



February 05, 2025

Chapter V - Court System

Dear Reader:

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

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

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

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Chapter V - Court System 3
General Sessions Court 3
Private Acts of 1959 Chapter 274 3
Court System - Historical Notes 6

Chapter V - Court System

General Sessions Court

Private Acts of 1959 Chapter 274

SECTION 1. That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for Crockett County, Tennessee, which shall be designated as the Court of General Sessions. The County shall provide a court room for said Court in the county seat and all necessary supplies and equipment for the maintenance of the Court and shall defray the expenses thereof from the general fund of said County.

SECTION 2. That said Court of General Sessions is hereby vested with all of the jurisdiction and shall exercise the authority conferred by law upon justices of the peace in civil and criminal cases, suits and actions in Crockett County. The jurisdiction, power and authority of said Court shall be co-extensive with the County.

The Judge of said Court shall have the same authority as circuit court judges or chancellors to grant fiats for writs of injunction, attachments and other extraordinary process.

Justices of the peace are hereby divested of all judicial jurisdiction and authority in Crockett County.

The authority of justices of the peace in their capacity as members of the Quarterly County Court, or in the performance of the rites of matrimony, or to administer oaths is in no wise affected by this Act.

All juvenile jurisdiction is hereby divested from the County Court of Crockett County and vested in the General Sessions Court of Crockett County, Tennessee.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 114

SECTION 3. That before the issuance of any original process in a civil case, the plaintiff shall execute a cost bond with security determined by the clerk to be good, 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 nor more than twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, to secure the costs, and, on motion, the Court may increase or decrease the security. The Court shall be authorized to establish a scale of deposits in the various forms of action; provided, however, that any resident of the State who is eligible to take and subscribe to the oath provided for poor persons may commence and prosecute an action on pauper's oath as provided by Section 20-1629 of Tennessee Code Annotated.

It shall be the duty of the clerk of said Court, not less than thirty (30) days after the judgments of the Court of General Sessions shall become final, to issue an execution against the party against whom the costs thereof have been adjudged. Likewise, in case of inability to collect the costs from such party against whom they have been adjudged, evidenced by the return of an execution nulla bona, it shall be the duty of the clerk, not later than thirty (30) days after the return of such execution, to undertake to collect from the successful party all cost accruing at the instance of such successful party.

SECTION 4. That, any party may appeal from an adverse decision of the General Sessions Court to the Circuit Court of the county within the time provided by law for appeals from justices of the peace courts. Any appeal shall be heard de novo in the Circuit Court. If no appeal is taken within the time provided, then execution may issue.

SECTION 5. That in addition to the jurisdiction conferred in Section 2 of this Act, the Court of General Sessions 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 enters a plea of guilty in writing or requests a trial upon the merits and expressly waives an indictment, presentment, grand jury investigation and jury trial, such waiver to be in writing as hereinafter provided. In such cases the trial shall proceed before the Courts without the intervention of a jury, and the Court shall enter such judgment, and, as an incident thereto, may inflict such punishment within the limits provided by law for the particular offense, as the Court may determine proper under the circumstances of such case, but nothing herein shall be construed to grant such Court the power to impose a fine in excess of fifty (\$50.00) dollars upon any citizen of this State and the Court shall have no jurisdiction of the trial of misdemeanors for which the minimum punishment is a fine of more than (\$50.00) dollars.

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 be represented by 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 rights to be put on trial only by presentment and indictment by a grand jury, and the right to be tried by a jury of his peers, such Court may proceed to hear and determine said case as provided in this section. Said waiver shall be written and attached to the warrant substantially in words and figures as follows:

The defendant, _____ pleads guilty (not guilty) to the offense of _____, and waives his right to be tried only by indictment or presentment preferred by a grand jury and likewise waives trial by a jury of his peers.

Signature

Attest: _____
Clerk or Judge

Any person aggrieved by the judgment of the Court of General Sessions in a criminal case rendered under the provisions of this section, may appeal such judgment to the next term of the Court having criminal jurisdiction in said county upon executing an appearance bond, and, likewise, executing bond for the amount of the fine and costs, or, in lieu thereof, taking the oath prescribed by law for paupers. Such appeal shall be tried in said Court without indictment and presentment, upon the original warrant issued against such person, by the judge without a jury, unless the defendant demands a jury.

SECTION 6. That the laws now regulating pleading and practice, form of writs and process, stay of judgments and appeals from judgments in civil cases in the courts of justices of the peace shall apply to and govern said Court, except where expressly provided to the contrary in this Act. All the statutes regulating the conduct of proceedings before justices of the peace in civil and criminal cases shall apply to proceedings in said Court. Provided, however, that all cases shall be set in said Court of General Sessions for a (sic) hour certain, and the provisions of Section 19-410 of Tennessee Code Annotated allowing the parties one hour in which to appear after the time fixed for trial shall not apply in said Court of General Sessions.

SECTION 7. That the Judge or judges of said Court shall adopt such rules as may be necessary to expedite the trial and disposal of cases. In all matters the costs and fees of said Court of General Sessions shall be the same as provided by law for 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, and the attendance and mileage of witnesses shall be the same in said Court as those provided by law for courts of the justices of the peace.

The fees and compensation due for services rendered by said Court of General Sessions shall be paid to the clerk of the said Court and by him accounted for as hereinafter provided. Said costs, fees and mileage of witnesses, the fees, commissions and emoluments of the sheriff, his deputies, constables, game wardens, State Highway Patrolmen and other officers for services to the Court and the fines and forfeitures adjudged by the Court, and all other funds coming into the hands of the clerk, shall be handled, accounted for and disbursed by the clerk in the manner provided by law for clerks of Circuit and Criminal Courts.

SECTION 8. That separate dockets shall be kept in said Court for civil and criminal cases. Upon the civil docket shall be entered the style of each case, the names of the attorneys for the parties, the date of issuance of the warrant process, the name of the officer to whom delivered, the return of the process, in brief form the action of the Court both interlocutory and final, orders, judgments, executions, garnishments, list of fees of the Court, of the sheriff, his deputies, constables, game wardens, State Highway Patrolmen and other officers for their services, fees of witnesses for attendance and credits for payments upon judgments and upon costs. All cases shall be indexed and the docket shall be substantially in the form of those of justices of the peace.

Also there shall be kept a criminal docket in which there shall be entered the disposition of all criminal cases disposed of by the Court of General Sessions, which docket shall show as to the misdemeanors now within the jurisdiction of justices of the peace under the Small Offense Law, the name of the defendant, the charge against him, and the disposition of the case. In cases over which justices of the peace do not now have jurisdiction under the general law, it shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a minute book and in such minute book he shall enter the action of the Court by appropriate minute entry setting forth the name of the defendant, his arraignment upon the charge against him, his plea, his waiver of right of trial by indictment, information or presentment, his waiver of a jury trial and his consent to be tried by the Court of General Sessions upon such charge. Likewise, there shall be entered therein a judgment of the Court of General Sessions upon the waiver of the defendant.

SECTION 9. That there shall be one judge for said Court with the same qualifications and terms of office as provided by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee for inferior Courts.

SECTION 10. That in all misdemeanor cases where bond is made for appearance before the Court of General Sessions, the judge is authorized and empowered to prescribe the amount of bail, either case or otherwise, within the same discretionary powers as are granted to judges of the Circuit and Criminal Courts by Section 40-1304 of Tennessee Code Annotated. Upon default in appearance of the defendant the judge before whom such default occurs is authorized to grant relief, lessen or remit liability upon the recognizance in such cases as provided for other Courts in Section 40-1303 and 40-1304 of Tennessee Code Annotated; and, in the case of cash bonds, the judge may hear proof and order a fine and costs paid out of the cash bond. The unused surplus of cash bonds and other funds in excess of costs paid for exoneration of sureties shall be disbursed by the clerk as provided by law for forfeitures.

SECTION 11. That the compensation of the judge of said Court shall be \$3,600.00 per annum and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general funds of the county and shall not be increased or diminished during the time for which said judge is elected.

The Judge shall receive additional compensation for the additional duties involving juvenile jurisdiction in the amount of fifty-five hundred dollars (\$5,500), per annum.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 114

SECTION 12. That the judge of the General Sessions Court shall devote such time to the duties of said office as such duties may require, and, if a lawyer, shall be authorized to engage in private law practice during his tenure of office, but shall not practice law in the General Sessions Court and shall not represent any party in any proceedings in the Circuit, Criminal or Appellate Courts which originated in the General Sessions Court.

SECTION 13. That when this chapter becomes effective when approved as provided by law, Mr. Robert McLean, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, Alamo, Tennessee, is hereby appointed judge of the General Sessions Court of Crockett County, and he shall serve until September 1, 1960 following the next general August election, and a successor shall be elected by the qualified voters of the county at the general election on the first Thursday of August 1960, for a term of six (6) years from the first day of September 1960, and subsequently at the general August election of 1966 and thereafter each eight (8) years. He shall hold office for the term for which he is elected, or until his successor is elected and qualified. The oath of office shall be the same as that prescribed for Circuit judges and Chancellors and shall be taken and filed in the same manner and with the same officers as prescribed for Circuit judges and Chancellors.

SECTION 14. That if the judge of said Court fails to attend, cannot preside at any pending case or for any reason hold Court, a majority of the lawyers present in said Court may elect one of their number who has the qualifications of such a judge and when elected shall take the same oath and have the same authority as a regular judge to hold the Court for the occasion.

SECTION 15. That in the event of a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall have the power to appoint some qualified person to fill such vacancy until September 1, following the next regular August election at which election said vacancy for the remainder of the term shall be filled by the qualified voters of the county.

SECTION 16. That the clerk of Circuit Court of the county shall act as clerk of the Court of General Sessions, and when acting as clerk of said Court shall be designated as the clerk of the Court of General Sessions of said county. The clerk of the Circuit Court shall receive the compensation provided by law for Circuit Court Clerks, as fixed by Section 8-2403 of Tennessee Code Annotated. The fees, commissions and emoluments of said clerk of the Court of General Sessions shall constitute part of the fees, commissions and emoluments of the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court.

All fees, commissions and emoluments accruing under the provisions of this Act to the judge or clerk of the Court of General Sessions, after the payment of the compensation of the clerk, shall be paid over each month to the County Trustee of the county and deposited to the general fund of said county; and all fines collected shall be paid and accounted for as required by law. Payment shall be made to the Trustee not later than the 10th day of each month for the preceding month and the payment and accounting for fines shall be made as required by law.

It shall be the duty of the clerk to make and file with the County Court Clerk of said county for transmission to each regular quarterly session of the Quarterly County Court a complete detailed financial report of all receipts and disbursements of said Court of General Sessions for the previous quarter.

However the County Clerk shall continue to maintain the records and provide the other clerk services as required in matters of juvenile jurisdiction within the General Sessions Court.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1981, Chapter 114

SECTION 17. That the Clerk of said Court shall have concurrent authority with the judge to issue

warrants and other process and writs, other than those which the law requires to be issued only by a judicial officer, and shall have the authority to set the amount of bond in the absence of the judge. It shall be the duty of the clerk of said Court to keep all dockets required by this Act, to write all minute entries required herein and to promptly make any and all entries necessitated by this Act.

SECTION 18. That the sheriff of the county, or any deputy sheriff or constable thereof, shall serve regular process, writs and papers issued by said Court with the same authority as provided by law in the other inferior Courts. The sheriff shall designate a court officer to wait on the Court at all times said Court is in session.

SECTION 19. That this Act shall in no wise impair the right, title or interest of any justice of the peace to any unpaid fees or funds in which he had a right or interest in any proceeding, judgment or suit, whether said cause be disposed of or pending when this Act becomes effective.

SECTION 20. That all the official dockets, records and papers in cases that are undisposed of or pending in the office of any justice of the peace of any county when this Act is approved and made effective, shall be delivered to said Court of General Sessions. The official dockets, records, and papers in possession of justices of the peace of said county in cases which have been completed shall be turned over to said county, as provided by law.

SECTION 21. That the Court of General Sessions shall have authority to hear and determine all cases which are undisposed of when this Act is approved and made effective, arising in the courts of justices of the peace of said county as if such cases had originated in said Court of General Sessions and to issue executions on and orders concerning any unpaid judgments on the dockets of said justices of the peace and certify as to any such judgments or records as a justice of the peace could do.

SECTION 22. That the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable. If any of its sections, provisions, exceptions, sentences, clauses, phrases or parts be held unconstitutional or void the remainder of this Act shall continue in full force and effect it being the legislative intent now hereby declared, that this Act would have been adopted even if such unconstitutional or void matter had not been included therein.

SECTION 23. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall have been approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Quarterly County Court of Crockett County on or before its next regular meeting occurring more than five (5) days after the approval of this chapter by the Governor. The approval or disapproval of this chapter by the Quarterly County Court shall be proclaimed by its presiding officer who shall certify the result to the Secretary of State.

In the event the Courts finally hold that Article XI, Section 9 of the Constitution does not apply to this chapter or that this chapter need not be approved by the governing body of the county, this section shall be elided and the General Assembly declares that it would have enacted the chapter without this section.

SECTION 24. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: (Date not printed)

Court System - Historical Notes

Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors

The following acts once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Crockett 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 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 91, created a three (3) member Board of Jury Commissioners in Crockett County to be appointed by the Judge of the Circuit Court. The Commissioners were empowered to compile a list of thirty (30) names from which the grand and petty jury for the circuit court would be selected. Penalties and compensation were provided for in the Act where applicable. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 805.
2. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 805, expressly repealed Private Acts of 1913 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 91, above, which had created a Board of Jury Commissioners for Crockett County. The Board was abolished by this 1937 Act and all authority conferred withdrawn.
3. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 476, created a five (5) member Board of Jury Commissioners. The county was divided into five (5) jury commission districts with one (1) member from each district being elected every two (2) years by the Crockett County Quarterly County Court to the Board. The Commissioners were empowered to compile a list of not less than five hundred (500) nor more than one thousand (1000) names and to place same in a box, from which a child of tender

years, unable to read or write at the beginning of each regular term would draw the names of forty (40) jurors to compose the panel for regular jury service at said term of court. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 362.

4. Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 362, repealed in its entirety Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 476, above, which had created a Board of Jury Commissioners for Crockett County.

Chancery Court

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Crockett 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 1845-46, Chapter 25, being one of the Acts which created Crockett County also provided for bills in chancery to be filed either in the Chancery Court held at Trenton or Brownsville.
2. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 195, another Act purporting to establish the new county of Crockett, also, provided for the bills in chancery to be filed in either the Chancery Court held at Trenton or Brownsville.
3. Public Acts of 1865-66 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 19, another Act that established Crockett County, placed said county in the Sixth Chancery Division with court terms scheduled to begin on the first Monday in February and August.
4. Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 89, another Act that established the county of Crockett, assigned said county to the Eleventh Chancery Division with the Chancery Court to be held on the fourth Monday in May and November at Cageville.
5. Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 132, established Crockett County and provided for the Chancery Court to be held in said County on the fourth Monday in May and November and for said county to be in the Eleventh Chancery Division.
6. Public Acts of 1875, Chapter 32, changed the court terms for the Chancery Court of Crockett County to the second Monday in June and December with same to be held at Alamo.
7. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided Tennessee into eleven (11) Chancery Divisions. The Ninth Chancery Division was composed of Hardeman, McNairy, Chester, Madison, Henderson, Carroll, Henry and Crockett counties. The Chancery Court term for Crockett County was the fourth Monday in May and November.
8. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 111, amended Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, above, by changing the time for the Chancery Court to be held in Crockett County to the second Monday in March and September.
9. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, divided Tennessee into ten (10) Chancery Divisions. The Eighth Chancery Division was composed of the counties of Decatur, Hardin, Chester, Benton, McNairy, Henderson, Carroll, Henry, Madison, Perry and Crockett. The time for holding Chancery Court in Crockett was the fourth Monday in February and August.
10. Acts of 1903, Chapter 36, changed the times for holding the Chancery Court in the Eighth Chancery Division. The term for the Chancery Court in Crockett County would be the second Monday in March and September.
11. Acts of 1903, Chapter 311, amended Acts of 1903, Chapter 36, above, and changed court terms for the Chancery Court in Crockett County to the fourth Monday in May and November.
12. Acts of 1903, Chapter 484, amended Acts of 1903, Chapter 36, above, and appears to be a duplicate of Acts of 1903, Chapter 311, above, which changed the term for holding the Chancery Court in Crockett County to the fourth Monday in May and November.
13. Public Acts of 1931 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, separated Tennessee into fourteen (14) Chancery Divisions. The Eighth Chancery Division consisted of Carroll, Henry, McNairy, Hardeman, Henderson, Decatur, Hardin, Benton, Chester and Crockett counties. The Chancery Court would be held in Crockett County on the fourth Monday in May and November.
14. Public Acts of 1975, Chapter 245, amended Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 16-244 and 16-245 by transferring Crockett County from the Eighth Chancery Division to the Ninth Chancery Division.
15. Public Acts of 1976, Chapter 577, provided that Crockett County being in Part II of the Chancery Court of the Ninth Chancery Division, would hold Chancery Court on the fourth Monday in May and November. The Chancellor elected for Part II of the Ninth Chancery Division would preside over Part II consisting of Tipton, Lauderdale, Haywood and Crockett counties.

Chancery Court - Clerk and Master

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

1. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 52, set the salary of the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Crockett County at six hundred dollars (\$600) annually, with half to be paid on the first of July, and the other half on the first of January of each year. A sworn, itemized statement was required to be filed with the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court by the Clerk and Master showing the amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees collected were less than the stated salary, the County would pay the deficiency to the Clerk and Master.
2. Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 270, amended Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 52, above, by increasing the salary of the Clerk and Master from six hundred dollars (\$600) to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year.
3. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 274, set the salary of the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court in Crockett County at one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350) per year, payable quarterly. A sworn, itemized statement was required to be filed quarterly, with the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court, showing the amount of fees collected in the office, except those fees received from acting as Receiver. If the fees collected were less than the stated salary, the County would pay the deficiency to the Clerk and Master, any excess fees above the stated salary were required to be paid over to the county treasury.
4. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 812, set the salary of the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Crockett County at two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) annually. If the fees collected in the office exceeded the stated salary, the excess would be paid into the county treasury; however, if they were less than the stated salary, then that amount would constitute the salary of the Clerk and Master. No exception was made for Receiver fees in this Act.
5. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 334, set the salary of both the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court and the Circuit Court Clerk in Crockett County at one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350) with any excess above the stated amount being paid into the county treasury annually. An itemized statement of fees collected in the respective offices was required to be filed with the County Judge, or Chairman. All fees would be retained by them as payment of their salaries. If the fees collected were deficient, then the difference between the stated salary and the fees collected would be paid out of the county treasury.
6. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 391, amended Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 334, above, by increasing the salary of the Clerk and Master to two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400) a year.

Circuit Court

The following acts were once applicable to the circuit court of Crockett 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 1845-46, Chapter 25, which created Crockett County, also provided for the County to be assigned to the Tenth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court would be held by the Judge of that Circuit on the last Monday in January, May and September of each year.
2. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 195, another Act purporting to create Crockett County, also, provided for the Circuit Court to be held on the last Monday in January, May and September of each year.
3. Public Acts of 1865-66 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 19, assigned the Circuit Court of new Crockett County to the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit with the terms of said court to be held on the second Monday in January, May and September.
4. Public Acts of 1865-66 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 129, assigned the new county of Crockett to the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit with the circuit court terms to be the first Monday in February, June and October.
5. Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 89, assigned Crockett County to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and set the court terms for the Circuit Court for the second Monday of April, August and December of each year.
6. Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 132, assigned Crockett County to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit and set the court terms for the Circuit Court for the second Monday in April, August and December.
7. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 28, changed the term the Circuit Court of Crockett County at Alamo would be held to the fourth Monday in March, July and November.
8. Public Acts of 1875, Chapter 137, changed the times for holding the Circuit Court in the Thirteenth

Judicial Circuit. The court terms for the Circuit Court to be held in Crockett County would be the fourth Monday in January, May and September.

9. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided Tennessee into fourteen (14) regular and one (1) special judicial circuit. The twelfth Judicial Circuit was composed of Obion, Weakley, Henry, Carroll, Gibson, Haywood, Benton and Crockett counties. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the fourth Monday in January, May and September.
10. Public Acts of 1887, Chapter 94, changed the times for holding the Circuit Court in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the third Monday in April, August and December.
11. Public Acts of 1889, Chapter 15, changed the times for holding the Circuit Court in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the second Monday in April, August and December.
12. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 38, added the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit which was composed of Carroll, Gibson, Haywood, and Crockett counties. The Governor would appoint a Judge and a District Attorney for the new Circuit until their successors could be elected. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the fourth Monday in March, July and November.
13. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 409, changed the time for holding the Circuit Court in the counties in the Eighth Judicial Circuit. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett on the third Monday in February, June and October.
14. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, divided the State into fourteen (14) Judicial Circuits. The Thirteenth Circuit was composed of Haywood, Benton, Carroll, Henry, Gibson and Crockett counties. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the third Monday in January, May and September.
15. Acts of 1903, Chapter 109, amended Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, above, by changing the time for holding the Circuit Court in Crockett County to the second Monday in January, May and September.
16. Public Acts of 1931 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 38, divided the State into twenty (20) Judicial Circuits. The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit was comprised of Haywood, Carroll, Henry, Gibson and Crockett counties. The Circuit Court would be held in Crockett County on the second Monday in January, May and September.
17. Public Acts of 1965 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 204, amended T.C.A. § 16-226, and changed the time for holding the Circuit Court in Crockett County to the second Monday in January, May and September.

Circuit Court - Clerk

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

1. Acts of 1903, Chapter 255, established the salary ranges of the Circuit Court Clerks according to the population of the counties. The salary of Crockett County's Circuit Court Clerk under this Act would have been seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) annually, based upon its population in 1900. The Clerk was required to file a sworn itemized statement with the County Judge, or Chairman, showing the amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees were less than the stated salary, the County would pay the difference; if the fees were more than the stated salary, the Clerk could retain the excess.
2. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 410, set the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk of Crockett County at one thousand dollars (\$1,000,) to be paid semi-annually. The Act required the Clerk to file semi-annually, sworn itemized statements showing the amount of fees collected in the office. If the fees received in the office were less than the stated salary, the county would pay the deficiency; if the fees were more the excess could be retained by the Clerk. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 176.
3. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 776, was identical to Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 410, above, which had set the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk of Crockett County at one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
4. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 273, amended Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 410, above, by increasing the salary of the Circuit Court Clerk in Crockett County to one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350), payable quarterly. This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 176.

5. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 811, set the salary of the Circuit Court Clerk in Crockett County at two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) annually. If the fees of the office exceeded the stated salary the excess would be paid into the county treasury; if the fees were less, then that sum would be the salary of the Clerk.
6. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 334, set the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk, and the Clerk and Master each at one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1,350), to be paid quarterly. A sworn itemized statement of all fees collected in the respective offices was required to be filed with the County Judge, or Chairman quarterly. Any excess in fees received in the office above the stated salary would be paid into the county treasury, and a deficiency in fees below the stated salary would be paid out of the county treasury.
7. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 176, repealed Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 410 and Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 273, above. These repealed Acts had set the annual salary of the Circuit Court Clerk.
8. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 391, amended Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 334, above, by increasing the salary of the Circuit Court Clerk to two thousand four hundred dollars (\$2,400) annually.

District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators

The following acts once affecting Crockett 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. Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 181, created the office of Criminal Investigator for the office of the District Attorney General for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. The Act authorized the District Attorney General to appoint the Investigator who would perform the duties of an expert investigator and such other duties assigned him by the District Attorney General. The Act gave the Criminal Investigator the same power and authority as deputies and sheriffs with the salary provided under T.C.A. § 8-708 through 8-712.
2. Public Acts of 1969, Chapter 167, created the office of Assistant District Attorney General for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. The appointee would perform duties and functions assigned and directed by the District Attorney General.
3. Public Acts of 1972, Chapter 663, authorized the District Attorney General of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, of which Crockett County was a part, to appoint an additional Assistant District Attorney General to assist in the performance of the duties of the office of the District Attorney General.
4. Public Acts of 1977, Chapter 371, authorized the District Attorney General of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit to appoint a third full-time Assistant District Attorney General to assist in the performance of the duties of the office of the District Attorney General.

Secretarial Assistance

The following acts 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. Public Acts of 1939, Chapter 71, created the position of Stenographer for the Chancellor of the Eighth Chancery Division to which Crockett County was then assigned
2. Public Acts of 1951, Chapter 36, created the position of Stenographer to the Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. The salary was set at nine hundred dollars (\$900) annually. The Stenographer would be appointed by the Judge and work at his pleasure and perform such work as may be required in connection with the official duties of the Judge.
3. Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 308, amended Public Acts of 1951, Chapter 36, above, and increased the salary of the Stenographer to the Judge from nine hundred dollars (\$900) annually to one thousand eight hundred dollars (\$1,800).

Source URL: <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/chapter-v-court-system-15>