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Chapter V - Court System

Dear Reader:

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

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

Sincerely,

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Chapter V - Court System

General Sessions Court

Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 193

SECTION 1. That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for Tipton County which shall be designated as the Court of General Sessions of Tipton County. Said County shall provide a courtroom at the County seat and all necessary supplies for the equipment and maintenance of said Court, and shall defray the expenses thereof from the general funds 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 the General Assembly of Tennessee upon Justices of the Peace in civil and criminal cases, suits and actions; and the Justices of the Peace of said County are hereby divested of all such jurisdiction and authority, but any Justice of the Peace of said County elected for any district except the district in which Covington is situated may issue criminal and search warrants against and accept appearance bonds from any person charged with an offense, and may issue civil process on any cause of action heretofore triable by a Justice of the Peace, such warrants and process to be returnable to and triable by said Court of General Sessions. 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 nowise affected by this Act.

SECTION 3. That before any civil case shall be tried or judgment rendered in said Court the plaintiff shall secure the costs of executing a cost bond with good security in the sum of \$25.00, or by making a cash cost deposit of not less than \$3.00 nor more than \$25.00, or shall take the oath prescribed for poor persons, and on motion the Court may increase the amount of such bond or deposit.

It shall be the duty of the Clerk of such Court hereinafter provided for, not later than thirty (30) days after 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 the 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 costs accruing at the instance of such successful party.

SECTION 4. That the rules of pleading and practice, forms of writs and process and stay of and appeals from judgments in civil cases of said Court shall be the same as of Justices of the Peace.

SECTION 5. That in all matters the costs and fees of said 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, 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 the Courts of 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 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, 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 6. 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 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.

Also, there shall be kept a criminal docket in which shall be entered the disposition of all criminal cases disposed of by the Court of General Sessions, which docket shall show as to misdemeanors now within the jurisdiction of Justices of the peace under the small offense law, the name of the defendant, the charges against him, and the disposition of the case. In cases in which Justices of the Peace do not now have jurisdiction under general law, the Clerk shall be under the duty to procure 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 presentments, 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 such criminal offense, cognizable by the Court of General Sessions on the waiver of the defendant under subsequent provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. That there shall be one Judge for said Court, with the same qualifications and term of office as provided by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee for Judges of Inferior Courts; and the oath shall be the same as that prescribed for Circuit Judges and Chancellors.

The Judge of said Court, as a condition precedent to his election, shall be a licensed attorney, actively engaged in the practice of law, and no person shall be eligible for election to said office of Judge unless such person has been duly licensed to practice law in this State by the appropriate authorities. The Judge of the Court of General Sessions shall also possess power to issue fiats for extraordinary process returnable to the appropriate Court in which such suit is to be filed.

SECTION 8. That the compensation of the Judge of the Court of General Sessions of Tipton County, Tennessee, shall be the same as the annual salary provided by law for Chancellors and Judges of the Circuit Court. In all other respects, the General Sessions Judge's county benefits and retirement benefits shall be commensurate with the pay as provided herein. The salary shall be paid in not less than equal monthly installments. On July 1, 1999, and every July 1 thereafter, such annual salary of the General Sessions Judge of Tipton County, Tennessee, shall be adjusted in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-23-103.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 145,
Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 372,
Private Acts of 1997, Chapter 63,
Private Acts of 2017, Chapter 23.

SECTION 9. That the Governor shall appoint the first Judge of said Court, who shall serve until the first day of September, 1952, and until his successor has been elected and qualified.

At the August election 1952 there shall be elected some person possessing the qualifications required who shall serve until September 1, 1958. His successor shall be elected at the election for judicial and other civil offices on the first Thursday of August, 1958, and every eight (8) years thereafter at such election, and for the term provided by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee for Judges of Inferior Courts.

SECTION 10. [Deleted by Private Acts of 2017, Chapter 23].

SECTION 11. [Deleted by Private Acts of 2017, Chapter 23].

SECTION 12. That the Clerk of the Circuit Court of said County shall act as Clerk of said Court of General Sessions, and when acting as Clerk of said Court shall be designated "Clerk of Court of General Sessions of Tipton County". The fees, commissions and emoluments of said Court of General Sessions shall accrue to said Clerk, subject to the provisions of Code Section 10727.

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

It shall be the express 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 statute. In case of the failure or dereliction of the Clerk so to do, he shall be subject to ouster proceedings as now provided by general statute.

SECTION 13. 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 provided by law in the other inferior Courts.

SECTION 14. That said Court shall have authority to hear and determine all undisposed of cases arising in the present Court of General Sessions of said County as if such cases had originated in said Court of General Sessions, and to issue executions on and orders concerning any unsatisfied judgments on the dockets of said Justices of the Peace, and certify as to any such judgments or records, as such Justices of the Peace could do but for this Act.

SECTION 15. That the Court herein provided is hereby vested with full jurisdiction to try and determine and render final judgment in all misdemeanor cases brought before said Court upon warrant wherein the person charged with such misdemeanor offense enters a plea of guilty or requests trial upon the merits and expressly waives in writing an indictment, presentment, grand jury investigation and jury trial. In such cases, the trial shall proceed before the Court without the intervention of a jury, and the Court shall enter such judgment, and, as an incident thereto, may inflict with punishment within the limits provided

by law for the particular offense, as he may deem proper under the peculiar circumstances of such cases, but nothing herein shall be construed as undertaking to grant such Judge the power to impose a fine in excess of \$50.00 upon any citizen of this State; and provided further, that the Court herein created shall have no jurisdiction of the trial of misdemeanors for which the minimum punishment is a fine of more than \$50.00. The Judge of said Court shall have the same authority and power as have the Circuit and Criminal Court Judges of the State to suspend or probate any fine or sentence or part of same imposed by him in a misdemeanor case. And it shall further be the mandatory duty of said Judge to try and determine and render final judgment on all first offense driving while intoxicated cases brought before him where the offense does not merit a fine in excess of \$50.00 and where the person charged with such offense enters a plea of guilty or requests a trial upon the merits and expressly waives in writing an indictment, presentment, grand jury investigation, and jury trial.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1959, Chapter 149.

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

The Judge of the Court of General Sessions herein created is expressly authorized to issue any and all process in connection with criminal cases disposed of by him under the provisions of this section necessary to effectuate the carrying out of the judgement rendered by him in such case.

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.

SECTION 16. That from and after September 1, 1966, there shall be conferred upon the General Sessions Court of Tipton County, the jurisdiction, power and authority concurrent with the Circuit and Chancery Court to hear and determine all cases of divorce, alimony and separate maintenance with full power and authority conferred upon the Circuit and Chancery Court, to enforce all of its orders, decrees and judgments.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

SECTION 17. That for the purpose of determining matters under the divorce jurisdiction conferred herein, the first Monday of each month shall be the beginning of a new term of said Court and each day of the month said Court is in session shall be a rule day. All process issued from said Court shall be returnable to the first day of the term next succeeding its issuance unless such process shall be served less than five full days prior to the return date, and in that event said process shall be returnable to the first day of the next succeeding term, provided, however, an order pro confesso shall not be entered in any case until the lapse of four full days from and including the return date.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

SECTION 18. That any appeal from the final decree of said Court in any matter determined under the divorce jurisdiction conferred herein shall be to the Court of Appeals at Jackson or the Supreme Court at Jackson in the same manner as appeals are taken from the Chancery Court.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

SECTION 19. That in the event either party shall demand a jury to determine any issue joined under the divorce jurisdiction conferred hereunder, the Clerk of said Court shall empanel a jury in the same manner as a jury trial in the Chancery Court.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

SECTION 20. That all undisposed of divorce proceedings pending before the Judge of the County Court of said County on September 1, 1966, shall be transferred to the said General Sessions Court and shall be subject to the orders, decrees and judgments of said General Sessions Court as if they had been commenced in that Court. For the purposes of this Act the term "undisposed of divorce proceedings" shall mean and include all matters of child custody, child support, alimony and any other matters or actions for which the cause was retained in said County Court even though a final decree of divorce had been entered.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 407.

SECTION 21. That the Clerk of the County Court of said County shall transfer to the Clerk of the General Sessions Court of said County all of the papers and certified copies of minute entries of each undisposed of divorce proceeding pending in his Court as defined in Section 20 above when any further proceeding is required in such cases.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 407.

SECTION 22. That the General Sessions Court of said County shall be a Court of record for the sole purpose of exercising the divorce jurisdiction herein conferred and it shall be the duty of the Clerk of said Court to keep and maintain for that purpose such dockets and minute books as are kept by courts of record.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

SECTION 23. That the General Assembly expressly declare 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, and the General Assembly declares that it would have enacted this Act with such unconstitutional or invalid portions elided therefrom.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

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

As amended by: Private Acts of 1965, Chapter 218.

Passed: February 12, 1951.

Probation and Safety Program

Private Acts of 1991 Chapter 93

SECTION 1. There is hereby created in Tipton County, a general sessions court administered probation and safety program. The court administered probation and safety program shall include but not be limited to probation services, a traffic school, a DUI school, and an early intervention program or youth alcohol safety education program.

SECTION 2. The judge of the general sessions court is authorized and empowered to oversee the administration of the court administered probation and safety program. There shall be established such financial accounts as are necessary to administer this program. Complete books and records of all fees received and all expenditures made shall be kept monthly.

SECTION 3. There is established a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per month for all adults placed on probation. There is established a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) to enroll in the traffic school. With respect to the DUI school, there is established an enrollment fee of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150). There is established a fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the early intervention program or youth alcohol safety education program. Fees shall be collected by the county probation officer or the court's other designated representative and paid directly to the county general fund within the time provided by statute for all other fees. All persons receiving or handling fund under this section shall be properly bonded. Such fees may be increased by resolution of the Tipton County Commission. The county probation officer is authorized to handle matters in both the general sessions and juvenile court of Tipton County.

SECTION 4. A budget for the court administered probation and safety program shall be compiled annually and submitted to the budget and finance committee and the county commission for approval at the appropriate time.

SECTION 5. All funds collected pursuant to this act shall be allocated to the court administered probation and safety program and may only be expended for purposes reasonably related to the effectuation of such program.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not effect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 7. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Tipton County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body and certified to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 8. 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 7.

Passed: May 2, 1991.

Juvenile Court

Private Acts of 1984 Chapter 232

SECTION 1. Five (5) days following the effective date of this Act the Circuit Court Clerk shall be the Clerk of the Juvenile Court of Tipton County and the County Court Clerk shall be divested of such jurisdiction. During such five (5) day period all records and other documents pertaining to any matter within the juvenile jurisdiction of the General Sessions Court of Tipton County shall be transferred from the County Court Clerk to the Circuit Court Clerk.

SECTION 2. This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Tipton County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Tipton County legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3. 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 2.

Passed: May 10, 1984.

Court System - Historical Notes

Board of Jury Commissioners - Jurors

The following act once affected jurors or boards of jury commissioners in Tipton County, but is no longer operative.

1. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 504, created a board of jury commissioners for Tipton County (as specified by the population range for the Federal Census of 1940). The board was to consist of three discrete persons (to be appointed by the circuit judge) who were householders, residents of different sections of the county, not practicing attorneys at law, and were to each serve, under oath, a term of six years. It was the duty of the jury commissioners to select from the tax books of the county or other sources names of upright and intelligent men, known for their integrity, fair character, and sound judgment. These names would comprise a list of not less than 500 nor more than 1,500 prospective jurors, to be recorded by the circuit court clerk as clerk of the board. The names would then each be written on a slip of paper and placed in jury box kept securely locked and under seal for the purpose of drawing the names of jurors prior to each term of the circuit court. The act outlined the procedure for the drawing of names and summoning of jurors for impaneling the grand and petit juries. The judge responsible for appointing the jury commissioners also had the right to remove any of them for incompetency, failure to perform their duties or corruption of office. The jury commissioners were to receive \$5.00 each for every day's service while actually engaged in making up the jury list and in drawing the venire.

Chancery Court

The following acts form an outline of the development of equity jurisdiction in Tipton 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 1849-50, Chapter 31, Sections 1 and 4, created a common law and chancery in Memphis, and provided that suitors in chancery in the county of Tipton could file their bills in the common law and chancery court of the city of Memphis or in the chancery court at Brownsville.
2. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 352, Section 4, made it lawful for suits in chancery originating in Tipton County to be brought in the chancery court at Sommersville.
3. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 105, Sec. 5, created a chancery court in Covington and provided that Tipton County was to constitute a separate chancery division.
4. Public Acts of 1873, Chapter 65, changed the time of holding chancery court for Tipton County in Covington to the second Monday in April and October.
5. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided the state of Tennessee into judicial circuits and chancery divisions and fixed the times of holding said courts. Tipton County was placed in the tenth chancery division, with court to be held on the fourth Mondays in February and August.
6. Acts of 1887, Chapter 169, set the dates for holding chancery court in Tipton County on the third Mondays of March and September.
7. Acts of 1889, Chapter 23, fixed the time of holding the terms of the several chancery courts of the

tenth chancery division of the state, with Tipton County Chancery Courts to be held on the third Mondays of March and September, at Covington.

8. Acts of 1895, Chapter 99, also fixed the time of holding the terms of the several chancery courts of the tenth chancery division. There was no change made in the days and place of holding the Tipton County Chancery Court.
9. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, once again divided the state into judicial circuits and chancery divisions, placing Tipton, along with Dyer, Obion, Lake, Weakley, Gibson, Lauderdale, Fayette, Haywood and Hardeman counties in the ninth chancery division. Court was to be held on the second Monday in May and the fourth Monday in November.
10. Acts of 1903, Chapter 591, fixed the times of holding the several chancery courts in the ninth chancery division, changing the times for Tipton County to the first Mondays of June and December. This act also repealed so much of the Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, which were in conflict with the times fixed herein.
11. Public Acts of 1974, Chapter 547, created an additional chancellor for the ninth chancery division in order to more equitably distribute the caseload. The chancellor holding part I of the ninth chancery division would be deemed the senior chancellor and presiding chancellor of the division, and be responsible for assigning duties to the chancellor of part II. Part I was comprised of Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, McNairy and Chester counties. Part II was comprised of Tipton, Lauderdale, Haywood and Crockett counties. The act set forth duties, obligations and responsibilities for the presiding chancellor. The additional chancellor was also empowered to appoint a suitable stenographer to assist him in the performance of his duties, and compensation for same was stated in the act.
12. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 311, gave exclusive jurisdiction over the probate of wills and the administration of estates to the chancery court of Tipton County, which jurisdiction was formerly vested in the county court or the county judge. The county clerk was retained as the clerk of the court and was empowered to perform a number of functions incidental to probate matters. This act was not approved, locally, and therefore did not become law.

Chancery Court - Clerk and Master

The reference list below contains acts which once applied to the clerk and master in Tipton County.

1. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 56, set the salary of the clerk and master at \$1,000 per year, and provided that he could retain any excess fees collected by his office. If the total amount of fees and commissions collected failed to equal the designated salary amount, the county was to make up the difference.
2. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 9, also set the annual salary for the clerk and master at \$1,000 and provided that any excess fees above this amount could be retained by him. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 304, amended the original act to raise the salary to \$1,200 per annum.
3. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 823, provided that the clerk and master was to receive an allowance of not more than 7% of the amount of delinquent taxes collected by that office, as compensation for collecting same.
4. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 557, set the salary of the clerk and master at \$1,200 per annum, plus any additional fees collected by his office as receiver or special commissioner. Any short-falling would be made up by the county.
5. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 760, set the salary of the clerk and master at \$1,500 per annum, plus any excess fees, and required him to file an annual statement of fees collected by his office with the county court clerk. This act was amended by Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 536, which raised the salary to \$1,800 annually.
6. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 69, increased the salary of the Tipton County Clerk and Master, setting his annual compensation at \$2,400, plus any additional fees collected by his office, over and above \$2,400. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 337, was an amendment to the original act, requiring the clerk and master to keep a monthly record of all fees collected by his office and report same to the county judge or chairman. Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 442, also amended the original act, providing that commissions allowed the clerk and master for the collection of delinquent taxes were not to be considered as a supplemental fee for purposes of this salary act.
7. Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 253, provided that any commissions allowed the clerk and master by the quarterly county court for the collection of delinquent taxes by his office were to be considered in the same manner as compensation received by a receiver or special commissioner and were to be excluded from any settlement with the county by the clerk and master.

Circuit Court

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

1. Acts of 1824 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 102, set the time for holding circuit court in Tipton County on the fourth Mondays in March and September.
2. Acts of 1825, Chapter 318, changed the time for holding circuit court to the third Mondays in June and December.
3. Acts of 1839-40, Chapter 21, regulated and altered the time of holding of circuit courts for, inter alia, the eleventh judicial circuit, with Tipton County being attached to and made a part of said circuit. Tipton County's courts were to be held on the third Mondays in February, June and October.
4. Acts of 1841-42, Chapter 149, Section 3, placed Tipton County in the tenth judicial circuit.
5. Acts of 1843-44, Chapter 155, Section 2, set the time for holding circuit court in Tipton County on the second Mondays in March, July and November.
6. Acts of 1845-46, Chapter 21, placed Tipton County in the eleventh judicial circuit and set the days for holding court on the first Mondays in February, June and October.
7. Acts of 1853-54, Chapter 150, specified that circuit court in Tipton County was to be held on the first Mondays in January, May and September.
8. Acts of 1885 (Ex. Sess.), Chapter 20, divided the state of Tennessee into judicial circuits and chancery divisions and fixed the times of holding said courts. Tipton County was placed in the thirteenth judicial circuit, with court to be held on the second Tuesday in February, June and October.
9. Acts of 1899, Chapter 427, once again divided the state into judicial circuits and chancery divisions, placing Tipton, along with Dyer, Obion, Lake, Weakley, Lauderdale and Fayette counties in the fourteenth judicial circuit. Court was to be held on the first Monday in March, July and November.
10. Acts of 1905, Chapter 57, created the sixteenth judicial circuit, placed Tipton County in that circuit, and provided the days for holding court at Covington to be the first Monday in March, July and November.

Circuit Court - Clerk

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

1. Acts of 1903, Chapter 255, was a general law providing and regulating the compensation of circuit court clerks in the state of Tennessee. The salary for the circuit court clerk of Tipton County (as designated by the 1900 Federal Census population range) was set at \$1,000 per annum. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 675, amended the original act as it applied to Tipton County by specifying that the county to which the act was to apply was to also have an established law court with a separate office for same, to be kept by the clerk of the circuit court or his deputy, and set the salary of the circuit court clerk at \$1,500 annually.
2. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 305, contained a general repealing provision and set the annual salary of the circuit court clerk at \$1,500. It also provided that he was to receive no other compensation.
3. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 558, raised the salary of the circuit court clerk to \$1,800 per annum. All fees collected were to be paid to the county to become part of the general funds of the county.
4. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 50, lowered the circuit court clerk's salary to \$1,200 per year, with no other compensation. This act was amended in Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 344, which raised the salary to its 1923 level of \$1,500 per year.
5. Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 59, raised the salary of the Tipton County Circuit Court Clerk to \$1,800 annually, and entitled him to no other compensation.
6. Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 82, set the salary of the Tipton County Circuit Court Clerk at \$2,400 per year, and entitled him to no other compensation. All fees collected by him were to be paid to the county.

Criminal Court

The following acts once pertained to the Tipton County Criminal Court, but are no longer current law. Also

referenced below is an act which repealed prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1917, Chapter 563, established a separate criminal court at Covington for Tipton County, providing exclusive jurisdiction from circuit court to try all offenses against the liquor laws of the state, all violations of laws of the state against carrying concealed weapons, petit larceny cases and all misdemeanors. This act was specifically repealed and the court abolished by Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 8. Criminal jurisdiction was subsequently returned to the circuit court.

District Attorney General - Assistants and Criminal Investigators

The following act once affecting Tipton County is no longer in effect but is listed here for historical purposes.

1. Public Acts of 1973, Chapter 91, created the office of assistant district attorney general for the sixteenth judicial circuit of the state. The assistant district attorney general was to be appointed by the district attorney general and to serve at his pleasure, performing such duties and functions as might be assigned and directed by the district attorney general or as provided by law. Compensation was prescribed by the general laws of the state.

General Sessions

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

1. Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 386, was an act to set an amount of compensation for the general sessions judge of Tipton County in addition to any other salary to which he was entitled if, on September 1, 1982, he would assume and exercise juvenile, probate or divorce jurisdiction for said county. This act was not approved locally, and therefore, did not become operative law.

Secretarial Assistance

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

1. Public Acts of 1957, Chapter 150, provided for the employment of a stenographer by the chancellor of the ninth chancery division, with compensation set at \$2,400. This act was amended twice to raise the salary to \$3,600 by Public Acts of 1963, Chapter 309, and to \$4,800 by Public Acts of 1967, Chapter 137.

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