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# Chapter V - Court System

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# Chapter V - Court System

## General Sessions Court

### Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 345

**SECTION 1.** That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for Blount County, Tennessee, which shall be designated Court of General Sessions of Blount County, Tennessee. The Court shall be held in Maryville, and Blount County shall provide a courtroom, dockets, furnishings and necessary supplies for the equipment and maintenance of said Court, and shall pay for the same out of the general funds of the County.

**SECTION 2.** That the jurisdiction, powers and authority of said Court shall be co-extensive with Blount County and shall be the same as provided by law for Justices of the Peace in civil and criminal actions; and the Justices of the Peace of Blount County are hereby divested of all such jurisdiction, powers and authority. The authority of said Justices of the Peace in their capacity as members of the Quarterly County Court or in the performance of rites of matrimony is in no wise affected by this Act.

That the Judges of the Court of General Sessions are hereby empowered to grant fiats for writs and attachments, injunctions, ne exeats and other extraordinary processes in suits to be filed or pending in the Circuit, Criminal or Chancery Courts of Blount County, Tennessee.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324

Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227

**SECTION 3.** That before the issuance of any warrants in civil cases, the plaintiff shall execute a cost bond with good security in the sum of Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars or in lieu thereof make a cash deposit with the Clerk of not less than Three (\$3.00) Dollars, or more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, to secure the costs, or take the oath prescribed for poor persons, and on motion, the Court may increase the security.

**SECTION 4.** That the laws now regulating pleading and practice; stay of and appeals from judgments, writs and processes in civil cases in the Courts of Justices of the Peace, shall apply to and govern said Court; and all of the statutes regulating the conduct of Justices of the Peace in civil and criminal cases shall apply to the Judge of said Court.

**SECTION 5.** That the Judge of said Court shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to expedite the trial and disposal of cases.

**SECTION 6.** That in all matters the cost and fees of the cost and fees out of the Court of General Sessions shall be the same as those provided by law for Justices of the Peace.

The fees and other compensation of the Sheriff, and all other officers, for the execution of writs and processes of said Court and fees for attendance and mileage of witnesses shall be the same in said Court as those provided by law for the Courts of Justices of the Peace.

The fees and compensation, due for services rendered by the Court, shall accrue to the Clerk of the Court. Said Costs, fees and mileage of witnesses, the fees, commissions and emoluments of the Sheriff and all other officers, for services to said Court, and the fines and forfeitures adjudged by it shall be paid to the Clerk and handled, accounted for and disbursed as required by law.

**SECTION 7.** That there shall be one civil docket and one criminal docket for the Court in which all cases shall be entered immediately upon the issuance of the warrant. Upon said dockets shall be entered the style and number of each case, the date of the issuance of the warrant or process, the name of the officer to whom delivered, the return of the process if brief form, the action of the Court, both interlocutory and final, orders, judgments, executions, garnishments, lists of fees of Court, of the Sheriff, and all other officers for their respective services, fees of witnesses for attendance, credits for payments upon judgments and upon costs, and the manner in which the case was disposed of. There shall be a direct and cross index of each case in the civil docket and a direct index giving the name of the defendant on the criminal docket, so as to provide ready access to the record of each case.

On the criminal docket there shall be kept a column wherein the criminal warrant is charged to the officer taking out the warrant, and the officer, who receives the warrant shall give a receipt for same. No warrant, criminal or civil, shall be taken from the office of said Court until its issuance has been properly entered on said respective dockets.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324

Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227

**SECTION 8.**

(a) That there is hereby created four (4) sections of said Court of General Sessions, to be know as Section No. 1, Section No. 2, Section No. 3 and Section No. 4, respectively; that there shall be four (4) full time Judges of said court, one (1) to preside over each section; that said Judges shall be persons who are licensed attorneys and who have been admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of Tennessee and shall have all the other qualifications as are prescribed for Circuit Judges; that said Judges shall not be permitted to practice law during their tenure of office and shall devote all their working time to the office of Judge, provided, however, that such Judge may conclude to final determination any cases which the Judge may have pending at the time such Judge takes office as a General Sessions Court Judge.

(b) The Judge of Section 4 shall be appointed by the legislative body of Blount County as provided by law and the person so appointed shall serve until September 1, 2006, or until such person's successor is elected and qualified. The appointment by the Blount County legislative body shall take effect on January 1, 2005. At the August general election in 2006, and every eight (8) years thereafter, the qualified voters of Blount County shall elect a person to the office of Judge of Section 4 of the General Sessions Court for a term of eight (8) years. In such election and all subsequent elections, the candidates shall designate and qualify to run for the position of Judge of Section 4 of the General Sessions Court of Blount County.

(c) The Judge of Section 4 of the General Sessions Court of Blount County shall receive the same compensation, payable in the same manner, and benefits as the Judges of Sections No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3. Section 4 of the General Sessions Court shall have concurrent jurisdiction with Sections No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324  
 Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227  
 Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 48  
 Private Acts of 2004, Chapter 111

**SECTION 9.** Effective September 1, 2006, the Judge of Section No. 3 of said Court shall be the presiding Judge and shall designate the time of holding Court for each section, shall designate the Judge to preside over the same from time to time and shall set the docket of cases to be heard and in general determine the manner in which said Court shall be conducted for the most expeditious hearing or disposition of the cases filed therein, provided, however, that nothing in this act contained shall be construed as prohibiting either of said Judges from hearing cases in either of the sections of said Court at the designation of said presiding Judge.

Beginning September 1, 1982, the base compensation of the judges of Division I and Division II shall be thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$37,500) for the performance of all judicial duties other than juvenile matters and five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the performance of their duties concerning juvenile matters; payable in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of the county. The base compensation shall be adjusted annually by the cost of living increase, if any, appropriated by the Blount County legislative body for all other county employeess; said adjustments having the same effective date as the increases for all other county employees.

That each of said judges of the Court of General Sessions shall be entitled to have four (4) weeks each calendar year when they shall not be required to perform their duties, as vacation, and/or sick leave with salary and during such time each judge shall appoint some member of the Blount County Bar to perform his duties and which substitute, so appointed shall have all of the rights and powers of a judge of the Court of General Sessions of Blount County and shall be paid for such services at the rate of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars per week, which sums shall be paid out of the general funds of the County upon certification of such judge of the Court of General Sessions for whom such substitute judge is serving.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324  
 Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 396  
 Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227  
 Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 202  
 Private Acts of 1970, Chapter 260  
 Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 217  
 Private Acts of 2004, Chapter 111

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** The minimum compensation of general sessions court judges is set by general law found at T.C.A. § 16-15-5001 *et seq.*

**SECTION 10.** That said Judges shall be elected by the qualified voters of Blount County at the General August Election in August, 1958, and for a term of eight years or until his successor shall be elected and qualified and shall take office on September 1, 1958; that is said election and all subsequent elections, the candidates for such offices shall designate and be qualified to run for Judge of Section No. 1 or Section No. 2 as such candidate may desire; that said Judges shall thereafter be elected to the Judgeship by the

qualified voters of Blount County each eight years at the General August Election.

That in the event of a vacancy in the office of either of said Judgeships, his successor shall be designated in the manner provided by law, such successor to have the same qualifications as are prescribed hereby and who shall serve until the next General Election held in the County of Blount, at which time a successor shall be elected to fill out the unexpired term of such Judge.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324  
Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227

**SECTION 11.** That if the Judge of said Court of General Sessions 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 qualifications of such a Judge, and when elected shall have the same authority as a regular Judge to hold the Court for the occasion. The Clerk of said Court shall preside at such elections and shall keep in his office a record of the election of such special Judges. Such special Judges shall not be entitled to compensation for their services.

**SECTION 12.** The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Blount County is hereby made ex officio clerk of the court of General Sessions and shall perform the duties herein devolved upon such clerk. For the services rendered by him in ex officio capacity he shall be paid the sum of \$2500.00 per annum, payable monthly the fees and emoluments of office and he is also authorized to pay from such fees and emoluments for all necessary supplies, stationery and postage. Likewise, upon proper petition to the Circuit or Chancery Court of such County he shall be allowed such additional deputy or deputies as may be necessary to efficiently conduct the business of the office, such deputy or deputies to possess all the powers herein conferred upon the clerk. Any excess fees and emoluments over and above those heretofore appropriated shall be paid into the County Treasury.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court shall act as the Clerk of the Court of General Sessions in cases, suits, proceedings or actions involving the following subject matters, jurisdiction of which is granted to the Court of General Sessions in Section 19 of this chapter as amended by Chapter 202 of the Private Acts of 1965; juvenile, bastardy, illegitimates, legitimation, and abandonment of wife and child.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 324  
Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 670  
Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 145  
Private Acts of 1970, Chapter 260

**SECTION 13.** That the sheriff of Blount County shall assign a regular Deputy Sheriff to attend the sessions of said Court of General Sessions to preserve the order and wait on and serve the Court, in the same manner as is now provided for officers of the other Courts of said County.

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 now provided by law and shall receive the same fees and emoluments therefor as is now provided for writs and processes issued by the Justices of the Peace of said County.

**SECTION 14.** That this Act shall in no way impair the right, title or interest of any Justices of the Peace of Blount County to any unpaid fees, or funds 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 15.** That at the time this Act becomes effective all of the official dockets and records and papers in cases that are disposed of or that are undisposed of and pending, belonging to Justices of the Peace or former Justices of the Peace of said County, shall be delivered to the General Sessions Court as the successor of the said Justices of the Peace.

**SECTION 16.** That said Court of General Sessions shall have authority to hear and determine all undisposed of cases pending in the Courts of Justices of the Peace of Blount County as if such cases had originated in said Court of General Sessions, and shall have power to issue executions on judgments rendered by Justices of the Peace.

**SECTION 17.** That the Legislature expressly declares that each section of this Act is severable, and that if any portion of this Act should be held unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Act, but such unconstitutional or invalid portions shall be elided, and the Legislature declares that it would have enacted this Act with such unconstitutional or invalid portions elided therefrom.

**SECTION 18.** That this Act shall take effect September 1, 1958 the public welfare requiring it.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 227

**SECTION 19.**

(a) That said Court of General Sessions of Blount County, Tennessee is hereby vested with all jurisdiction and shall exercise the authority conferred by the legislature upon the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court in probate, decedents' estates, guardianship, conservatorship, insanity, lunacy,

feeble-minded, persons of unsound mind, juvenile, bastardy, illegitimates, legitimation, change of name, partition, condemnation, sale of property, foreclosures of mortgages and vendors liens, foreclosures of other liens, workmen's compensation, and abandonment of wife or child cases, suits, proceedings and actions, which jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with Blount County, Tennessee; provided, however, nothing in this act shall be construed to divest the Judge of the County Court of his jurisdiction and authority as financial or fiscal agent of said County and as presiding Judge of the Quarterly County Court.

(b) The court of general sessions of Blount County shall also be vested with all jurisdiction, powers and authority relating to the probate of wills and the administration of estates as is conferred by law upon probate courts.

The Court of General Sessions of Blount County shall also be vested with concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit and Chancery Courts over domestic relations cases. The Clerk and Master shall be designated as the Clerk of the General Sessions Court when it is exercising such domestic relations jurisdiction.

(c) The court of General Sessions of Blount County shall be vested with all jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred on chancery courts to order and confirm sales of real property in estates of incompetents, including guardianships, special guardianships, limited guardianships, testamentary guardianships and conservatorships.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 202  
Private Acts of 1987, Chapter 60  
Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 48  
Private Acts of 1991, Chapter 49

**SECTION 20.** That said Court of General Sessions shall have the authority to hear and determine all undisposed of cases pending in the County Court of Blount County, Tennessee, as if such cases had originated in said Court of General Sessions.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 202

**SECTION 21.** That the County Clerk of Blount County, Tennessee, shall act as Clerk of said Court of General Sessions in all cases relating to probate, decedents' estates, guardianship, conservatorship, insanity, lunacy, feebly-minded, persons of unsound mind, change of name, partition, condemnation, sale of property, foreclosures of mortgages and vendors liens, foreclosures of other liens, and workmen's compensation and cases, suits, proceedings and actions, provided, however, nothing in this section of this act shall be construed to divest the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Blount County, Tennessee, of any of his duties or authorities granted by Section 12 of this act.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 202  
Private Acts of 1970, Chapter 260  
Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 209

Passed: February 14, 1947.

## Private Acts of 1989 Chapter 48

**COMPILER'S NOTE:** Sections 1 and 2 of this act amended Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 345, which is printed herein.

**SECTION 3.** The Judge of Section No. 3 shall be appointed by the County Legislative Body of Blount County as provided by law and shall take office on July 1, 1989 to serve until his successor is elected in the 1990 August General Election and qualified. In such election and all subsequent elections, the candidates for such office shall designate and be qualified to run for Judge of Section No. 3. Such Judge shall be elected as provided by law for a term of eight (8) years.

**SECTION 4.** The Judge of Section No. 3 of the Court of General Sessions of Blount County shall receive the same compensation and benefits as the Judges of Sections No. 1 and 2. The jurisdiction of Section No. 3 shall be concurrent with Sections No. 1 and 2.

**SECTION 5.** This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Legislative Body of Blount County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the County Legislative Body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

**SECTION 6.** 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 upon being approved as provided in Section 5.

PASSED: APRIL 5, 1989.

## Court System - Historical Notes

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

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

1. Acts of 1797, Chapter 7, required Blount County to provide five grand jurors for the Hamilton District Superior Courts of Law.
2. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 521, created a board of jury commissioners for Blount County. Blount County was removed from this act by Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 285.
3. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 43, set the salary of jurors at \$3.00.
4. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 556, created a board of jury commissioners for Blount County.

### **Chancery Court**

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Blount 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 1823, Chapter 13, provided that the chancery court in Blount County would begin its terms on the first Mondays in June and December.
2. Public Acts of 1824, Chapter 14, fixed the time of holding chancery court in Blount County to the first Monday in June and December.
3. Private Acts of 1831, Chapter 217, Section 4, directed the chancellor of the Eastern Division of the state to hold a chancery court at Madisonville, in Monroe County and continue the terms thereof for two weeks, should business of said court require, for the counties of Blount, McMinn and Monroe.
4. Private Acts of 1833, Chapter 199, authorized Blount County citizens to bring chancery suits either in the court at Knoxville or the court at Madisonville.
5. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 4, established the sixth chancery district which composed of the counties of Anderson, Knox and Blount. The court was held at Knoxville on the second Mondays in April and October.
6. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 20, Section 11, allowed the citizens of Blount County the right to file their bills and have them tried in the chancery court in Madisonville or at Knoxville.
7. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 345, established a chancery court in Maryville, and provided that terms would begin on the second Monday in February and August.
8. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 353, provided that chancery cases which had originated in Blount County and were pending in the chancery courts in Knoxville, Sevierville, or Madisonville, would be transferred to the new chancery court in Maryville.
9. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 54, established the first chancery division in which Blount County was a part of. The times for holding the court was not altered.
10. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 55, Section 4, set the times for holding the chancery court for Blount County to the fourth Mondays in May and November.
11. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 88, set the dates for holding chancery court in Blount County on the fourth Mondays in May and November.
12. Private Acts of 1859-60, Chapter 37, changed the days for holding chancery court to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May and September.
13. Public Acts of 1865, Chapter 14, again changed the time for holding chancery court; this act providing that it should meet on the fourth Mondays in June and December.
14. Public Acts of 1865-66, Chapter 41, set the time for holding chancery court on the second Mondays in June and December.
15. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 32, divided the state into chancery districts. The counties of Blount, Knox, Sevier, Campbell, Union, Anderson, Roane, Monroe, Scott, Morgan, Fentress and Christiana formed the third chancery district.
16. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 47, divided the state into chancery divisions. Blount County was placed in the second chancery division in which the times of holding the chancery court was set to the second Mondays of June and December.
17. Acts of 1872, Extra Session, Chapter 15, again changed the time for holding chancery court, to the second Mondays in June and December of each year.

18. Acts of 1885, Extra Session, Chapter 20, provided that the second chancery division would consist of the courts in the counties of Knox, Campbell, Sevier, Union, Anderson, Blount, Roane, Loudon, Morgan and Scott; and this act further provided that the chancery court in Blount County would be held on the second Mondays in June and December.
19. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 92, set the time for holding chancery court on the third Monday in April and October.
20. Private Acts of 1901, Chapter 438, divided the state into chancery divisions. Blount County was placed in the first chancery division and the time for holding the chancery court was set to second Mondays in April and October.
21. Acts of 1907, Chapter 174, changed the time for holding chancery court to the first Mondays in April and October.
22. Public Acts of 1919, Chapter 100, created and established a chancery division out of the counties of Blount, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Sevier and Union. The times for holding the court for Blount County was set for the first Monday in April and October.
23. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 216, amended the general law then in effect to provide that in Blount County chancery court would be held on the second Mondays in March and September.
24. Public Acts of 1931, Chapter 38, Second Extra Session, placed Blount County in the thirteenth chancery division and set the time for holding chancery court to the second Mondays in March and September.
25. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 462, created the law and equity court for Blount County. The law and equity court has concurrent jurisdiction with the chancery and circuit courts of Blount County, in which the judge of the law and equity court was vested with all the common law and statutory powers of the chancery and circuit court judges. This act was amended by Public Acts of 1977, Chapter 418, which transferred the jurisdiction of the law and equity court to the thirtieth judicial circuit.

### **Clerk and Master**

The reference list below contains an act which once applied to the clerk and master in Blount County.

1. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 156, set the annual salary of the Blount County Clerk and master at \$850, and required him to file an annual statement of the fees received by his office. If these fees were more than the amount to be paid to him in salary, he was allowed to retain the excess. This was amended by Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 621, which raised this annual salary to \$1800.

### **Circuit Court**

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

1. Acts of 1809, Chapter 49, First Session, divided the state into five judicial circuits, and placed Blount in the second judicial circuit, along with Cocke, Jefferson, Sevier, Knox, Anderson, Roane, Rhea and Bledsoe counties. This act also provided that circuit court in Blount County would be held on the first Mondays in February and August of each year.
2. Acts of 1812, Chapter 81, Second Session, provided for an additional term of circuit court in Blount County, for the trial of civil causes only. This additional term was to have begun on the fifth Monday in August, 1813.
3. Acts of 1817, Chapter 121, changed the time for holding circuit court to the Monday after the fourth Monday in January and July of each year.
4. Public Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 5, established judicial circuits through out the state. Blount County was placed in the second judicial circuit in which the times of holding said court were set to the first Monday after the fourth Monday in January.
5. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 3, set the time for holding circuit court in Blount County on the fourth Monday in January, May and September.
6. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 55, reduced the terms of circuit court in Blount County to two annually, to be held on the fourth Mondays in May and November.
7. Public Acts of 1857-58, Chapter 98, placed Blount County in the third judicial circuit and provided that court would be held on the fourth Mondays in January, May and September.
8. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 31, divided the state into judicial circuits. Blount County was placed



in the third circuit along with Morgan, Anderson, Knox, Monroe, Roane, Cumberland, Fentress and Christiana.

9. Public Acts of 1870, Chapter 46, fixed the time for holding the circuit courts through out the state. The times for holding the Blount County Circuit Court was set to the fourth Mondays of April, August and December.
10. Public Acts of 1879, Chapter 179, also specified that the circuit court in Blount County would be held on the fourth Mondays in January, May and September.
11. Acts of 1885 Extra Session, Chapter 20, placed Blount County in the third judicial circuit, along with Knox, Monroe, Loudon, Roane, Morgan and Scott, and also provided that court would be held on the fourth Mondays in January, May and September.
12. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 168, abolished the third judicial circuit, of which Blount County had been a part of.
13. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 239, set the time for holding circuit court on the third Mondays in January, May and September.
14. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, attached the counties of Blount, Loudon and Roane to the seventeenth judicial circuit of the state. The circuit court for Blount County was set to the second Monday in February, June and October.
15. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, placed Blount County in the fourth judicial circuit, along with the counties of Bradley, Polk, Meigs, McMinn, James Loudon, Roane and Monroe. The circuit court in Blount County was to meet on the first Monday of April, August, and December. This was amended by Private Acts of 1901, Chapter 413, to change the time for holding circuit court to the third Mondays in February, June and October; and this amendatory act itself was also amended, by Acts of 1903, Chapter 354, to set the time for holding circuit court in Blount County on the second Mondays in February, June and October.
16. Public Acts of 1915, Chapter 167, changed the time of holding the circuit court in Blount County, in the fourth judicial circuit, to the third Mondays in February, June and October of each year.
17. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 58, established a separate criminal court for Blount, Monroe, Loudon, Roane, McMinn, Bradley and Polk counties.
18. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 217, provided that criminal court in Blount County would begin its terms on the second Mondays in April, August and December.
19. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 218, also specified that the terms of circuit court in Blount County would be held on the second Mondays in February, June and October.
20. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 638, amended the general statute then in effect, exempting Blount County from the provisions setting the salary of the juvenile court judge. This was repealed by Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 424.
21. Public Acts of 1929, Chapter 142, fixed the times of holding the Blount County Circuit Court to the first, second and third Mondays of February, June and October.
22. Public Acts of 1931, Chapter 38, Second Session, placed Blount County in the third judicial circuit and set the times for holding circuit court to the first Mondays in February, June and October.
23. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 462, created a circuit court for the thirteenth judicial circuit, the jurisdiction of which was co-extensive with Blount County.

### **Circuit Court Clerk**

The following act has no current effect, but once applied to the Blount County Circuit Court Clerk. It was repealed, superseded, or never received local approval.

1. Acts of 1903, Chapter 255, set the salary of the circuit court clerk in Blount County at \$750 annually. This was amended by Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 628, which raised that salary to \$1,800 per year, and by Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 62, which provided that in addition to \$1,800 annually, the circuit court clerk would also receive \$600 annually from the criminal court fees.

### **Criminal Court**

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

1. Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 15, created a criminal court in Blount County and set the time for holding criminal court to the fourth Monday in March, July and November.

2. Public Acts of 1929, Chapter 142, fixed the times of holding the Blount County Criminal Court to the second and third Mondays of April, August and December.
3. Public Acts of 1931, Chapter 38, Second Session, placed Blount County in the fourth criminal court circuit and set the time for holding criminal court on the second Monday in April, August and December.
4. Public Acts of 1939, Chapter 228, provided for a criminal investigator for the criminal court of the fourth judicial circuit of the state and provided for his qualifications, salary and tenure of office.
5. Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 687, created the office of criminal investigator for the fourth judicial circuit; provided for the appointment, qualifications, powers and duties of said investigator and fix the compensation thereof.

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

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

1. Acts of 1817, Chapter 65, established solicitorial districts throughout the state. Blount County was placed in the third solicitorial district along with Cocke, Jefferson and Sevier counties.
2. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 879, created the office of assistant attorney general for Blount County, provided the appointment and qualifications, the payment of his salary and defined his duties.
3. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 74, amended Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 879, by setting the salary of the assistant attorney general to \$2,400.00 which was payable out of the treasury of the state upon warrant of the comptroller quarterly.
4. Public Acts of 1971, Chapter 130, created the offices of two additional assistant district attorneys general for the fourth judicial circuit of the state, provided for their appointment, fixed the qualification, determined the duties of said officers and set their compensation.
5. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 550, provided a secretary to the district attorney general for the fourth judicial circuit of the state, provided for the appointment, compensation, and duties and also provided for the effective date of appointment.

### **General Sessions Court**

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

1. Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 21, would have amended Private Acts of 1947, Chapter 345 by vesting the general sessions court with jurisdiction, power, and authority concurrent with the circuit and chancery court, to hear and determine all domestic relations cases and with the full power and authority conferred upon the circuit and chancery court to enforce all of its orders, decrees, and judgments. This act, however, was not ratified locally and therefore never became effective.

### **Juvenile Court**

The following act once affected juvenile courts in Blount County and is included herein for reference purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1929, Chapter 103, exempted Blount County from Public Acts of 1911, Chapter 58, Section 14, which provided for the regulation, treatment and control of dependent, neglected and delinquent children and the establishment of a juvenile court.

### **Secretarial Assistance**

The following act is no longer in effect but is listed here for historical purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 231, created the position of secretary to the judge of the fourth judicial circuit. This was amended by Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 550, to raise the salary of the position.

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