



County Technical Assistance Service  
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

March 31, 2025

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# Chapter X - Law Enforcement

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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,

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# Chapter X - Law Enforcement

## Offenses

### Firearms

#### Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 312

**SECTION 1.** That this Act prohibits the use of Firearms for hunting on Sundays in Counties having a population of not more than Twelve Thousand, Five Hundred Fifteen (12,515) and not less than Twelve Thousand, Five Hundred (12,500) according to the Federal Census of 1960 or any subsequent Federal Census. It is hereby declared to be a misdemeanor for any person to use Firearms of any nature for the purpose of hunting on Sundays.

**SECTION 2.** That upon conviction of any person for the use of Firearms on Sundays contrary to the provisions of this Act he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

**SECTION 3.** That the provisions hereof shall have no effect until approved by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Quarterly County Court of counties hereby affected at a regular meeting of said County Court occurring more than thirty (30) days subsequent to the approval of this Act by the Chief Executive of the State. Its approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding Officer of said Quarterly County Court and the action of the Quarterly County Court thereon shall be certified by him to the Secretary of State, at Nashville.

**SECTION 4.** That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 15, 1961.

## Law Enforcement - Historical Notes

### Militia

Those acts once affecting Grainger County, which related to the militia and to other law enforcement agencies other than the sheriff, are mentioned below in chronological order.

1. Acts of 1803, Chapter 1, provided for the better establishment and regulation of the militia of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the seventh regiment of the state.
2. Acts of 1815, Chapter 119, provided for the better establishment and regulation of the militia of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the seventh regiment of the state.
3. Public Acts of 1819, Chapter 68, revised and amended the militia laws of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the seventh regiment of the second brigade and held regimental musters on the second Saturday in the month of October.
4. Public Acts of 1826, Chapter 69, revised and amended the militia laws of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the seventh regiment of the second brigade and held regimental musters on the second Saturday in the month of October.
5. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 21, divided the militia of the state into companies, battalion, regiments, brigades and divisions. The militia of Grainger County composed the fifteenth and sixteenth regiments. In addition, the militia of Grainger County was placed in the third brigade, second division.
6. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 56, revised the militia laws of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the fifteenth and sixteenth regiments of the third brigade.
7. Public Acts of 1861, Chapter 1, revised the militia laws of the state. The militia of Grainger County composed the fifteenth and sixteenth regiments of the third brigade.

### Offenses

The act briefly summarized below fell into this category in Grainger County. Also referenced below is an act which repealed prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 430, regulated the possession, storage, use, manufacture or sale of pyrotechnics in Grainger County. This act was repealed by Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 116.

### Sheriff

The following acts have no current effect but are included here for reference purposes since they once applied to the Grainger County Sheriff's Office.

1. Private Acts of 1825, Chapter 269, fixed and regulated the compensation of the Grainger County Sheriff to \$800 per anum.
2. Private Acts of 1825, Chapter 290, authorized the sheriff of Grainger County to appoint an additional deputy.
3. Private Acts of 1833, Chapter 246, authorized the sheriff of Grainger County to appoint an additional deputy.

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