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# Chapter V - Court System

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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.

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## Chapter V - Court System

### Clerk of the Grand Jury

#### Public Acts of 2017 Chapter 13

**SECTION 1.** Lawrence County is authorized to establish and create the position of a part-time clerk of the Lawrence County Grand Jury, to be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the foreman of the Grand Jury. The clerk shall handle all of the administrative duties of such Grand Jury, unless otherwise provided by general law.

**SECTION 2.** The clerk shall be compensated at the same hourly rate as a Chief Deputy of the office of Circuit Court Clerk but not greater than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per month.

**SECTION 3.** The duties of such clerk shall be established by the foreman and further, the clerk of said Grand Jury shall in no event participate in any of the Lawrence County Grand Jury Deliberations.

**SECTION 4.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Lawrence County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of Lawrence County and certified to the secretary of state.

**SECTION 5.** For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 4.

Passed: May 5, 2017.

### Criminal Court

#### Minute Clerk of Grand Jury

#### Public Acts of 1937 Chapter 209

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** This is an uncodified Public Act and does not appear in Tennessee Code Annotated.

**SECTION 1.** That Judges having criminal jurisdiction in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of the State of Tennessee are hereby authorized and required to appoint Minute Clerks of the Grand Juries in the counties of their respective jurisdictions; and said Minute Clerks shall hold office, exercise their powers and discharge the duties of their office for a term of two years from appointment, unless for good cause, in the discretion of the presiding judge, he may be removed, relieved or excused from office at any time. The appointment of such Minute Clerk in each county shall be made at the same time the Grand Jury Foreman for such county is appointed, and the term of the first Minute Clerk in each county respectively appointed hereunder shall continue only until the expiration of the current term of the Grand Jury Foreman for such county, so that thereafter, in each county the terms of the Grand Jury Foremen and the Minute Clerks shall run concurrently and simultaneously, and this shall in no wise be construed to increase the number of members of the Grand Jury.

**SECTION 2.** That said Minute Clerk shall be a member of each Grand Jury organized in his county during his term of office, having equal power, authority and duties in all matters coming before the Grand Jury with the other members thereof; and, in addition, it shall be the duty of such Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury to keep the minutes of the Grand Jury, to take down in writing and preserve a record of the testimony given by each witness who testifies before the Grand Jury, to keep a list of the witnesses appearing before the Grand Jury each day; and also to make and keep a record of the action of the Grand Jury on each case acted upon by such Grand Jury.

**SECTION 3.** That every person appointed as Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury under this Act shall be at least twenty-one years of age, and shall be a good and lawful citizen, possessing all the qualifications of a juror for the respective county in which he is appointed.

**SECTION 4.** That said Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury shall receive as compensation the sum of Four Dollars per day for each day the Grand Jury is in session, to be paid out of the county treasury, in the same way as Grand Jurors are now paid. But said Minute Clerks are to receive no other or further compensation for their services as such.

**SECTION 5.** That in case the Minute Clerk is unable to serve because of sickness, death, disqualification,

incompetency or for any other reason, or in case he is relieved from service by order of the court, the Judge shall fill the vacancy thus created for the unexpired term; and if such clerk is disqualified in any case or cases at any given time, he may be relieved temporarily from service as to such case or cases in which he is disqualified.

The Minute Clerk shall not divulge any information acquired by him either as a member of the Grand Jury or as Minute Clerk and shall communicate no information contained on his minutes to any person whatsoever. The Minutes for each term of the court when prepared by the Minute Clerk shall be turned over to the District Attorney General or one of his assistants as a part of his records and shall not be open to inspection by any other person than the Trial Judge, the District Attorney General or one of his assistants. The Trial Judge by order spread of record on the minutes may direct that any of the minutes kept by the Minute Clerk shall be made available to the Grand Jury at any succeeding term of court.

**SECTION 6.** That before entering upon the discharge of his duties, the follow- (sic) rect that any of the minutes kept by the Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury: "You as Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will diligently, honestly, truly, accurately and impartially keep the minutes of the Grand Jury, take down in writing and preserve a record of the testimony given by each witness who testifies before the Grand Jury, keep a list of the witnesses appearing before the Grand Jury each day, and make and keep a true and accurate record of the action of the Grand Jury on each case acted on by it, and that you will faithfully discharge these and all other duties pertaining to the office of Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury, according to the best of your skill and understanding. So help you God."

And the Minute Clerk of the Grand Jury, in addition to the foregoing oath, shall also take the oath administered to the other members of the Grand Jury.

**SECTION 7.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed, and this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 19, 1937.

## General Sessions Court

### Private Acts of 1943 Chapter 55

**SECTION 1.** That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for Lawrence County, Tennessee, which shall be designated "Court of General Sessions of Lawrence County, Tennessee."

Court rooms and adequate facilities for said Court shall be provided in the Courthouse at Lawrenceburg; and it shall be the duty of the County Judge of said County to make provisions therefor, and to provide necessary furnishings, equipment and supplies for said Court and its proper maintenance; and the expenses of same shall be paid out of the general funds of the County.

Adequate clerical help shall be provided for such Court and the expenses of the same shall be paid out of the general funds of the County.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

Private Acts of 1977, Chapter 159

**SECTION 2.** That the Court of General Sessions of Lawrence County, Tennessee, is hereby vested with all the jurisdiction and shall exercise all the authority conferred by the General Assembly upon Justices of the Peace in civil and criminal cases, suits and actions, all of which jurisdiction and authority is hereby divested out of Justices of the Peace of said County except that hereinafter expressly reserved in and not divested out of them, and also the additional jurisdiction and authority hereinafter provided for, which jurisdiction and authority shall be coextensive with Lawrence County, Tennessee; PROVIDED, however, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to divest the Justices of the Peace of said County of such jurisdiction and authority until a Judge for said Court shall have been elected and qualified as hereinafter provided for; and PROVIDED, further, that any Justice of the Peace elected or serving for any civil district of said County may issue criminal and search warrants against, and accept appearance bonds from, any person charged with an offense, and may issue subpoenas for witnesses in civil or criminal actions heretofore triable by a Justice of the Peace, but all such warrants, bonds, subpoenas and process shall be returnable to and triable by said Court of General Sessions; and PROVIDED, further, that the authority of said Justices of the Peace in their capacity as members of the Quarterly Court or in the performance of the rites of matrimony or to administer oaths is in no wise affected by this Act.

There is hereby transferred all of the judicial duties formerly vested with the County Judge of Lawrence County to the General Sessions Court of Lawrence County and such General Sessions Court shall assume all of the judicial functions formerly exercised by the County Judge of Lawrence County beginning on

August 1, 1977, including but not limited to all of the jurisdiction and authority conferred by Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2 upon the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court as a Juvenile Court, and all of the jurisdiction and authority conferred by Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 7, upon the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court as a judicial officer in probate.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455  
Private Acts of 1977, Chapter 159

**SECTION 3.** That before the commencement of any civil actions in said Court, the plaintiff shall be required to secure the costs by executing a cost bond with solvent security in a penalty of not less than \$25.00, or by making a cash deposit of not less than \$3.00 nor more than \$25.00 as may be deemed proper by the Judge or Clerk of said Court, or if a resident of the State of Tennessee, may in lieu thereof take and file the oath prescribed for poor persons, and on motion of the defendant, or on its own motion, the Court may have the amount of any such bond or cash deposit increased; and in the case of the issuance of extraordinary process such bond or oath shall be executed and filed as is required under the general laws for extraordinary process in Justice of the Peace Courts.

**SECTION 4.** That said Court shall be in session daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, and the Sheriff of Lawrence County, Tennessee is authorized to take bail or appearance bonds of persons charged with criminal offenses for either arraignment or for trial in said Court of General Sessions; and said Court may, by agreement of the parties, try any civil or criminal cases on any legal holiday or at night, and may be in session on Sundays for the examination, commitment to jail or the taking or fixing of bail for the appearance of the accused in criminal cases.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 318  
Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 11  
Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 12

**SECTION 5.** That the rules of pleading and practice, forms of writs and process and stays of and appeals from judgements in civil cases in said Court shall be the same as now or hereafter provided by the general laws for Courts of the Justice of the Peace.

**SECTION 6.** That the Court of General Sessions of Lawrence County, Tennessee, is hereby vested with jurisdiction to try and determine and render final judgment in all misdemeanor cases brought before said Court by warrant or information wherein the person charged with such misdemeanor offenses enters a plea of guilty or requests a trial upon the merits, and expressly waives an indictment, presentment and Grand Jury investigation, and a jury trial. In such cases the trial shall proceed before the Judge and without a jury. The final judgment of such Court in such cases may be appealed to the Circuit Court of Lawrence County, where such appeal shall be tried by a Judge of such Court without a jury, and without indictment or presentment.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 7.** That it shall be the mandatory duty of the Judge of the Court of General Sessions when a defendant is brought before such Court upon arraignment or trial, to advise such defendant of his constitutional right to the aid of counsel, the right to be tried only upon presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury, the right to make a statement in reference to the accusation or the right to waive such statement, and the right to a trial by jury. Upon the defendant agreeing in writing to waive the right to be put to trial only by presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury and the right to be tried by a jury of his peers, such Courts may proceed to hear and determine said case as is provided in Section 6 hereof. Such waiver shall be in writing, signed by the defendant, written on or attached to the warrant, and in the form and of contents substantially as follows

'The defendant, \_\_\_\_\_, pleads \_\_\_\_\_ guilty to the offense of \_\_\_\_\_, and expressly waives his or her right to be tried only by or upon indictment or presentment preferred by a Grand Jury, and likewise expressly waives the right to and trial by a jury of his or her peers. (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Attest:  
Clerk.'

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 8.** That no warrant or information charging a person with an offense against the laws of the State shall be delivered from said Court to any peace officer for the arrest of such person until after an entry in the Criminal Docket has been made by the Clerk or Judge showing the names of the person or persons accused, the prosecutor, the officer to whom to be delivered and his signature upon said docket showing receipt of such process. All of such warrants, information, dockets, and other records of said Court of General Sessions shall be available to the District Attorney-General for any legal purpose.

**SECTION 9.** That all appeal bonds in civil cases, all bail bonds, recognizance bonds and appearance bonds of persons charged with criminal offenses for their appearance for arraignment or trial in said Court of General Sessions shall be taken by the Clerk of the Circuit Court. This provision shall in no wise abridge the authority of the Sheriff to take bonds as now provided by law.

**SECTION 10.** That in all matters the costs and fees of said Court of General Sessions shall be the same as those provided by law for the Justices of the Peace. The fees and other compensation of the Sheriff, his deputies, constables, Game Wardens and State Highway Patrolmen for the execution of writs and process of said Court for attendance and mileage of witnesses shall be the same in said Court as those provided by law of the Court of Justices of the Peace.

All costs, fees, and mileage of witnesses, the fees, commissions and emoluments of the Sheriff, his deputies, constables, State Highway Patrolmen, Game Wardens, and other officers, for services to said Court, and the fines and forfeitures adjudged by it shall be handled, accounted for and disbursed as required by law.

**SECTION 11.** That separate dockets shall be kept by the Clerk, under the direction of the Court for civil and criminal cases.

Upon the civil docket shall be entered the style of each case, the date of issuance of the warrant or process, and the return of the process, in brief form, action of the Court on the case, both interlocutory and final orders, judgments, executions, garnishments, lists of the fees of the Court, the Sheriff, his deputies, constables, Game Wardens, and State Highway Patrolmen for their services, fees of witnesses for attendance, et cetera, and credits for payment upon the judgment and upon the costs. All cases shall be indexed and the dockets shall be substantially in the form of those of Justices of the Peace.

The criminal docket shall be kept in like manner, and shall also contain the information provided for in Section 8 of this Act.

The Judge of the Court of General Sessions shall have the power to and may adopt such rules as may be necessary to expedite the trial and disposal of cases.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 12.** That there shall be a Judge for said Court, who shall be a person licensed to practice law in Tennessee, and actively engaged in the practice of law, and with all other qualifications and the same term of office as provided by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee for inferior courts; and the oath shall be the same as that prescribed for Circuit Judges and Chancellors.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** The provision of this section requiring a license to practice law was held valid and constitutional in Perry v. Lawrence County Election Commission, 411 S.W.2d 538 (1967).

**SECTION 13.** The compensation of the General Sessions Judge from and after September 1, 1982, shall be thirty-four thousand seven hundred ninety-four and 12/100 (\$34,794.12) dollars per annum, consisting of twenty-seven thousand two hundred and ninetyfive and 12/100 (\$27,295.12) dollars as provided in the general act pertaining to class four (4) counties plus a seventy-five hundred (\$7,500.00) dollars supplement for juvenile and probate jurisdiction. It shall be paid out of the general fund of the county and in equal monthly installments. Said salary shall be subject to the costs of living increases as shall hereafter be provided by law.

Said judge shall serve full time and is prohibited from practicing law. Said judge shall hold court at reasonable times in order that all matters under the jurisdiction of the court of general sessions may be expediently disposed of.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 550  
Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 19  
Private Acts of 1977, Chapter 159  
Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 289

**SECTION 14.** That the first Judge shall be elected by the qualified voters of the County at the election for other County officers in August, 1944, and shall take office September 1, 1944, and shall serve for a period of eight years, and until his successor is elected and qualified as is provided by law for judges of inferior courts. Said election shall be conducted in accordance with the general election laws of the State of Tennessee.

In the event of a vacancy in said office of Judge, the Governor shall have and exercise the authority to appoint a person, qualified as herein provided, to fill such vacancy.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 15.** That if the Judge of said Court fails to attend, cannot attend, cannot preside in a pending cause, or for any reason fails to hold court, a majority of the attorneys present in such Court may elect one of their number, who has the qualification of such a Judge, and when elected shall have the same authority as a regular Judge to hold the Court for the occasion of the absence, for any such reason, of the regular Judge of said Court, and the Circuit Judge or Chancellor may preside and hold said Court by interchange. Elections of special Judges for such occasions shall be in accordance with the law governing the elections of other Judges in such cases, at which elections the Clerk shall preside, and such special Judges shall not be entitled to compensation for such services.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 16.** That the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Lawrence County, Tennessee, shall act as Clerk of said Court of General Sessions, except with respect to the judicial jurisdiction transferred from the County Judge to the Court of General Sessions, and when acting as Clerk of said Court shall be designated "Clerk of Court of General Sessions of Lawrence County, Tennessee." Said Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to perform the additional duties of Clerk of and for said Court, and shall receive as compensation therefor the sum of Eighteen Hundred (\$1,800.00) Dollars per annum, payable in equal monthly installments, the same to be paid out of the general fund of the County. Said salary of \$1,800.00 to be in addition to the salary already paid him as Circuit Court Clerk for said County. The Judge of the County Court shall issue warrants drawn upon the Trustee for the payment of said salary as provided herein. All fees, costs, commissions and emoluments accruing under the provisions of this Act and other laws to, for or by reason of services rendered by the Judge and Clerk of said Court, respectively, shall be payable to and collected by the Clerk, and be reported on and paid monthly by the Clerk to the County Trustee of Lawrence County, to be placed in or credited to the general fund of the County. All fines and forfeitures adjudged by said Court shall be payable to and collected by the Clerk, and be reported on, accounted for and disbursed or paid over as provided by law.

The Clerk of said Court shall have concurrent authority with the Judge to issue warrants and other processes and writs, other than those which the law requires shall be issued only by a judicial officer.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455  
Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 550  
Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 14  
Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 740  
Private Acts of 1977, Chapter 159

**SECTION 17.** That the Sheriff of said County or any Deputy Sheriff or Constable thereof, shall serve legal processes, writs and papers issued by said Court with the same authority as heretofore provided by law.

**SECTION 18.** That this Act shall in nowise impair the right, title or interest of any Justices of the Peace of Lawrence County to any unpaid fees, or fund in which he had a right or interest in any proceedings, judgment or suit, whether said cause is disposed of or pending when this Act becomes effective.

**SECTION 19.** That all the official records, papers, process and dockets in all cases before, returnable or deliverable to or in the offices, Courts or custody of Justices of the Peace of said County when this Act shall become effective upon the qualification and induction into office of the first Judge of the Court of General Sessions provided for herein, and meaning in cases which may then have been disposed of and in cases which may not then have been disposed of or closed out, such as those involving uncollected judgements, costs and the like, and meaning Justices of the Peace of said County in office at or up to the time of this Act so becoming effective and also their predecessors in such offices and other former Justices of the Peace of said County, shall be delivered to said Court of General Sessions as the successor of the Justices of the Peace.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 20.** That said Court shall have authority to hear and determine all undisposed cases arising in the Courts of Justice of the Peace of Lawrence County as if such cases had originated in said Court of General Sessions. And said Court shall have power to issue executions and other final process on judgments rendered by Justices of the Peace.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

**SECTION 21.** That the Legislature expressly declares that each section, subsection, paragraph and provision of this Act is severable, and that should any portion of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Act, but such unconstitutional or invalid portion shall be elided therefrom.

**SECTION 22.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act which apply to Lawrence county, Tennessee, be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 23.** That this Act shall take effect from and after the date or dates necessary and herein contemplated for the purposes of this Act and appearing from the fare hereof, being those fixed by the general election laws of the State in so far as qualifications of candidates for and election of the first Judge of said Court in the August, 1944, elections, as herein provided, are concerned, including certification of the person so elected, and, in other respects, from and after the date of September 1, 1944; this Act being prospective in its operation.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1943, Chapter 455

Passed: January 11, 1943.

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** See Moore v. Lawrence County, 190 Tenn. 451, 230 S.W.2d 666 (1950) and Morrison v. Crews, 192 Tenn. 20, 237 S.W.2d 1 (1951), in which the provisions of these Acts were

discussed.

## Court System - Historical Notes

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

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

1. Private Acts of 1913, Chapter 95, created a three member Board of Jury Commissioners in Lawrence County, no more than two to be of the same political party, who must be a freeholder, must not be an attorney, Justice of the Peace, or Constable, and could not have a lawsuit pending in the Courts, who would be appointed by the Circuit Judge having jurisdiction, vacancies to be filled in the same manner. A temporary appointment could be made in the case of illness. All appointment would be made in writing for staggered initial terms and then for three years after that. No Commissioner could succeed himself until after six years had passed. The Commissioners were to be sworn by the oath in the Act, and the Circuit Court Clerk, who would act as the Clerk for the Board, must also be sworn according to the oath in the act relative to him. It was the duty of the Board to meet biennially on the first Monday in July, or upon the call of the Chairman within 30 days of that date, to select from the tax rolls, or other public sources, at least 300 names and no more than 600 names which would furnish the jurors both Grand and petit, for the next ensuing two years. If the list were depleted in the two years, a meeting would be called to supply the deficiency, or in the event a special panel had to be called. The names of the jurors would be entered alphabetically in a book to be supplied by the Clerk and their selection certified by all three members of the Board. Their names would also be entered on slips of paper and placed in a box which would be locked and sealed. From ten to fifteen days before the term, a child under ten years of age would draw out the number of names specified in an order from the Judge and report the same to him. These would constitute the jurors for that term of court. The Sheriff was required to summon the jurors at the proper time none of whom could be excused except by the Judge. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 115.
2. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 902, amended Public Acts of 1919, Chapter 37, which required the Circuit Judges having criminal jurisdiction and the Criminal Court Judges to appoint Foremen of the Grand Juries, to fix their terms and compensation and to define their duties, so that Lawrence County would be removed from the application of this general law. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 43, thus making the general law again applicable.
3. Private Acts of 1945, Chapter 102, provided that, in Lawrence County all regular jurors, both grand and petit, would hereafter be paid at the rate of \$3 per day, said sums to come from the county treasury. A pickup juror must serve at least two days before becoming eligible for payment.
4. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 115, expressly repealed Private Acts of 1913, Chapter 95, together with all the amendments thereto, and the counties affected by this law would hereafter come under the general law of the State with respect to the selection of jurors. All jurors, both Grand and petit, selected under the terms of any prior act would be promptly dismissed when jurors were chosen in compliance with this law.
5. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 5, provided for a daily compensation rate of \$6 for each regular and special juror in Lawrence County and a mileage allowance of 10 cents per mile for every mile traveled between the juror's home and Lawrenceburg, except no mileage would be paid to a juror residing within a radius of five miles around the city. The Foreman of the Grand Jury and the Clerk would be paid \$8 per day plus 10 cents mileage.

### **Chancery Court**

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Lawrence 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. Acts of 1822, Chapter 13, stated that the Justices of the Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals would make arrangements to hold a Court of Equity at the present places of holding the Supreme Court; in Nashville, on the fourth Monday in January; and in Columbia, on the second Monday in January. Court terms would continue for two weeks unless the docket was heard sooner.



2. Acts of 1824, Chapter 14, provided for the Justices of the Supreme Court to arrange between themselves to hold the Chancery Court twice each year at the places specified, which were Greeneville, Rogersville, Kingston, Carthage, McMinnville, Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte, and Jackson. The Court at Columbia would hear causes arising in the Counties of Maury, Bedford, Lincoln, Giles, Lawrence, Wayne, and Hardin where the regular terms would begin on the first Mondays in March and September.
3. Acts of 1827, Chapter 79, divided Tennessee into two Chancery Divisions, the Eastern, which included the Courts meeting in the cities of Rogersville, Greeneville, Kingston, Carthage, and McMinnville, and the Western, which contained the courts at Franklin, Columbia, Charlotte, Jackson, and Paris. Two chancellors were to be appointed by the General Assembly and the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court was removed.
4. Acts of 1831, Chapter 57, Section 2, provided that an additional Chancery Court would be organized and held for the Western Division in the town of Pulaski where the causes would be heard from the counties of Giles, Lincoln, Lawrence, Wayne, and Hardin on the second Mondays in April and October which terms would continue until all the business of the Court was completed, or the Chancellor was compelled to adjourn the court.
5. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 4, subsequent to the adoption of the new State Constitution, divided Tennessee into three Chancery Divisions each of which would be presided over by a Chancellor who would hold office for eight years. Each court would have two terms each year. The grand divisions were further broken down into Districts. Lawrence County was in the 9th District of the Middle Division which included Giles County. Court for this District would meet at Pulaski on the first Mondays in March and September.
6. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 21, Section 11, created a separate Chancery District for Lawrence County in the Middle Division of the State whose Court would be held by a Chancellor at Lawrenceburg on the fourth Mondays in May and November of each year. The suits for Lawrence County pending in the court at Pulaski would be transferred to Lawrenceburg. Suits originating in Wayne County could be heard in Lawrenceburg.
7. Acts of 1843-44, Chapter 230, attached Lewis County to the Chancery District of Maury County but the citizens of Lewis County could file their bills either at Columbia in Maury County or at Lawrenceburg in Lawrence County.
8. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 82, Section 4, stated that the Chancery Court at Lawrenceburg would hereafter open for regular term on the second Mondays in June and December. This Act was repealed by Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 125.
9. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 4, Section 3, fixed the terms of the Chancery Court at Lawrenceburg to begin hereafter on the fourth Monday in May and November and all process would be made to conform to those dates.
10. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 125, Section 4, provided that the Chancery Court at Lawrenceburg would be held hereafter at those times established prior to the passage of Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 82.
11. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 181, Section 3, established a Chancery Court at Waynesboro in Wayne County where the court terms were to start on the third Mondays in June and December each year and the citizens of Lawrence County, Hardin County, and Lewis County had the option and privilege of filing their bills in Chancery at that court, or at the courts in Lawrenceburg and Savannah.
12. Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 70, Section 3, stated that the Chancery Court at Waynesborough would hereafter be held on the first Mondays in February and August and at Lawrenceburg on the first Thursday, after the first Mondays in February and August.
13. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 178, Section 3, reset the Chancery Court terms for all the Chancery Courts in the Middle Division of Tennessee which then contained the counties of Wayne, Lawrence, Giles, Marshall, Hickman, Humphreys, Dickson, Robertson, Maury, Williamson, Stewart, Montgomery, and Davidson. The Chancery Court of Lawrence County would open the regular terms on the second Mondays in February and August.
14. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 54, established the Fifth and the Sixth Chancery Division in the State. The Sixth Chancery Division was composed of the Counties of Carroll, Benton, Humphreys, Dickson, Hickman, Perry, Decatur, Henderson, McNairy, Hardin, Wayne, and Lawrence.
15. Acts of 1855-56, Chapter 112, Section 5, rescheduled court terms in the Sixth Chancery Division made up of the counties of Carroll, Henderson, McNairy, Hardin, Wayne, Dickson, Hickman, Humphreys, Benton, Decatur, Perry, and Lawrence whose court would meet at Lawrenceburg on

- the first Mondays in March and September.
16. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, divided Tennessee into the Eastern, Middle, Western, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Chancery Divisions. The Counties of Carroll, Henderson, McNairy, Hardin, Wayne, Lawrence, Hickman, Dickson, Humphreys, Benton, Decatur, and Perry constituted the Sixth Chancery Division. Court terms would begin in Lawrence County at Lawrenceburg on the first Mondays in March and September.
  17. Acts of 1865-66, Chapter 57, fixed the times for opening the Lawrence County Chancery Court on the third Mondays in April and October. All process would be made to conform to the changes expressed in this Act.
  18. Acts of 1866-67, Chapter 4, Section 4, in seeking to restore judicial order after the Civil War set the opening dates for the Chancery Courts in the Fifth Chancery Division (although we could find no act placing Lawrence County therein). The 5th Chancery Division listed the counties of Hickman, Dickson, Humphreys, Henderson, McNairy, Hardin, Wayne, Lawrence, Decatur, and Perry. The Court in Lawrence County would commence its terms on the first Mondays in May and November.
  19. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 29, declared that the Chancery Court for Lawrence County in the Fifth Chancery Division of the State would hereafter be held at Lawrenceburg on the first Mondays in February and August with all process conforming thereto.
  20. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 45, Section 8, stated that the Lawrence County Chancery Court would begin its regular terms on the fourth Mondays in February and August.
  21. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 64, amended the Act creating the Fourth Chancery Division to attach the counties of Hickman and Lawrence to that Division. Terms of court were scheduled for Lawrence County on the first Mondays in February and August. Other counties in the Fourth Division were Hickman, Giles, Maury, Williamson, and Marshall.
  22. Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 23, attached the counties of Lawrence and Hickman to the 5th Chancery Division whose courts would be held at Lawrenceburg and Centerville.
  23. Acts of 1870, Chapter 32, formed twelve Chancery Districts in the State assigning the counties of Benton, Hickman, Henderson, McNairy, Lawrence, Dickson, Humphreys, Decatur, Lewis, Perry, Hardin, and Wayne to the Ninth Chancery Division.
  24. Acts of 1870, Chapter 47, fixed the opening dates for the terms of the Chancery Court in every county in Tennessee. Lawrence County's Chancery Court would meet on the third Mondays in April and October.
  25. Acts of 1870-71, Chapter 10, rearranged the terms of court in the 9th Chancery Division. The Lawrence County Chancery Court would meet on the first Mondays in April and October, with a mandate for all process to conform to the change in dates.
  26. Acts of 1873, Chapter 5, rescheduled the court terms for the Chancery Courts in the 9th Chancery Division with Lawrence County's Court starting its terms on the first Mondays in May and November.
  27. Acts of 1879, Chapter 88, reset the terms of the Chancery Courts in the 9th Chancery Division composed of the counties of Lewis, Hickman, Perry, Decatur, Henderson, McNairy, Hardin, Wayne, Humphreys, Benton, Dickson, and Lawrence where the Chancery Court would convene on the second Mondays in May and November.
  28. Acts of 1881, Chapter 162, made some changes in the Ninth Chancery Division but none of them had any affect on Lawrence County.
  29. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, was the next massive reorganization of the lower judicial system of the State. Tennessee was separated into eleven Chancery Divisions. The Seventh Chancery Division included the Counties of Maury, Giles, Lawrence, Lewis, Wayne, Hickman, Hardin, Perry, Decatur, Dickson and Benton. Lawrence County would continue to open the regular terms of the Chancery Court on the second Mondays in May and November. This Act and several others were considered by the Supreme Court in Flynn v. State, 203 Tenn. 337, 313 SW2d 248 (1958), although only the criminal court of Shelby County was involved. This Act was amended by Acts of 1887, Chapter 5.
  30. Acts of 1887, Chapter 5, changed the Chancery Court terms for the counties in the Seventh Chancery Division. Lawrence County would begin the regular terms on the second Monday in June and December.
  31. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, in the next major revision of the lower court system fashioned ten Chancery Divisions in the State. The Fifth Chancery Division included the counties of Rutherford,

Bedford, Marshal, Williamson, Lincoln, Lawrence, Maury, Giles, Lewis, and Wayne. Lawrence County's court would come together in regular session on the third Monday in April and October. This Act was amended by Acts of 1901, Chapter 494.

32. Acts of 1901, Chapter 494, rescheduled the opening dates for Chancery Court terms in the Fifth Chancery Division. Lawrence County would begin the regular terms of court on the third Monday in May and November.
33. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 321, gave the Circuit Judge holding Circuit Court in Lawrence County all the powers and jurisdiction of a Chancellor concurrently with the regular Chancellor, and instructed him to hold an additional term of the Chancery Court in that county on the first Monday in January, the second Monday in April and the fourth Monday in September.

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

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

1. Private Acts of 1909, Chapter 226, provided that the Clerk and Master of Hancock County and of Lawrence County would receive as compensation the sum of \$500 per year; provided, a sworn, itemized statement was filed with the County Judge, or Chairman, showing the amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees failed to equal the salary, the County would make up the difference, but, if the fees exceeded the salary, the Clerk and Master was allowed to retain them.
2. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 566, declared that the Clerk and Master of Lawrence County would be paid \$1,500 per year, provided the Clerk would file on January 1 and on July 1 a sworn, itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, reflecting the amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees were less than the salary, the county paid the difference. When computing the salary, the figure of \$750 would be used as a base for each 6 month period. If the fees exceeded the salary, the Clerk and Master was to deliver them to the Trustee for deposit in the county treasury.
3. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 576, amended Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 566, to fix the annual salary of the Clerk and Master of Lawrence County at \$2,000 annually. The Clerk must file with the County Judge, or Chairman, on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, a sworn, itemized statement containing the total amount of fees collected in the office during the preceding months. \$300 per quarter would be the amount used as a base figure to decide the payment of any deficiency.
4. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 102, provided that in Lawrence County the Clerk and Master would be paid \$2,400 each year if he would file with the County Judge, or Chairman, on January 1, May 1, and September 1, a sworn, itemized statement reflecting the total amount of fees collected in the office during that period of time. When fees were less than \$800 per four month period the County would pay the difference to the Clerk and Master but if the fees were more, the surplus would be paid to the county treasury. The County must furnish all the stationery, stamps, and office supplies to the Clerk and Master free of charge.
5. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 702, fixed the compensation of the Clerk and Master of Lawrence County at \$1,000 per year payable out of the general funds of the County on the warrant of the County Judge, or Chairman, at the rate of \$250 per quarter. All of the above was conditioned upon the Clerk and Masters' reporting to the County Judge with a sworn, itemized statement of the fees, costs, and commissions collected by the office during the preceding quarter. The Clerk and Master could retain the next \$1,000 collected in fees, costs, and commissions as additional salary, but, all over that amount was to be paid into the county treasury.
6. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 755, declared that the Clerk and Master of Lawrence County would be paid \$2,400 annually as a salary provided the Clerk and Master filed a sworn, itemized report with the County Judge, or Chairman, each month showing the total sum of the fees, costs, and commissions collected in the office, except for those received for services as a Trustee, Receiver, or a Special Commissioner. If the fees and costs collected did not equal the salary, the county must pay the difference but if the fees exceeded the \$200 per month salary the excess would be paid into the treasury. All the stationery, stamps, and office supplies would be furnished to the Clerk and Master by the county.
7. Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 807, set the annual salary of the Clerk and Master of Lawrence County at \$3,000, payable monthly out of the general funds of the county on the warrant of the County Judge, or Chairman. The Clerk and Master was instructed to file a report within the first five days of January, April, July, and October showing the fees, costs, and commissions collected in the office during the preceding quarter, excepting those received for the special services in the

capacities of Trustee, Receiver or Special Commissioner. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 124. The repeal of this Act would not restore, or revive, any preceding Act, it being the intention of the Legislature to abolish any and all Private Acts on this subject for Lawrence County.

### **Circuit Court**

The following acts were once applicable to the circuit court of Lawrence County but now have no effect, having been repealed, superseded, or having failed to win local approval.

1. Acts of 1817, Chapter 42, which created Lawrence County also provided for the Circuit Court of the new County to meet at the house of Dr. Joseph Farmer.
2. Acts of 1817, Chapter 65, formed the 6th Judicial Circuit in Tennessee consisting of the counties of Lincoln, Giles, Maury, Bedford, and Lawrence. The Judge of the circuit would be elected by both Houses of the General Assembly and preside over the new Circuit after being sworn and commissioned as were the other Judges. The counties of Lawrence, Maury and Hickman would constitute the Ninth Solicitorial District.
3. Acts of 1817, Chapter 138, scheduled the opening dates for the terms of the Lawrence County Circuit Court as well as the other courts in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Circuits. Lawrence County's Circuit Court would begin its regular term on the fourth Monday in February and August. Judges of the Sixth Circuit were given the authority to interchange with other Circuit Judges.
4. Acts of 1821, Chapter 37, provided that hereafter the Judges of the Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals would hold two terms of court at the courthouse in Columbia in Maury County for the appeals arising out of the Sixth Judicial Circuit. The terms would be held on the first Mondays in March and September.
5. Acts of 1821, Chapter 52, repealed all the laws which required appeals from the Sixth Judicial Circuit to be filed at Nashville. They would in the future be filed at Columbia in Maury County. It was the responsibility of the Judge of the Sixth Circuit to appoint a Clerk for the said court.
6. Acts of 1824, Chapter 14, increased the number of Judges of the Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals to five, who would hereafter hold court at three places in the State only. Appeals from Lawrence County would be heard in Nashville on the first Monday in January.
7. Acts of 1824, Chapter 61, provided that the Courts were to be held in the new Courthouse at Lawrenceburg.
8. Acts of 1825, Chapter 143, Section 2, required the Judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit hereafter at each and every term of the Circuit Court of Lawrence County to hold the said court for a period of two weeks if the business of the Court required it, unless it became necessary to adjourn sooner to another court in the Circuit.
9. Acts of 1833, Chapter 14, stated that appeals arising in the counties of Lawrence, Wayne, Hardin, Humphreys, Hickman, and Perry would be filed and heard in the Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals at Centerville in Hickman County.
10. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 5, enacted pursuant to the 1835 Constitution of the State, required that Circuit Courts be held three times each year instead of two. The State was divided into eleven Judicial Circuits of which the Eighth Judicial Circuit contained the counties of Lincoln, Giles, Maury, and Lawrence whose circuit court terms would start on the second Monday of March, July, and November.
11. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 35, Section 21, provided that the Judge of the 8th Judicial Circuit would hold the first Circuit Court in the newly organized County of Marshall in Lawrence County, then the Judge of the 11th Judicial Circuit would hold the Court in both Counties. Thereafter the two Circuit Judges would alternate, holding the court in Lawrence County.
12. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 3, Section 5, established the 14th Judicial Circuit consisting of the counties of Lawrence, Wayne, Hardin, Perry, Carroll, and Benton. Circuit Court terms in Lawrence County would begin on the second Monday in March, July, and November.
13. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 116, Section 10, reset the terms of the Circuit Courts in the 14th Judicial Circuit. The court in Lawrence County would convene on the second Monday in March, July, and November.
14. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 140, rearranged the schedule of Circuit Court terms in Carroll, Benton, Perry, Hardin, Wayne, and Lawrence County which would be held on the second Monday in February, June, and October.

15. Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 70, changed the terms of the circuit courts in the counties of Perry, Wayne, Decatur, McNairy, Hardin, and Lawrence where the court would open on the second Monday in February, June, and October.
16. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 125, Section 3, changed the Circuit Court terms in Wayne County and Lawrence County whose Circuit Court would convene on the first Monday in February, June, and October.
17. Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 98, created sixteen Judicial Circuits in Tennessee. The 12th Judicial Circuit contained the counties of Wayne, Lawrence, Hickman, Perry, Decatur, Hardin, and McNairy. The circuit court of Lawrence County would continue to open on the first Monday in February, June, and October.
18. Acts of 1865, Chapter 37, realigned the 11th, 12th, 14th and 15th Judicial Circuits. The 11th Judicial Circuit contained the counties of Lawrence, Giles, Maury, Lewis, and Marshall. The terms of court would begin in Lawrence County on the fourth Monday in February, June, and October.
19. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 64, Section 2, changed the opening dates of the Circuit Court terms in Lawrence County, Hickman County, and Lewis County. Court would meet in Lawrence County in regular session on the third Monday in February, June, and October.
20. Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 15, Section 5, provided that the Circuit Court of Lawrence County would begin the regular terms on the first Monday in March, July, and November in Lawrenceburg.
21. Acts of 1870, Chapter 31, reorganized the Circuit Court of Tennessee into fifteen judicial circuits. The Ninth Judicial Circuit included the counties of Williamson, Marshall, Maury, Giles, and Lawrence.
22. Acts of 1870, Chapter 46, established the opening times for all the Circuit Courts of every Tennessee county according to the judicial circuits. Lawrence County's Circuit Court would start its regular terms on the third Monday in April, August, and December.
23. Acts of 1879, Chapter 147, stated in the introduction that John V. Wright, of Maury County, had been duly commissioned as a Judge of the Judicial Circuit composed of the counties of Williamson, Maury, Giles, Marshall, and Lawrence, and was charged to hold those courts during the illness of the Honorable W. P. Martin, and that Wright had accepted and ably performed the duties of the position but had not been paid for his services. This Act directed the Comptroller to pay Wright \$1400 for his services which amount was appropriated for that purpose.
24. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, in this major revision of the lower judicial system of Tennessee established fourteen judicial circuits in the State. The counties of Maury, Giles, Lawrence, Wayne, Hardin, Lewis, and Hickman were assigned to the Ninth Judicial Circuit. Court terms would start in Lawrence County on the third Monday in March, July, and November.
25. Acts of 1887, Chapter 54, changed the opening dates for the Circuit Court terms in the Ninth Judicial Circuit. Lawrence County's Circuit Court would meet in Lawrenceburg on the fourth Monday in March, July, and November.
26. Acts of 1897, Chapter 322, rearranged the openings of the Circuit Courts in the Ninth Judicial Circuit changing Lawrence County to the first Monday in January and April, and the fourth Monday in September of each year. All bonds and process were directed to conform to the changes in terms.
27. Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, Section 12, was an attempt to equitably distribute jurisdiction in the lower court system of the State. Section 12 reset the court terms in the 9th Judicial Circuit putting Lawrence County on the schedule for the third Monday in March, July, and November.
28. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, revised the entire lower court system in Tennessee. Fourteen Judicial Circuits were formed of which the Eleventh Judicial Circuit was made up of the Counties of Maury, Giles, Lawrence, Wayne, Lewis, Perry, and Hickman. Lawrence County's Court would open in Lawrenceburg on the fourth Monday in March, July, and November.
29. Private Acts of 1901, Chapter 382, revised the Ninth Judicial Circuit to include the counties of Giles, Lewis, Maury, Hardin, Wayne, and Lawrence whose court would begin its regular terms on the first Monday in January, the second Monday in April, and the fourth Monday in September of each year.
30. Private Acts of 1903, Chapter 18, scheduled new dates for the term openings for the Circuit Courts in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit consisting of the counties of Giles, Lewis, Maury, Hickman, Wayne, and Lawrence where the court terms would commence on the first Monday in January, the second Monday in April, and the fourth Monday in September.
31. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 321, granted to the Circuit Court Judge holding the Circuit Court in

Lawrence County all the power and jurisdiction of a Chancellor and required the Circuit Judge to preside over an additional term of the Chancery Court of that county at the times specified under the law.

### **Circuit Court - Clerk**

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

1. Acts of 1841-42, Chapter 34, Section 13, made it the duty of the Clerks of the Circuit Court in each of the counties South and West of the Congressional reservation line, to examine the books of their County Entry-taker annually, in the month of January, and then report to the State Comptroller certain items. The Clerk would be compensated two dollars per day for his services.
2. Acts of 1843-44, Chapter 89, amended Acts of 1842, Chapter 34, to make it the duty of the Circuit Court Clerk in Lawrence County, Hickman County, Wayne County, Giles County, and Maury County, to examine the books of the Entry Takers of those respective counties on the first Monday in September annually and report the same to the State Comptroller by September 15 of the same year.
3. Acts of 1903, Chapter 255, was a statewide salary act which involved only the Circuit Court Clerks of the State and which fixed their annual salary according to the population class of the county in which they worked. The salaries ranged from \$500 to \$5,000 annually. The Clerks must file a report annually, sworn to and itemized, which showed the total amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees were less than the salary, the county would pay the difference; if the fees exceeded the salary, the Clerk could retain the excess.
4. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 214, stated that in Lawrence County the Circuit Court Clerk would be paid \$1,000 annually, provided the Clerk filed on January 1, May 1, and September 1, of each year a sworn, itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, showing the amount of fees paid into the office within those specified times. When the fees failed to equal the salary, the County must pay the difference. In computing the above, the sum of \$333.33 per four month period would be the norm upon which payment would be made. All the excess would be paid by the Clerk to the Trustee.
5. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 275, amended Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 214, by increasing the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk from \$1,000 to \$1,200 with appropriate alterations being made in the remainder of the act to effectuate the above increase.
6. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 236, provided that the Circuit Court Clerk of Lawrence County would be paid \$1,600 per year instead of \$1,200, if the Clerk would file a sworn, itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, monthly, showing the amount of fees collected in the office. Any deficiency between the fees and the salary would be made up by the county but all fees in excess of the salary would be paid over to the Trustee by the Circuit Court Clerk.
7. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 96, stated that in Lawrence County the Circuit Court Clerk would be paid \$2,400 annually, provided the Clerk filed on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, a sworn, itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, showing the total amount of fees collected in the office during those preceding months except for special services rendered as a Receiver, Trustee, or Special Commissioner. If the total amount of the fees were less than the salary the County would supply the difference. If the fees exceeded the salary, the overage would be paid over to the Trustee for the County treasury. All the stationery, stamps, and office supplies would be furnished to the Clerk by the county.
8. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 699, declared that the annual compensation of the Circuit Court Clerk of Lawrence County would be \$1,000, payable out of regular county funds on the warrant of the County Judge, or Chairman, at the rate of \$250 per quarter. The Clerk must file a report within the first ten days of January, April, July, and October with the County Court Clerk, showing all the fees of every nature, all the costs, and all the commission received during the preceding quarter. The Clerk could have and retain the next \$1,000 of the fees, costs, and commissions and all in excess of the second \$1,000 would be paid over to the county treasury. Failure to comply herewith could result in a withholding of the Clerk's salary. All special fees would be listed separately.
9. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 751, fixed the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk of Lawrence County at \$2,400, provided the Clerk filed each quarter with the County Judge, or Chairman, a sworn, itemized statement, showing the amount of fees paid into the office during the preceding months, except those fees received for being Trustee, Receiver, or Special Commissioner. In all cases where the fees did not equal the salary the difference would be paid to the Clerk on the

warrant of the County Judge. In computing the sum to be paid the sum of \$600 would be used for each quarter. If the fees exceeded the salary, the surplus would be paid to the County treasury. All stationery and office supplies would be furnished by the County to the Circuit Court Clerk.

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

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

1. Acts of 1817, Chapter 65, Section 3, established ten Solicitorial Districts in the State of Tennessee. The Ninth District included the counties of Maury, Lawrence, and Hickman. An Attorney General would be appointed for each Solicitorial District who would prosecute and defend all the suits to which the State was a party at a salary of \$125 per year, unless the district comprised the Supreme Court, then the pay would be \$150 per year. County Courts had the option of appropriating up to \$50 per year out of the county treasury for the Attorney General.
2. Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 28, made each Solicitorial District in Tennessee coextensive with each Judicial Circuit. The General Assembly would elect one Attorney General for each district.
3. Public Acts of 1935, Chapter 151, created the office of Assistant Attorney General in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.
4. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 139, Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 56, and Public Acts of 1977, Chapter 368, created additional positions for assistant district attorneys general in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. T.C.A. 16-2-506 now provides that Lawrence County is a part of the Twenty-second Judicial District and provides the number of judges, assistant district attorneys general and investigators for the district.

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