



December 20, 2024

Chapter VII - Elections

Dear Reader:

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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 VII - Elections

Districts - Reapportionment

Civil Districts

Private Acts of 1933 Chapter 198

SECTION 1. That Marion County shall be redistricted and laid into five (5) Civil Districts, bounded and described as follows:

FIRST CIVIL DISTRICT: Beginning at the extreme south end of Anderson Point on Cumberland Mountain at the bluff, thence running southwardly and eastwardly with the various meanders of the bluff and top of mountain to a point on the top bluff of Cumberland Mountain west of what is known as "the old poorhouse place" at the foot of Glover Hill; thence southeastwardly to "the old poorhouse place" at the foot of the mountain at Glover's Spring Branch; thence down said branch as it meanders to the Tennessee River' thence northwardly up said river to what is known as the narrows above Shellmound; thence crossing the river and southwardly up the point of the mountain to the Georgia state line; thence westwardly with the Georgia state line to the Alabama line; thence with the Alabama line to the Franklin County line; thence northwardly with the Franklin County line to a point due west of the head of Gourneck Cove; thence east to a point on the bluff at the head of Gourneck Cove, this point being north of geodetic marker WKJ 4-1731; thence northwardly and eastwardly with the various meanders of the bluff and top of mountain to a point on the west bluff of Gizzard Cove and which is due west of the extreme south end of Anderson Point; thence due east to the point of beginning.

SECOND CIVIL DISTRICT: Beginning at a point in the north boundary line of the First Civil District on the bluff of Cumberland Mountain, west of what is known as "the old poorhouse place" at the foot of Glover's Hill; thence southeastwardly to "the old poorhouse place" at the foot of the mountain at Glover's Spring Branch; thence down said branch as it meanders to the Tennessee River; thence northwardly up said river to what is known as the narrows above Shellmound; thence continuing up said river to a point directly north of the former location of the Southern Railway piers in said river; thence north to the top bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence eastwardly with the meanders of the bluff and top of Walden's Ridge to the extreme eastern end of Pot Point; thence east to the center of the Tennessee River; thence up the River with the meanders thereof, to the Hamilton County line; thence northwardly with the Hamilton County line to a point due east of the point where Sulphur Branch flows over the bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence west to the point where Sulphur Branch flows over the bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence continuing westwardly to a point on the bluff of Walden's Ridge overlooking Sequatchie Valley and which is due east of the intersection of Ketner Mill road and East Valley road; thence west to the intersection of the Ketner Mill road and the East Valley road; thence with the meanders of Ketner's Mill road to the bridge across Big Sequatchie River just below Ketner's Mill; thence down Big Sequatchie River to the mouth of Little Sequatchie River; thence up Little Sequatchie River to the point where the L & N Railroad crosses said river; thence in a direct line to the extreme southern end of Jones point on the top of Cumberland Mountain; thence northwardly with the meanders of the bluff and top of the mountain to a point on the bluff on Davis Point and which is due east of the point where Long Branch flows into Indian Cove; thence due west crossing Little Sequatchie Cove and Indian Cove to the point on the bluff where Long Branch flows into Indian Cove; thence with the various meanders of the bluff and top of the mountain to the point of beginning.

THIRD CIVIL DISTRICT: Beginning at the intersection of the Big Fiery Gizzard Creek and the Grundy County line; thence in a straight line southeastwardly to the top bluff of the mountain at the extreme south end of Anderson point; thence eastwardly with the various meanders of the bluff and top of the mountain to the point where Long Branch flows into Indian Cove; thence due west to the top bluff of the mountain on Davis point; thence southwardly with the meanders of the bluff and top of the mountain to the extreme southern end of Jones point; thence in a straight line southwardly to the point where Little Sequatchie River flows under the L & N Railroad; thence southwardly with the various meanders of the Little Sequatchie River to Big Sequatchie River; thence up Big Sequatchie River to the bridge crossing said river just below Ketner's Mill; thence along the public road leading by Ketner's Mill to the East Valley road; thence due east to the top bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence eastwardly in a straight line to the point where Sulphur Branch flows over the top bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence in a straight line due east to the Marion-Hamilton County line; thence northwardly with the Hamilton County line to the Sequatchie County line; thence with the various meanders of the Sequatchie County line and Grundy County line northwardly

and westwardly to the point of beginning.

FOURTH CIVIL DISTRICT: Beginning at the point where the Hamilton County line and the Marion County line intersect the line of the State of Georgia; running thence westwardly with the Tennessee-Georgia state line to the southeast corner of the First Civil District; running thence northwardly with the said District line to the Tennessee River; thence northeastwardly with the various meanders of the river to a point directly south of the former location of the Southern Railway piers in the said river; thence north crossing the river to the top bluff of Walden's Ridge; thence with the meanders of the said bluff to the extreme eastern end of Pot Point; thence in a straight line east to the center of the Tennessee River; thence up the river and the meanders thereof, to the Hamilton County line; thence southwardly with the meanders of the Hamilton County line to the point of beginning.

FIFTH CIVIL DISTRICT: Beginning at the intersection of the Big Fiery Gizzard Creek and the Grundy County line; thence in a straight line southeastwardly to the top bluff of the mountain at the extreme south end of Anderson point; thence due west crossing Gizzard Cove to the top bluff of the mountain on the west edge of Gizzard Cove; thence with the various meanders of the bluff and top of the mountain to a point at the head of the Gourneck Cove; which is due north of WKJ 4-1731; thence due west in a straight line to the Franklin County line; thence northwardly and eastwardly with the Franklin County line and the Grundy County line to the point of beginning.

As amended by:

- Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 519
- Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 285
- Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 341
- Private Acts of 1969, Chapter 29
- Private Acts of 1978, Chapter 319

SECTION 2. That all Acts and parts of Acts that conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That the Commissioners of Elections for Marion County shall within thirty days after the final passage of this Act, call and hold elections in and for the five districts herein created, for the purpose of electing justices of the peace and constables. Justices of the peace and constables elected at said election to hold office until the next regular August election. All voters who were qualified to vote in the November election in 1932 in Marion County and still residents of Marion County, may vote in this election.

SECTION 4. That the districts of Marion County as herein created and defined shall remain unchanged except by acts of the Legislature of Tennessee.

SECTION 5. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 27, 1933.

Elections - Historical Notes

The following is a listing of acts for Marion County which affected the elective process, but which have been superseded or repealed. They are listed here for historical and reference purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1832, Chapter 4, divided Tennessee into districts for the election of Representatives to Congress. Marion County was placed in the Fourth Congressional District.
2. Public Acts of 1832, Chapter 9, prescribed the methods of choosing Electors to vote for President and Vice President of the United States. The act divided the state into fifteen districts; Marion County was placed in the Fifth District along with M'Minn, Rhea, Bledsoe and Hamilton Counties.
3. Public Acts of 1833, Chapter 71, divided the state into Representative and Senatorial Districts. The counties of Roane, Rhea, Marion, Hamilton and Bledsoe composed one election district, and elected one senator.
4. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 39, prescribed the mode of choosing Electors to vote for President and Vice President of the United States. Marion County, along with M'Minn, Rhea, Bledsoe and Hamilton Counties composed the Fifth District.
5. Acts of 1842 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 1, apportioned the Representation in the General Assembly of Tennessee. Marion County, along with Hamilton, Bledsoe, Rhea and Meigs Counties, composed one Senatorial District and elected one Senator.
6. Acts of 1842 (2nd Sess.), Chapter 7, divided Tennessee into districts for the election of Representatives to Congress. Marion County, along with Knox, Roane, Bledsoe, Rhea, Meigs, McMinn, Polk, Bradley and Hamilton Counties were placed in the Third Congressional District.
7. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 196, amended the general law to detach Marion County from the

Third Congressional District and place it in the Fifth.

8. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 414, redistricted Marion County, reducing the number of civil districts from sixteen to four. This was amended by the Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 380, to allow the County Court to increase the number of civil districts, at their discretion. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 474, repealed these Acts, restoring the sixteen original districts.
9. Public Acts of 1901, Chapter 122, placed Marion County in the Eleventh Senatorial District and the Thirteenth Representative District. Acts of 1907, Chapter 178, amended this Act to give Marion County a representative in the General Assembly and abolished the joint district between Marion and Franklin Counties.
10. Acts of 1905, Chapter 237, was another redistricting act for Marion County. It abolished the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 11th, and 14th Civil Districts, and attached their territory to the remaining civil districts, creating seven in all. This was amended two years later, by Chapter 479, Acts of 1907, to create the Eighth Civil District. Private Acts of 1913, Chapter 89, also amended the original act, by creating the 9th, 10th, and 11th Civil Districts.
11. Acts of 1907, Chapter 148, changed the boundary between the 5th and 7th Civil Districts of Marion County.
12. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 262, provided that no registration of voters would be necessary in Marion County.
13. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 445, was an act setting general election regulations for Marion County. It provided that elections were to be held in the same manner as elections held in other counties, towns, municipalities, and districts where the registration and "Dortch" laws did not apply.
14. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 182, was a redistricting act, which abolished the eleven existing civil districts and created five.
15. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 695, authorized an election for the purpose of ascertaining the will of the voters with reference to a stock law.
16. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 499, created the 6th and 7th Civil Districts, authorized elections within sixty days to fill new district offices.
17. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 803, created the 8th Civil District, with its officials to be elected within sixty days.
18. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 21, created the 9th Civil District and provided for an election within sixty days.
19. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 519, created the 4th and 5th Civil Districts of Marion County.
20. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 512, set the salary of Justices of the Peace at \$6.00 for each day's attendance in the Quarterly County Court.
21. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 407, set the salary of Justices of the Peace at \$15.00 per day, but this Act was repealed by Chapter 343, Private Acts of 1967-68.
22. Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 285, which was an amendatory Act to Chapter 198, Private Acts of 1933, changed the boundaries of the 2nd Civil District of Marion County.
23. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 343, set the salary of Justices of the Peace at \$25.00 per day for each day's attendance upon court.
24. Public Acts of 1978, Chapter 597, repealed Chapter 1 of the Acts of 1842 (2nd Sess.), being the law apportioning Representatives and Senators to the State General Assembly

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