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## No. 100 An Order Enhancing Protective Procedures For the Purchase of Firearms

Bill Lee

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Secretary of State  
Tre Hargett



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 100

**AN ORDER ENHANCING PROTECTIVE PROCEDURES FOR  
THE PURCHASE OF FIREARMS**

**WHEREAS**, it is the duty of the State of Tennessee to protect Constitutional rights, promote public safety, and protect the lives of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is an essential tool for preventing dangerous individuals from purchasing firearms; and

**WHEREAS**, Tennessee has chosen to implement a state system, the Tennessee Instant Check System (TICS), overseen by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), and this system is utilized for conducting background checks for proposed sales of firearms in Tennessee and for supplying NICS with the local records and information necessary to identify which individuals are prohibited from purchasing a firearm; and

**WHEREAS**, recent tragedies in Nashville and throughout our nation have demonstrated the devastating impact of firearms possession by those intending to cause harm to themselves or others and underscore the need for more effective instant background checks; and

**WHEREAS**, effective instant background checks rely on information that is accurate, complete, and submitted in a timely manner; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence convictions, orders of protection, mental health adjudications, and other disqualifying history should be accurately and expeditiously reported to the instant background check system to prevent dangerous persons from accessing firearms, and everyone with a duty to report has an individual responsibility to properly fulfill their duty; and

**WHEREAS**, improving the accuracy, completeness, and timely reporting of records submitted to the instant background check system can make our communities safer for all Tennesseans.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and the laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby direct and order the following:

1. All entities with obligations to report relevant information that is accessible in the Tennessee Instant Check System (TICS) shall ensure that all relevant information is either entered into TICS or provided to the TBI within seventy-two (72) hours of an entity's receipt of the information. For purposes of this Order, relevant information is criminal history information and court mental health information.
2. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) shall ensure that the circuit, chancery, and general sessions courts of this State accurately, completely, and timely submit relevant information into either the TBI's FlexCheck database or directly to the TBI for entry into TICS.
3. The TBI shall review TICS to determine how the process for submitting information to TICS may be improved. Within sixty (60) days of this Order, the TBI shall submit a report to the Governor and the Speakers of the Senate and the House of Representatives that identifies any barriers to complete, accurate, and timely reporting of information that is accessible in TICS.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 11th day of April, 2023.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

