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Court System - Historical Notes

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Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Court System - Historical Notes

Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors

The following acts once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Montgomery County, but are no longer operative.

- 1. Acts of 1799, Chapter 40, required Montgomery County to send ten jurors to the Superior Courts of the Mero District. Other Counties listed were: Sumner, seven; Smith, four; Wilson, four; Robertson, five; and Williamson, five.
- 2. Acts of 1803, Chapter 73, reapportioned the responsibility of the Counties in the Mero District to send jurors to the Courts because of the establishment of several new Counties. Montgomery County was required to send four jurors.
- 3. Acts of 1817, Chapter 128, authorized several counties, Montgomery County included, to levy a special tax to pay the jurors attending the County and Circuit Courts additional compensation, not to exceed fifty cents per day.

Chancery Court

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Montgomery County, although they no longer have the force of law since they have either been superseded by general law, repealed, or failed to receive local ratification. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- 1. Public Acts of 1822, Chapter 13, stated that the Chancery Courts of Tennessee would be held by one of the Justices of the Supreme Court at the existing places of holding the Supreme Court at least once each year. The Equity Courts would be held at Rogersville on the first Monday in November, at Knoxville, on the third Monday of November, at Charlotte on the fourth Monday in December, at Sparta, on the second Monday in December, at Nashville on the fourth Monday in January and at Columbia on the second Monday in January, each term to continue for two weeks unless the docket was completed sooner.
- 2. Public Acts of 1824, Chapter 14, required that the Judges of the Supreme Court make the arrangements among themselves to hold the Chancery Courts of the State at least twice each year at the places listed in the Act, which were Greenville, Rogersville, Kingston, McMinnville, Franklin, Columbia, Carthage, Jackson, and at Charlotte for the Counties of Montgomery, Robertson, Dickson, Stewart, Humphreys, and Hickman on the third Monday in June and December.
- 3. Public Acts of 1827, Chapter 79, divided the State into two Chancery Divisions. The Eastern Division held court at Rogersville, Greeneville, Kingston, Carthage, and McMinnville, and the Western Division had its courts at Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte, Jackson, and Paris.
- 4. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 4, enacted after the adoption of the 1835 Constitution, separated the State into three Chancery Divisions which were further divided into Districts. Three Chancellors would be appointed by the joint ballot of the General Assembly to preside over the Courts instead of the Supreme Court Justices. These Chancellors would hold Court at least twice each year. Montgomery and Stewart Counties were the Thirteenth District of the Middle Division, whose Court would be held in Clarksville on the first Monday in April and October but suits originating in Robertson County could be filed at Clarksville or at Gallatin.
- 5. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 14, organized Montgomery, Dickson, Humphreys, Hickman, Stewart, and Cumberland Counties into one Chancery Division. Court would be held at Charlotte in Dickson County and all suits and process would be returnable there. The Court in Clarksville was abolished. The Chancellor of the Western Division would appoint the Clerk and Master for the Court at Charlotte.
- 6. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 66, established a Chancery Court at Clarksville with Montgomery County as a separate Chancery District and a part of the Western Division.
- 7. Acts of 1841-42, Chapter 27, set the time for holding the Chancery Court in Montgomery County on the third Monday in March and September at Clarksville.
- 8. Acts of 1843-44, Chapter 155, repealed all laws passed in that legislative session which changed the time for holding Chancery Court in Clarksville and Charlotte. The Courts would be held at the times previously set.
- 9. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 168, directed the Chancellor of the Middle Division to hold the Chancery Courts at Clarksville and Charlotte and established the time for holding such courts as the last

Thursday before the fourth Monday in April and October. Chancellors of the State were authorized to solemnize rites of matrimony

- 10. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 178, changed the time for holding Chancery Court terms in Montgomery County to the first Thursday after the third Monday in April and October at Clarksville.
- 11. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 55, provided that the Chancery Court would be held in Montgomery County at Clarksville on the third Monday in April and October.
- 12. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, was a complete revision of the lower equity judicial system of the State. Montgomery County was assigned to the Middle Division along with the Counties of Marshall, Cheatham, Giles, Maury, Lewis, Williamson, Stewart, Davidson and Robertson. The court terms for Montgomery County would begin in Clarksville on the third Monday in April and October.
- 13. Private Acts of 1859-60, Chapter 14, created a new Seventh Chancery Division of Tennessee allocating to it the Counties of Overton, Jackson, Macon, Sumner, Robertson, Montgomery, Smith, and Stewart. The elected Chancellor would also have the jurisdiction of a Circuit Judge and would hold the Circuit Court of Sumner County. The Chancellor for the new Division would be elected at the next general election and would hold Court in Clarksville on the third Monday in April and October.
- 14. Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 18, reduced the number of counties in the Seventh Chancery Division and included in it the Counties of Montgomery, Sumner, Robertson, Stewart, Macon, and Jackson. The act changed the Court terms for some Counties but Montgomery County remained as it was, on the third Monday of April and October.
- 15. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 32, organized the State into twelve Chancery Districts. The Sixth District was made up of the Counties of Wilson, Sumner, Robertson, Stewart, Cheatham, and Trousdale.
- 16. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 47, scheduled the opening dates for the terms of the Chancery Court in every county in the State. In Montgomery County, the Chancery Court would begin its terms on the fourth Monday in February and the first Monday in July.
- 17. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 12, rescheduled the terms of the Chancery Courts in the sixth Chancery Division which contained the Counties of Houston, Cheatham, Stewart, Trousdale, Robertson, Wilson, Montgomery, and Sumner. The Chancery Court for Montgomery County would start its terms on the fourth Monday in April and the first Monday in November.
- 18. Public Acts of 1877, Chapter 47, rearranged the opening dates of the Chancery Court terms in the Sixth Chancery Division. The Chancery Court at Clarksville would start on the first Monday in February and July.
- 19. Public Acts of 1879, Chapter 36, changed some of the Chancery Court terms in the Sixth Chancery Division but did not change Montgomery County's terms.
- 20. Public Acts of 1883, Chapter 21, reset the terms of the Chancery Court in the counties of the Sixth Chancery Division. The Division contained the Counties of Trousdale, Stewart, Houston, Montgomery, Wilson, Cheatham, Robertson, and Sumner. Chancery Court would meet at Clarksville on the third Monday in April and the first Monday in October.
- 21. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, was a major reorganization of the lower Court System of the State. Eleven Chancery Divisions were formed and the Eighth Chancery Division was composed of the Counties of Sumner, Wilson, Robertson, Stewart, Houston, Cheatham, Humphreys, and Trousdale. The Montgomery County Chancery Court would convene on the third Monday in April and first Monday in October. This Act, and nearly every other organizational and jurisdictional Act, was part of the litigation in the case of <u>Elynn v. State</u>, 203 Tenn. 341, 313 S.W.2d 249 (1958).
- 22. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 13, detached Montgomery County from the Eighth Chancery Division and provided that the Judge of the County and Criminal Courts would hold the Chancery Court at no extra compensation.
- 23. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 302, repealed Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 13.
- 24. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, completely revised the lower judicial system of Tennessee, dividing the State into ten Chancery Divisions. The Sixth Chancery Division had in it the Counties of Sumner, Robertson, Cheatham, Montgomery, Stewart, Houston, Dickson, Humphreys, Hickman, and Wilson. Chancery Court in Montgomery County would start on the first Monday in February and September.
- 25. Acts of 1905, Chapter 286, changed the times for some of the Court dates in the Sixth Chancery Division but did not alter Montgomery County's. Hickman, Robertson, Cheatham, Wilson, Dickson,

Sumner, Humphreys, Stewart, and Henry Counties were the other Counties in the Division.

- 26. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 455, again changed the schedule of Chancery Court terms in the Sixth Chancery Division but Montgomery County retained the schedule of the first Monday in February and September.
- 27. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, was a total revision of the lower court structure of the State. The act was the last act of this nature appearing in the volumes of private acts. Later acts became a part of the Tennessee Code Annotated. Fourteen Chancery Divisions were organized in the State. The Sixth Division contained the Counties of Montgomery, Robertson, Hickman, Cheatham, Stewart, Houston, Dickson, Humphreys, Wilson, and Sumner. The times for Court terms in Montgomery County remained the same.

Chancery Court - Clerk and Master

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Montgomery County. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- 1. Acts of 1796, Chapter 21, set forth the procedure for the reconstruction of legal documents destroyed by fire in 1795 in the office of the Clerk of the Chancery Court for the Mero District.
- 2. Public Acts of 1821, Chapter 20, amended Acts of 1796, Chapter 21, by authorizing the filing of affidavits to replace documents destroyed in the fire of 1795 in the Mero District Chancery Clerk's office.
- 3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 274, declared that females, married or single, over the age of twenty-one years and resident in Montgomery County, were eligible for appointment as deputy in the offices of Register of Deeds, Trustee, and Clerk and Master of Montgomery County.
- 4. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 404, set the salary for the Montgomery County Clerk and Master at \$1,500 per year. All fees received by the office would become County property with the exception of fees received by the Clerk and Master for services as a Court-appointed receiver and commissions received on the sale of real estate ordered by the Court.
- 5. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 812, set the annual compensation of the Montgomery County Clerk and Master at \$2,000. Fees and commissions received by the office in excess of that amount were to be turned into the County Treasury. In the event such fees and commissions amounted to less than \$2,000 then the annual compensation would be the lesser amount and no more.
- 6. Private Acts of 1935 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 70, set the compensation of the Clerk and Master at \$1,500 annually, payable monthly out of County funds.
- 7. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 21, repealed Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 404.
- 8. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 22, set the salary of the Clerk and Master at \$3000 per year, payable monthly out of County funds. All fees, other than those expressly exempted or already earned before the passage of the act, became the property of the County.
- 9. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 70, repealed Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 22.
- 10. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 71, fixed the salary of the Clerk and Master at \$3,000 annually, payable monthly. All fees, compensations and emoluments earned by the Clerk and Master would be retained as additional compensation.

Circuit Court

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Montgomery County. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- 1. Acts of 1796, Chapter 21, set forth the procedure for the reconstruction of legal documents destroyed by fire in 1795 in the office of the Clerk of the Chancery Court for the Mero District.
- 2. Public Acts of 1821, Chapter 20, amended Acts of 1796, Chapter 21, by authorizing the filing of affidavits to replace documents destroyed in the fire of 1795 in the Mero District Chancery Clerk's office.
- 3. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 274, declared that females, married or single, over the age of twenty-one years and resident in Montgomery County, were eligible for appointment as deputy in the offices of Register of Deeds, Trustee, and Clerk and Master of Montgomery County.
- 4. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 404, set the salary for the Montgomery County Clerk and Master at \$1,500 per year. All fees received by the office would become County property with the exception of fees received by the Clerk and Master for services as a Court-appointed receiver and commissions received on the sale of real estate ordered by the Court.
- 5. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 812, set the annual compensation of the Montgomery County Clerk

and Master at \$2,000. Fees and commissions received by the office in excess of that amount were to be turned into the County Treasury. In the event such fees and commissions amounted to less than \$2,000 then the annual compensation would be the lesser amount and no more.

- 6. Private Acts of 1935 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 70, set the compensation of the Clerk and Master at \$1,500 annually, payable monthly out of County funds.
- 7. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 21, repealed Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 404.
- 8. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 22, set the salary of the Clerk and Master at \$3000 per year, payable monthly out of County funds. All fees, other than those expressly exempted or already earned before the passage of the act, became the property of the County.
- 9. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 70, repealed Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 22.
- 10. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 71, fixed the salary of the Clerk and Master at \$3,000 annually, payable monthly. All fees, compensations and emoluments earned by the Clerk and Master would be retained as additional compensation.

<u>Circuit Court - Clerk</u>

The following acts have no current effect, but once applied to the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk. They were repealed, superseded, or never received local approval.

- 1. Public Acts of 1897, Chapter 124, established the salary of several county officials across the state according to county population. The salary of the Circuit Court Clerk of Montgomery County was \$1,500 annually.
- 2. Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, created a Criminal Court in Montgomery County. The Circuit Court Clerk would serve as the Clerk of the Criminal Court.
- 3. Acts of 1903, Chapter 69, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, by establishing the salary of the Assistant Attorney General and by declaring that the Circuit Court Clerk and the Sheriff would not be required to post an additional bond on account of their duties regarding the Criminal Court.
- 4. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 274, declared that females, married or single, over the age of twenty-one years, and resident in Montgomery County, were eligible for appointment as deputy in the offices of Register of Deeds, Circuit Court Clerk, Trustee, and Clerk and Master of Montgomery County.
- 5. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 601, established the annual salary of the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk serving in the dual capacity as Clerk for the Circuit and Criminal Courts at \$3,600. All fees, commissions, and emoluments received by the Clerk for services were to be turned over to the public treasury and if they amounted to less then \$3,600 then the Clerk's compensation would equal the lesser amount.
- 6. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 812, fixed the salaries of several County officials in Montgomery County. The fees, costs, and commissions collected by the officer were to be turned over to the County Treasury and if they amounted to less than the stated salary then the compensation of the respective offices would equal the lesser amount. The salary of the Circuit Court Clerk was \$2,000.
- 7. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 23, authorized the Circuit Court Clerk of Montgomery county to employ a clerk or stenographer to assist him in the duties of his office at a salary of \$125 per month to be paid from County funds.
- 8. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 156, authorized the Circuit Court Clerk to employ two clerks or stenographers to assist him in the duties of his office at \$175 per month, each, to be paid out of the general funds of the County.
- 9. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 281, amended Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 156, by raising the salary of the clerks or stenographers employed by the Circuit Court Clerk to \$225, each, per month, payable out of general funds.
- 10. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 270, amended Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 281, by raising the salary of two clerks or stenographers employed by the circuit court clerk one at \$250 per month and one at \$275 per month.

Criminal Court

The following acts once pertained to the Montgomery County Criminal Court, but are no longer current law. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Acts of 1841-42, Chapter 27, set the second Monday in January as the day the criminal cases

would be heard in Circuit Court in Montgomery County. All civil cases then pending in Circuit Court would be adjourned over until the first Monday in March, the date for beginning the first of three regular terms of Court.

- 2. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 171, created a Criminal Court for Montgomery, Rutherford, and Wilson Counties, to be held at Nashville, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, and Lebanon, which would be presided over by the Criminal Court Judge of Davidson County. Each court would be held three times a year. The Circuit Courts in the three affected Counties would retain criminal jurisdiction so far as to empanel a grand jury at the regular terms of Court for the finding of bills of indictment and presentments.
- 3. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 55, provided that after the next term of the Criminal Court in Montgomery County, the Court would be held on the first Monday of January, May and September.
- 4. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 158, provided that the Circuit Court for Sumner County would be transferred to and held by the Judge of the Criminal Court of Rutherford, Davidson, and Montgomery Counties.
- Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 98, provided that the Criminal Districts of Davidson, Rutherford, and Montgomery would hold three terms of court in each year at Nashville, Clarksville, and Murfreesboro.
- 6. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 115, established a Criminal Court for Montgomery County to be held in Clarksville. The Court was vested with the same jurisdiction then held by the Circuit Courts of the State for the trial and presentment of crimes and offenses against the State occurring within Montgomery County, and to the exclusion of the Circuit Court. The Circuit Court Clerk would be the Clerk for the new Court and the Sheriff would perform all duties then required relating to criminal cases in the Circuit Court. Terms of Court would begin on the first Wednesday of each month. The Judge of the County Court would be the Criminal Court Judge and the act conferred upon the Judge all the powers and jurisdiction of a Circuit Judge and the Judge would receive the same compensation as did Circuit Judges, payable from the County Treasury.
- 7. Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 63, amended Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 115, above, the act creating the Criminal Court for Montgomery County, by providing for four terms of Court beginning on the fourth Monday in January and the Fourth Monday in April, the second Monday in August and the second Monday in November, and authorized special terms of Court within the discretion of the Judge of the Criminal Court.
- 8. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 53, fixed the salary of the Judge of the Criminal Court for Montgomery County at \$1,800 per year, payable from the State Treasury.
- 9. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, amended Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 53, to set the salary of the Criminal Court Judge at \$1250 annually.
- 10. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 13, provided that the Judge of the County and Criminal Court would also hold the Chancery Court for Montgomery County which was detached from the Eighth Chancery District.
- 11. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 302, repealed Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 115, and Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 13.
- 12. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, directed that the Criminal jurisdiction of Montgomery County be conferred upon the Circuit Court to be exercised by the Judge of that Court at the times then specified by law.
- 13. Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, established a Criminal Court for Montgomery County to be held at Clarksville and to have all the jurisdiction then conferred upon the Circuit Court in the presentment and trial of offenses against the State, to the exclusion of the Circuit Court. The Clerk of the Circuit Court was designated to act also as the Clerk of the Criminal Court. The Judge of the County Court was to be the Judge of the Criminal Court and the terms of the new Court would be held on the first Monday in February, June and November, and the third Monday in August. The County Judge's salary was fixed at \$2,500 and he would receive no further compensation for holding Criminal Court.
- 14. Acts of 1909, Chapter 579, amended Private Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, by providing that the Criminal Court Judge would be paid a salary equal to that of Circuit Judges and Chancellors in the State, to be paid one-half from Montgomery County funds and one-half from State funds.
- 15. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, provided that the Criminal Court in Montgomery County would be held on the first Monday in February, June, and November and on the third

Monday in August.

- 16. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 601, established the annual salary of the Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerks serving in the dual capacity as Clerk for the Circuit and Criminal Courts at \$3,600. All fees, commissions, and emoluments received by the Clerk for services were to be turned over to the public treasury and if they amounted to less than \$3600 then the Clerks compensation would equal the lesser amount.
- 17. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 812, set the salary of the Montgomery County Clerk of the Circuit and Criminal Courts at \$2,000. All fees, costs, and commissions collected by the office of Register would be turned in to the public County treasury and in the event they amounted to less than \$2,000, then the lesser amount would be the compensation of the Clerk.
- 18. Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 198, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, by deleting the section which established the County Judge as the Judge of the Criminal Court, and by designating the Judge of the Law and Equity Court of Montgomery County as the Judge of the Criminal Court and conferring on such Judge all power and jurisdiction necessary to discharge his duties.
- 19. Public Acts of 1975, Chapter 15, set the time for holding Criminal Court in Montgomery County as the third Monday in February, May, August, and November.
- 20. Public Acts of 1980, Chapter 557, set the time for holding Criminal Court as the third Monday in February, May, August, and November and further stated that Criminal Court may be held at any time. Civil cases were to be given priority by the Law and Equity Court, which held Criminal Court, during the terms fixed for the hearing of such civil cases.

District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators

The following acts once affecting Montgomery County are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

- 1. Acts of 1817, Chapter 65, set up ten Solicitorial Districts in Tennessee and assigned the Counties of Montgomery, Robertson, Dickson, Stewart, and Humphreys to the Tenth Solicitorial District.
- 2. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 28, enacted immediately after the 1835 Constitution was adopted, made each Solicitorial District coincide with each Judicial Circuit having criminal jurisdiction.
- 3. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 199, abolished the office of Attorney General for Montgomery County and removed the incumbent from office. His duties were to devolve upon and be performed by the Attorney General of the Tenth Judicial Circuit.
- 4. Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, created a Criminal Court for Montgomery County and declared that the Attorney General for the Tenth Judicial Circuit would continue to act as Attorney General for Montgomery County and that the Criminal Court Judge would appoint an Assistant Attorney General for the County for a limited term. After September 1, 1902, the Attorney General for the Judicial Circuit embracing Montgomery County would appoint an Assistant. The salary of the Assistant would be \$800 per year paid from fines and forfeitures assessed against defendants in Criminal Court.
- 5. Acts of 1903, Chapter 69, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, by fixing the annual salary of the Assistant Attorney General for Montgomery County at \$800 to be paid from the State Treasury.
- 6. Acts of 1909, Chapter 459, amended Private Acts of 1903, Chapter 69, by increasing the salary of the Assistant Attorney General from \$800 to \$1,500, annually.
- 7. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 267, created the office of Attorney General for the Criminal Court of Montgomery County. The Attorney General would be elected for eight-year terms. The annual salary was set at \$2,500 to be paid equally from the state treasury and the County Treasury.
- 8. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 506, amended Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 267, and required the Attorney General for the Criminal Court to perform all the duties ordinarily required of a County Attorney or those imposed upon him by the Quarterly Court in addition to his duties as Attorney General. No further compensation was allowed.
- 9. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 680, amended Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 267, above, by raising the salary of the Attorney General for the Criminal Court of Montgomery County from \$2,500 to \$3,000, one-half to be paid by the State and one-half by the County.
- 10. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 630, increased the annual salary of the Attorney General for the Criminal Court of Montgomery County to \$4,000.
- 11. Public Acts of 1959, Chapter 283, authorized the Attorney General for the Criminal Court to hire a

secretary at the annual salary of \$2,400 to perform general secretarial duties as determined by the Attorney General.

- 12. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 358, authorized the Attorney General for the Ninth Judicial Circuit to appoint an Assistant to serve at the pleasure of and perform the duties required by the said Attorney General.
- 13. Public Acts of 1970, Chapter 605, created the office of Criminal Investigator for the Montgomery County District Attorney Judicial District. The District Attorney General would appoint a suitable person to serve at the will of the Attorney General but who would have the powers and authority of a deputy sheriff. The duty of the Criminal Investigator was to investigate crimes, assist in the trial of cases, and perform other assigned tasks.
- 14. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 509, amended Public Acts of 1959, Chapter 283, by raising the annual salary of the secretary from \$2,400 to \$4,800.
- 15. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 777, created the office of Assistant District Attorney General for the Montgomery County District Attorney Judicial Circuit. The District Attorney General serving Montgomery County would fill the office by appointment and the person appointed would serve at the pleasure of the said District Attorney General.
- 16. Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 198, amended Acts of 1901, Chapter 396, by declaring that the Attorney General for Montgomery County would continue to act as Attorney General for the County.
- 17. Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 517, amended Public Acts of 1959, Chapter 283, by providing an annual salary of \$5,400 for the position of secretary.
- 18. Public Acts 1976, Chapter 522, repealed Public Acts of 1970, Chapter 605, and created an additional position of Assistant District Attorney General for Montgomery County.

General Sessions

The following acts once affected the general sessions court of Montgomery County, but are no longer in effect and are included herein for reference purposes.

- 1. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 113, created the Court of General Sessions of Montgomery County and vested in it the jurisdiction then held by the Justices of the Peace in criminal and civil cases. The authority of the Justices as members of the Quarterly Court was not affected. The Judge of the Court would be elected for eight year terms and would receive compensation of \$1,800 per year. The Clerk of the Criminal and Circuit Courts would act as Clerk and be paid \$300 per year for so acting.
- 2. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 761, amended Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 113, above, by increasing the salary of the Clerk of the General Sessions Court from \$300 to \$600 annually.
- 3. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 320, increased the salary of the Clerk of the General Sessions Court to \$900 annually.
- Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 673, increased the salary of the General Sessions Court Judge from \$1,800 and \$2,400 annually, and increased the compensation of the Clerk from \$900 to \$1,200 annually.
- 5. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 24, increased the annual salary of the General Session Court Judges to \$3,600.
- 6. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 589, amended Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 113, above, by requiring the plaintiff in a civil action commenced in the General Sessions Court to pay fees in advance but allowed paupers to proceed by taking the oath provided in Section 9080 of the 1932 Code of Tennessee.
- 7. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 590, increased the annual compensation of the Clerk of the General Sessions Court to \$1,800.

Juvenile Court

The following acts once affecting juvenile courts in Montgomery County are included herein for reference purposes.

- 1. Public Acts of 1983, Chapter 92, vested jurisdiction in the Montgomery County Juvenile Court over cases arising under the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act in addition to the concurrent jurisdiction then held by the Circuit and Criminal Courts.
- 2. Private Acts of 1988, Chapter 182, amended Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 106, and Private Acts

of 1961, Chapter 276, to vest concurrent probate jurisdiction in the chancery court and the court exercising juvenile jurisdiction. The act did not receive local approval and therefore did not become law.

Probate Court

The following acts once affecting probate courts in Montgomery County are included herein for reference purposes

- 1. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 168, created a Probate Court for Montgomery County and vested in it concurrent jurisdiction with the County Court in all matters of probate and administration of estates. The Judge of the General Sessions Court would serve as the Judge of the Probate Court and the County Court Clerk would act as the Clerk. The act was not approved locally and therefore it did not become law.
- 2. Private Acts of 1969, Chapter 23, created a Probate Court with concurrent jurisdiction with the County Court in matters of probate and administration of estates. The salary of the Judge of the Probate Court would be \$3,000 per year. The Judge of General Sessions Court would be Judge of the Probate Court. The County Court Clerk would be the Clerk. The act was not approved by local authorities and did not become law.
- 3. Private Acts of 1969, Chapter 107, is an act identical with the two acts summarized above, except the salary of the Judge of the Court was set at \$2,000 per year. This Act was not approved by the Quarterly County Court of the County and therefore did not become effective.
- 4. Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 249, created a Probate Court and vested it with concurrent jurisdiction with the County Court regarding matters of probate and administration of estates. The Judge of the Court of General Sessions would be the Judge of the Probate Court and receive a salary of \$4,000 per year. The County Court Clerk would act as Clerk.
- Private Acts of 1988, Chapter 182, amended Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 106, and Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 276, to vest concurrent probate jurisdiction in the chancery court and the court exercising juvenile jurisdiction. The act did not receive local approval and therefore did not become law.

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