laws on home-based businesses so that Nashvillians can work freely from their homes so long as they do not create a nuisance to their neighbors.
- 3. Eradiate the inconsistencies and vague rules and regulations that apply to entrepreneurs and that deter them from plying their trade.
- 4.Remove incomprehensible location restrictions on street vendors and peddlers, especially those that prevent these entrepreneurs from serving customers in the most tourist-laden areas of the city.
- 5.Stop the favorable treatment of certain businesses, such as large taxicab companies and hotels, that operate with an advantage over their current or would-be competitors.

With the implementation of these steps, Nashvillians will truly achieve economic liberty, and do so not only to their own benefit, but also to that of the entire Nashville community.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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ABOUT TCPR

The Tennessee Center for Policy Research, is an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan research organization dedicated to providing concerned citizens, the media and public leaders with expert empirical research and timely free market policy solutions to public policy issues in Tennessee.

The Center generates and encourages public policy remedies grounded in the innovation of private enterprises, the ingenuity of individuals and the abilities of active communities to achieve a freer, more prosperous Tennessee.

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ENDNOTES

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- ²⁰Ibid.
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- ²³TENN. CODE ANN. § 62-30-102 to -103 and § 68-14-313(a)(1)(C) (2011).
- ²⁴NASHVILLE, TENN., CODE § 13.08.040(B)(4); TENN. CODE ANN. § 68-14-302(15) (2011).
- ²⁵"Regulations for Temporary Sidewalk Encroachment." Metropolitan Traffic and Parking Commission. Dec. 12, 1998.
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⁴⁶Id. at § 6.72.030(B).

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⁴⁸Id. at § 6.72.070.

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⁵⁰"Taxicab Driver Permit Process." Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County Transportation Licensing Commission.

⁵¹Based on total application fees plus the Kelly Blue Book Suggested Retail Value of twenty nine-year-old (2002 model) Ford Crown Victorias with 50,000 miles.

⁵²NASHVILLE, TENN., CODE §§ 6.72.220 and .240.

⁵³Id. at § 6.72.230.

⁵⁴Id. at § 6.72.250.

⁵⁵"Taxicab Companies." Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County Transportation Licensing Commission. http://www.nashville.gov/tlc/taxi_co.htm.

⁵⁶NASHVILLE, TENN., CODE § 12.41.040.

⁵⁷Id. at § 12.41.070.

⁵⁸Id. at § 12.41.040.

⁵⁹Id. at § 12.41.050.

⁶⁰Id. at §§ 12.41.020 and .030.

⁶¹Id. at § 12.41.070.

⁶²Id. at § 6.84.010.

⁶³Id. at § 6.84.020.

⁶⁴lbid.

⁶⁵Id. at § 6.84.040.

⁶⁶Id. at § 6.88.040.

⁶⁷Id. at §§ 6.88.050 and .080.

⁶⁸Id. at § 6.88.060.

69 Ibid.