

# **TCA Policy for the TCA Listserv<sup>1</sup>**

*Effective 12/12/07*

The Tennessee Counseling Association (TCA<sup>2</sup>) listserv is a moderated discussion forum for all counselors. The listserv was created to promote and benefit the counseling profession and counselors. Operation of the listserv is financed by TCA via the dues of its membership and it is therefore a benefit of TCA members. By a vote of the TCA Board, membership in the listserv is open to anyone.

As a moderated listserv, all messages are screened by the webmaster before posting. The criteria for messages to be approved for the listserv follows the criteria listed below:

- 1) Messages may not include any offer to solicit, induce, promote, or conduct business. This includes for profit and non-profit businesses and organizations. This does not exclude postings or messages where a poster<sup>3</sup> is providing a resource(s) in response to a request for such a resource. Additionally, this rule does not preclude messages from organizations that are sponsors of the TCA conference. However, TCA conference sponsors do need prior approval of the TCA President before posting to the listserv. The TCA President will then review each request with a committee of the President's choosing.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.tncounselors.org/list%20serv.htm>    <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/TNcounselor/?yguid=5709135>

<sup>2</sup> TCA – Tennessee Counseling Association – [www.Tncounselors.org](http://www.Tncounselors.org)

<sup>3</sup> Poster – A person sending a message on the TCA listserv

2) The counseling profession is a growing and ever changing professional field. Open discussion, disagreement, suggestions, and questions of controversial and “real life” topics are common and are expected in areas where professionals seek to understand and learn new ideas. However, respect, tolerance, and professionalism is also expected of listserv members and of persons posting messages, comments, suggestions, and questions. TCA listserv members agree to the following guidelines for ethical and appropriate behavior when posting<sup>4</sup> on the TCA listserv. These guidelines are also incorporated into the TCA listserv policy.

(a) TCA, its members, and members of the TCA listserv agree to follow, support, and accept the guideline and rules as set forth by the American Counseling Association (ACA<sup>5</sup>) Code of Ethics.

(b) Listserv members are also obligated to follow the Terms of Service<sup>6</sup> set forth by the listserv host site.

(c) **TCA listserv members agree to follow the policy of the Tennessee Counseling Association and to not knowingly engage in or support activities that discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability.**

Members of the TCA listserv understand that threats, cultural and religious intolerance, and any violation of the above guidelines is forbidden and not permitted. **Violators will be immediately removed from the listserv.**

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<sup>4</sup> Sending messages on the TCA listserv

<sup>5</sup> ACA – American Counseling Association - [www.Counseling.org](http://www.Counseling.org)

<sup>6</sup> Terms of Service <http://info.yahoo.com/legal/us/yahoo/utos/utos-173.html>

- 3) The listserv format is a new and changing technology. It is not a peer reviewed authority. Therefore, TCA can not and will not be held liable for the messages, actions, accuracy, or statements made by posters to the listserv. Individual members of the listserv are ultimately responsible for their own postings and the consequences.
- 4) Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the TCA Board to approve, support, and/or modify the TCA listserv policy statement. Members are obligated and encouraged to monitor this policy for changes that may be made after each TCA Board meeting. This policy and changes are posted on the TCA web site [www.tncounselors.org](http://www.tncounselors.org).
- 5) Listserv members that violate any of the TCA listserv policies stated herein are subject to being banned from the TCA listserv and will be immediately removed from the TCA listserv. Once removed, only the TCA Executive Board may reinstitute a banned member