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## East Tennessee Historical Society Honors Washington County Teacher with Award of Excellence in History

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., May 24, 2019 – The East Tennessee Historical Society's (ETHS) annual Awards of Excellence were presented at the organization's Annual Meeting on May 14, 2019, at the Foundry on the World's Fair Site in Knoxville. Since 1982, the Society has annually recognized individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming, and interpretation of the region's history. One Washington County teacher was among the 44 awards presented.

• **Jeff Gray,** received a **Teaching Excellence Award** for his work instilling in his students a deep appreciation for the richness of history and a heightened ability to extract its important lessons. With a teaching method that focuses on using analytical abilities to discern various sides of historical episodes, students leave his classroom with lessons that will help them in school and beyond. Jeff has been a guiding force for the First Tennessee History Alliance and a leader among social studies teachers in the First CORE region of the state, northeast Tennessee.

## About the East Tennessee Historical Society:

Established in 1834, the East Tennessee Historical Society has 2,000 members across the United States. The Society sponsors the Museum of East Tennessee History, East Tennessee National History Day, and the family heritage programs "First Families of Tennessee" and "Civil War Families of Tennessee." Its active publications program includes the biannual genealogy magazine *Tennessee Ancestors;* the annual *Journal of East Tennessee History;* and *Newsline,* as well as other books pertaining to the region's history. For more information on ETHS, exhibitions, or programs, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at <a href="https://www.EastTNHistory.org">www.EastTNHistory.org</a>.