



March 31, 2025

---

# Court System - Historical Notes

---

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website ([ctas.tennessee.edu](http://ctas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

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

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee  
County Technical Assistance Service  
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
615.532.3555 phone  
615.532.3699 fax  
[www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

Table of Contents

<b>Court System - Historical Notes .....</b>	<b>3</b>
--	----------

# Court System - Historical Notes

## **Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors**

The following acts once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Gibson County, but are no longer operative. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 63, created a Board of Jury Commissioners for Henry County. This Act was amended by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 254, to make the act applicable to Gibson and Haywood Counties. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 541, repealed the 1923 act as to Gibson County.
2. Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 136, created a Board of Jury Commissioners in Gibson County, but the act failed to gain the required local approval. The act was repealed by Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 160.
3. Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 160, created a jury commission for the circuit court of Gibson County and a jury commission for the law and equity court of Gibson County.

## **Chancery Court**

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of equity jurisdiction in Gibson County, although they no longer have the force of law since they have either been superseded by general law, repealed, or failed to receive local ratification.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

1. Public Acts of 1825, Chapter 32, directed the judges of the Supreme Court to hold a Court of Chancery at Paris twice a year, on the third Monday in April and October, for the counties of Perry, Henderson, Carroll, Henry, Weakley, Obion, Gibson and Dyer, and to appoint a clerk and master for said court.
2. Public Acts of 1827, Chapter 79, created two chancery divisions in Tennessee to be known as the Eastern and Western Divisions, and placed the chancery court for Gibson County, held at Paris, in the Western Division.
3. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 4, created three chancery divisions in Tennessee to be known as the Eastern, Middle and Western Divisions. The Western Division was composed of Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll, Benton, Perry, Henderson, Madison, Haywood, Tipton, Lauderdale, Fayette, Shelby, Henry, Hardeman and McNairy Counties. The Chancery Court for Gibson and Dyer Counties was designated the Second District of the Western Division. Court was to be held at Trenton on the second Mondays in May and November. This act was amended by Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 20, to set the dates for holding court at Trenton on the first Mondays in January and July. The act was further amended by Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 14, to abolish the court at Trenton and to provide that Henry, Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll, Benton, Perry and Madison Counties would compose one chancery division for which court would be held at Huntington on the first Mondays in February and August.
4. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 14, formed one chancery district of the counties of Henry, Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll, Benton, Perry, Henderson and Madison in the Western Division. Court was to be held at Huntington in Carroll County on the first Mondays in February and August. The chancery courts at Lexington, Paris, Jackson, Dresden, Trenton, Bolivar and Clarksville were abolished.
5. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 21, created a separate chancery division for Gibson and Dyer Counties to be held at Trenton on the second Mondays in March and September.
6. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 40, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the fourth Mondays in January and July.
7. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 158, changed the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton to the third Mondays in June and December.
8. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the third Mondays in June and December.
9. Public Acts of 1865-66, Chapter 20, established the 9th Chancery District comprised of Henry, Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Gibson, Carroll and Benton Counties, with court in Gibson County to be held on the third Mondays in January and July.
10. Public Acts of 1866-67, Chapter 25, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the

- first Mondays in April and November.
11. Public Acts of 1866-67, Chapter 33, established the counties of Haywood, Madison, Dyer and Gibson as a separate chancery district.
  12. Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 22, established the new Chancery Court of Humboldt, to be held on the first Mondays in June and December.
  13. Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 70, transferred jurisdiction over the 13th and 18th Civil Districts of Gibson County to the special courts at Humboldt, and provided for the transfer of pending cases in the 13th Civil District from chancery court at Trenton to chancery court at Humboldt.
  14. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 32, divided Tennessee into twelve chancery districts. The 11th District comprised Dyer, Obion, Lake, Weakley, Gibson, Etheridge, Carroll and Henry Counties.
  15. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 47, set the dates for holding chancery court in Gibson County on the first Mondays in July and January.
  16. Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 24, extended the jurisdiction of the chancery and circuit courts in Trenton to include the 13th and 20th civil districts of Gibson County, which had previously been subject to the special court at Humboldt.
  17. Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 88, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the third Monday of May and the second Monday in December, and at Humboldt on the first Mondays in June and December.
  18. Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 149, extended the jurisdiction of the Law Court and Chancery Court at Humboldt to include the 13th Civil District, repealing the conflicting portions of Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 24.
  19. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 28, changed the dates for holding chancery court in Trenton from the third Monday in May and the second Monday in December to the second Mondays in May and November.
  20. Public Acts of 1879, Chapter 73, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the first Mondays of May and November, and at Humboldt on the first Mondays of January and July.
  21. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, provided for eleven chancery divisions. The 10th Chancery Division included Fayette, Tipton, Haywood, Lauderdale, Dyer, Obion, Weakley and Gibson Counties. The dates for holding court at Trenton were set on the first Mondays in May and November, and at Humboldt on the second Mondays in February and August.
  22. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 23, set the dates for holding chancery court in Humboldt on the third Mondays in February and August, and in Trenton on the first Mondays in May and November.
  23. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 90, transferred jurisdiction over the 13th Civil District of Gibson County from the chancery court in Humboldt to the chancery court in Trenton.
  24. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 99, placed Gibson County in the 10th Chancery Division and set the dates for holding court in Trenton on the first Mondays in May and November, and in Humboldt on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January and the fourth Monday in June.
  25. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, created ten chancery divisions in Tennessee. The 9th Chancery Division was comprised of Dyer, Obion, Lake, Weakley, Gibson, Lauderdale, Fayette, Haywood, Tipton and Hardeman Counties. In Gibson County, chancery court was to meet in Trenton on the fourth Mondays in February and August, and in Humboldt on the third Mondays in March and September.
  26. Acts of 1903, Chapter 591, changed the time for holding chancery court in Trenton to the second Monday in February and the first Monday in September, and in Humboldt to the second Monday in March and the fourth Monday in September.
  27. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the second Monday in February and the first Monday in September, and at Humboldt on the second Monday in March and fourth Monday in September.
  28. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 203, gave the County Court Judge concurrent jurisdiction with the chancery court with regard to divorce cases and certain guardianship matters. The legislature attempted to repeal the 1941 act in Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 231, but the 1965 act failed to gain local approval. The 1941 act was finally repealed by Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 374.
  29. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, created a Law and Equity Court in Gibson County, which had concurrent jurisdiction with the Chancery Court of Gibson County and the Humboldt Chancery Court, and the Circuit Court and Law Court of Gibson County. The first term of the Law and

Equity Court at Trenton was set to begin on the first Monday in August, 1967, and thereafter on the first Mondays in October, December, February, April, June and August. The first term of the Law and Equity Court at Humboldt was set to begin on the first Monday in July, 1967, and thereafter on the first Mondays in November, March and July.

30. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 320, set the dates for holding chancery court at Trenton on the second Monday in February and the first Monday in September, and at Humboldt on the second Monday in March and the fourth Monday in September.
31. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 374, transferred divorce jurisdiction from the County Court to the Law and Equity Court, and transferred all pending divorce cases before the County Courts at Trenton and Humboldt to the Law and Equity Court.
32. Public Acts of 1968, Chapter 457, amended Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, to transfer jurisdiction over workers' compensation and divorce actions from General Sessions Court to the Law and Equity Court for Gibson County, and to provide that the court would be in session continuously at Trenton and Humboldt with terms to begin on the first Monday of each month at Trenton and on the third Monday of each month at Humboldt. The judge was authorized to hold chambers court for juvenile, probate and chancery matters, to hold special terms for law matters, to establish rule days and to promulgate rules of court.
33. Public Acts of 1970, Chapter 492, amended Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, to grant the judge of the Law and Equity Court equal and coextensive power, along with the circuit court judge, to appoint the Jury Commission for Gibson County. Gibson County was instructed to give the Law and Equity Court Judge suitable office space and supplies, and if it did not, the judge was authorized to purchase the same out of the fees of the court.
34. Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 356, amending T.C.A. § 16-2-309, removed Gibson and Dyer Counties from the 9th Chancery Division, and conferred chancery jurisdiction upon the Law and Equity Court for each such county.
35. Public Acts of 1984, Chapter 931, T.C.A. § 16-2-506(28)(A) provided that effective September 1, 1984, the Law and Equity Court in Gibson County became a chancery court for the 28th Judicial District and the Law and Equity Judge became a Chancellor.

#### **Chancery Court - Clerk and Master**

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Gibson County. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1825, Chapter 32, directed the judges of the Supreme Court to appoint a Clerk and Master for the Chancery Court at Paris for the Counties of Perry, Henderson, Carroll, Henry, Weakley, Obion, Gibson and Dyer.
2. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 63, directed the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Trenton to appoint a deputy clerk to reside in Dyersburgh and to keep an office there.
3. Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 22, directed the chancellor of the newly-established Chancery Court of Humboldt to appoint a Clerk and Master for said court.
4. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 146, made women over the age of 21 eligible to hold the offices of deputy register, deputy county court clerk, deputy circuit court clerk, and deputy clerk and master in Gibson County.
5. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 319, set the salary of the Clerk and Master at all of the fees collected by the office. This act was repealed by Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 416.
6. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 139, abolished the office of Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt, and conferred upon the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Humboldt all the powers and duties of the former Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt. The Clerk and Master was to be paid \$600 per year for the performance of those duties.
7. Private Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, provided that the Clerk and Master was to receive 7% of the amount collected by his office in receiving, collecting and paying over delinquent taxes.
8. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 778, set the salary of the Clerk and Master at \$3,000 per year.

#### **Circuit Court**

The following acts were once applicable to the circuit court of Gibson County but now have no effect, having been repealed, superseded, or having failed to win local approval. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1823, Chapter 41, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the fourth Mondays in May and November.
2. Private Acts of 1823, Chapter 111, provided that circuit court and the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions would be held at the house of Luke Biggs until otherwise provided by law.
3. Private Acts of 1824, Chapter 102, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the first Mondays in May and November.
4. Private Acts of 1825, Chapter 318, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the fourth Mondays in April and October.
5. Public Acts of 1826, Chapter 43, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the fourth Mondays in April and October.
6. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 5, established 11 judicial circuits in Tennessee, placed Gibson County in the 9th Judicial Circuit along with Henry, Weakley, Obion, Dyer, Carroll and Benton Counties, and provided that circuit court in Gibson County would be held on the first Mondays in March, July, and November.
7. Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 177, changed the time for holding circuit court in Gibson County to the third Mondays in March, July, and November.
8. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 13, created the 15th Judicial Circuit comprising the Counties of Gibson, Obion, Dyer and Lauderdale, prescribed the manner of electing the circuit judge, and changed the dates for holding court in Gibson County to the third Mondays in March, July and November.
9. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 21, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the third Monday in March, the fourth Monday in July, and the third Monday in November.
10. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 98, placed Gibson, Obion, Dyer and Lauderdale Counties in the 16th Judicial Circuit, and changed the dates for holding court in Gibson County to the third Monday in March, the fourth Monday in July, and the third Monday in November.
11. Public Acts of 1861-62, Chapter 49, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the first Mondays in May and November.
12. Public Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 38, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County at Trenton on the fourth Mondays in March, July and November.
13. Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 22, established a new court at Humboldt with general common law jurisdiction, original and appellate, over all cases arising at law, either civil or criminal, to be called the Law Court at Humboldt. This court was given all the powers conferred upon circuit courts of Tennessee. The dates for holding court were set on the second Mondays in April and August and the first Monday in December. Although the Law Court at Humboldt was not called "circuit court," the legislature often referred to it as the circuit court at Humboldt, and the only practical difference appears to be the name. The circuit court clerk at Trenton also served as the clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt, and the court's expenses were paid out of the same funds as other circuit courts. See Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 22.
14. Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 70, placed the Law Court at Humboldt in the 16th Judicial Circuit, set the dates for holding Law Court at Humboldt on the second Mondays in April, August and December, transferred jurisdiction over the 13th and 18th Civil Districts of Gibson County to the special courts at Humboldt, and provided for the transfer of pending cases in the 13th District from Circuit Court at Trenton to Law Court at Humboldt.
15. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 31, divided Tennessee into 15 judicial circuits, and placed the Counties of Gibson, Dyer, Haywood, Madison, and the special Court at Humboldt in the 13th Circuit.
16. Public Acts of 1869-70 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 46, set the dates for holding circuit court in Gibson County on the third Mondays in February, June and October.
17. Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 24, extended the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court in Trenton to include the 13th and 20th civil districts of Gibson County, which had previously been subject to the special court at Humboldt.
18. Public Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 67, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the third Mondays in April, August, and December, and at Humboldt on the fourth Mondays in February, June and October.
19. Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 145, set the dates for holding circuit court at Humboldt on the first Mondays in March, July and November.

20. Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 149, returned jurisdiction over the 13th civil district in Gibson County to the Law Court and Chancery Court at Humboldt.
21. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 28, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the second Mondays in April, August and December, and at Humboldt on the third Mondays of February, June and October.
22. Public Acts of 1875, Chapter 137, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Mondays in April, August, and December, and at Humboldt on the third Mondays in March, July and November.
23. Public Acts of 1883, Chapter 49, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Tuesdays after the first Mondays in April, August and December.
24. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided Tennessee into 14 judicial circuits. The act placed the Counties of Obion, Weakley, Henry, Carroll, Gibson, Crockett, Haywood and Benton in the 12th Judicial Circuit, and set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April, August and December, and at Humboldt on the third Mondays in March, July and November.
25. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 94, set the dates for holding circuit court at Humboldt on the third Mondays in March, July and November, and at Trenton on the first Tuesdays after the first Mondays in April, August and December.
26. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 15, set the dates for holding circuit court at Humboldt on the second Mondays in March, July and November, and at Trenton on the fourth Mondays in March, July and November.
27. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 90, transferred jurisdiction over the 13th civil district in Gibson County from the Law Court of Humboldt to the Circuit Court at Trenton.
28. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 38, created a new 18th Judicial Circuit, to be composed of the counties of Gibson, Carroll, Crockett and Haywood, and set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the fourth Mondays in January, May and September, and at Hwnboldt on the first Mondays in March and July and the second Monday in November.
29. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Mondays in March, July and December, and in Humboldt on the first Mondays in April, August and November.
30. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, divided Tennessee into fourteen judicial circuits, placed Gibson County in the 13th Judicial Circuit, and set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Mondays in April, August and December, and at Humboldt on the fourth Mondays in April, August and December.
31. Public Acts of 1931 (2nd Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Mondays in April, August and December, and at Humboldt on the fourth Mondays in April, August and December.
32. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 203, gave the County Court Judge concurrent jurisdiction with Circuit Court for certain criminal matters and divorce cases. The legislature attempted to repeal the 1941 act in Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 231, but the 1965 act failed to gain local approval. The 1941 act was finally repealed by Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 374.
33. Public Acts of 1965, Chapter 204, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Mondays in April, August and December, and at Humboldt on fourth Mondays in April, August and December.
34. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, created a Law and Equity Court in Gibson County, which had concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court and Law Court of Gibson County, and the Chancery Court of Gibson County and the Humboldt Chancery Court. The first term of the Law and Equity Court at Trenton was to begin on the first Monday in August, 1967, and thereafter on the first Mondays in October, December, February, April, June and August. The first term of the Law and Equity Court at Humboldt was to begin on the first Monday in July, 1967, and thereafter on the first Mondays in November, March and July.
35. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 374, transferred divorce jurisdiction from the County Court to the Law and Equity Court, and transferred all pending divorce cases before the County Courts at Trenton and Humboldt to the Law and Equity Court.
36. Public Acts of 1968, Chapter 457, amended Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, to transfer jurisdiction over workers' compensation and divorce actions from General Sessions Court to the Law and Equity Court for Gibson County, and to provide that the court would be in session

continuously at Trenton and Humboldt with terms to begin on the first Monday of each month at Trenton and on the third Monday of each month at Humboldt. The judge was authorized to hold chambers court for juvenile, probate and chancery matters, to hold special terms for law matters, to establish rule days and to promulgate rules of court.

37. Public Acts of 1970, Chapter 492, amended Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 248, to grant the judge of the Law and Equity Court equal and coextensive power with the circuit court judge to appoint the Jury Commission for Gibson County. Gibson County was instructed to give the Law and Equity Court Judge suitable office space and supplies, and if it did not the judge was authorized to purchase the same out of the fees of the court.
38. Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 356, amending T.C.A. § 16-2-309, removed Gibson and Dyer Counties from the 9th Chancery Division, and conferred chancery jurisdiction upon the Law and Equity Court for each such county.
39. Public Acts of 1977, Chapter 199, set the dates for holding circuit court at Trenton on the first Monday in January with recessed session beginning first Monday in March, on the first Monday in May with recessed session beginning first Monday in July, and on the first Monday in September with recessed session beginning first Monday in November; and at Humboldt, on the third Mondays in February, June and October.
40. Public Acts of 1984, Chapter 931, T.C.A. § 16-2-506(28)(A), provided that effective September 1, 1984, the Law and Equity Court in Gibson County became a chancery court for the 28th Judicial District and the Law and Equity Judge became a Chancellor.

### **Circuit Court - Clerk**

The following acts have no current effect, but once applied to the Gibson County Circuit Court Clerk. They were repealed, superseded, or never received local approval. Also referenced below is an act which repeals prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

41. Public Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 22, provided the Circuit Court Clerk would also serve as the Clerk of the new Law Court at Humboldt.
42. Acts of 1909, Chapter 378, set the compensation of the Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt at the fees collected by the office, with a guarantee of \$600 per annum.
43. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 680, set the salary of the Circuit Court Clerks in Gibson County at \$1,500 per annum, but the act specifically did not apply to the clerks of "any Circuit Court created by special statute" (i.e., the Law Court at Humboldt).
44. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 146, made women eligible to hold the office of Deputy Circuit Court Clerk in Gibson County.
45. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 539, set the salary of the Clerk of the Law Court of Humboldt at the fees of the office, with a guaranteed salary of \$900 per annum.
46. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 139, abolished the office of Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt, and conferred upon the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Humboldt all of the powers and duties of the former Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt. The Clerk and Master was to be paid \$600 per year for the performance of those duties.
47. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 240, authorized the employment of clerical assistants by the Circuit Court Clerk, at a total maximum annual salary of \$600, to be paid once a year.
48. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 258, amended the 1929 act to provide that clerical assistants would be paid January 1, May 1, and September 1 each year.
49. Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 203, provided that in all divorce and criminal actions, the Circuit Court Clerk at Trenton would also act as the County Court Clerk at Trenton, and the Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt would also serve as the County Court Clerk in Humboldt.
50. Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 284, amended the 1929 act to increase the total annual salary for clerical assistants to \$1,200.
51. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 38, amended the 1943 act to increase the total annual salary for clerical assistants to \$1,800.
52. Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 15, amended the 1929 act to increase the total annual salary for clerical assistants to \$2,400.
53. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 82, amended the 1929 act to increase the total annual salary for clerical assistants to \$3,000.
54. Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 83, repealed Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 240, and all



amendments thereto.

55. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 358, authorized the Clerk of the Law Court at Humboldt to appoint a deputy clerk to be paid \$50 per month.

#### **District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators**

The following acts once affecting Gibson County are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes.

1. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 32, prescribed the manner for electing the District Attorney General.
2. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 13, prescribed the manner of electing the District Attorney General for the newly-created 15th Judicial District.
3. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 181, created the office of Criminal Investigator for the District Attorney General for the 13th Judicial Circuit, to be appointed by the District Attorney General. The Criminal Investigator had the same authority and power as deputies of the County Sheriffs.
4. Public Acts of 1969, Chapter 167, created the office of Assistant District Attorney General for the 13th Judicial Circuit, to be appointed by the District Attorney General. The person appointed was required to be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and licensed to practice law in Tennessee.
5. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 663, created an additional Assistant District Attorney General for the 13th Judicial Circuit, to be appointed by the District Attorney General.
6. Public Acts of 1977, Chapter 371, created a third full-time Assistant District Attorney General for the 13th Judicial Circuit, to be appointed by the District Attorney General.

#### **General Sessions Court**

The following act once affected the general sessions court of Gibson County, but is no longer in effect and is included herein for reference purposes.

1. Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 328, was an attempt to create a Court of General Sessions for Gibson County, to be held at Trenton and such other towns as the Quarterly County Court authorized, but the act failed to win local approval.

#### **Secretarial Assistance**

The following acts are no longer in effect but are listed here for historical purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1943, Chapter 125, provided for a stenographer for the Chancellor of the 9th Chancery Division and set compensation at \$720 per year. Public Acts of 1953, Chapter 264, amended the 1943 act to raise the compensation to \$1,500 per year.
2. Public Acts of 1951, Chapter 36, created the office of stenographer to the judge of the 13th Judicial Circuit and set compensation at \$900 per year. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 308, amended the 1951 act to raise the compensation to \$1,800 per year.
3. Public Acts of 1957, Chapter 150, set the compensation of the stenographer to the Chancellor of the 9th Chancery Division at \$2,400 per year. Private Acts of 1963, Chapter 309, amended the 1957 act to raise the compensation to \$3,600.

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/court-system-historical-notes-63>