



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

December 31, 2024

General Sessions Court

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,

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

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General Sessions Court

Private Acts of 1949 Chapter 481

SECTION 1. That there is hereby created and established a Court in and for Sumner County, Tennessee, which shall be designated "Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee." Said county shall provide a Court Room at Gallatin, Tennessee, dockets, furnishings and necessary supplies for the equipment and maintenance of said Court, and pay for same out of the general county funds of said county. The regular place for holding said Court shall be at the Court Room provided for said Court in Gallatin, Tennessee, but said Court may be held, in the discretion of the Judge thereof, at any other place or places in Sumner County, Tennessee, at such times and places as the Judge may designate.

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 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 no wise affected by this Act.

SECTION 3. That the Judge of said Court is hereby vested with and shall have interchangeable and concurrent jurisdiction with the Chancery and Circuit Courts to grant fiats for writs of injunction, attachments and other such actions in which fiats are necessary.

SECTION 4. That before any civil case shall be tried or judgment rendered in said Court the plaintiff shall secure the costs by executing a cost bond, with good security, in the sum of Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, or by making a cash cost deposit of not less than One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) nor more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, or shall take the oath prescribed for poor persons, and on motion the Court may in his discretion increase the amount of such bond or deposit.

SECTION 5. 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; provided, however, that the Court of General Sessions for Sumner County, Tennessee, is hereby vested with jurisdiction to try and determine and render final judgment in all misdemeanor cases brought before said Court by warrant or information wherein the person charged with such misdemeanor offenses enters a plea of guilty, or requests a trial upon the merits, and expressly waives an indictment, presentment and a Grand Jury investigation, and a jury trial. In such cases the trial shall proceed before the Judge and without a jury. The final judgment of such Court may be appealed to the Circuit Court of Sumner County, where such appeal shall be tried by a Judge or such Court without a jury, and without indictment or presentment. That it shall be the mandatory duty of the Judges of the Court of General Sessions when a defendant is brought before such Court upon arraignment or trial, to advise such defendant of his constitutional right to the aid of counsel, the right to be tried only upon presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury, the right to make a statement in reference to the accusation or the right to waive such statement, and the right to a trial by jury. Upon the defendant agreeing in writing to waive the right to be put to trial only by presentment or indictment by a Grand Jury and the right to be tried by a jury of his peers, such Courts may proceed to hear and determine such case as is provided in Section 1 hereof. Said waiver shall be written or attached to the warrant substantially in words and figures as follows:

The defendant _____ pleads
_____ 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. _____

SECTION 6. 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

offices, 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 7. That separate dockets 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 payments upon the judgment and upon the costs. All cases shall be indexed and the dockets shall be substantially in the form of those of Justices of the Peace. The criminal docket shall be kept in like manner.

SECTION 8. 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 of Tennessee; and the oath shall be the same as that prescribed for Circuit Judges and Chancellors.

SECTION 9. That the compensation of said Judge shall be Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred (\$18,700.00) Dollars per annum, payable in equal monthly installments. It shall be paid out of the general funds of the county, and shall not be increased or diminished during the time for which said Judge is elected. Said Judge shall give all his working time to the duties of his office, except that he may act as Judge of the City Court of Gallatin, Tennessee, under any contract made by the said city with the County of Sumner.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 306.

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section 9 of this Act has been superseded, although not expressly repealed by Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 236, Section 17, printed in this volume.

SECTION 10. That J. W. Murrey, Senior, of Gallatin, Tennessee is hereby appointed the first Judge of said Court, who shall serve until the first day of September, 1950, and until his successor has been elected and qualified. His successor shall be elected by qualified voters of the county at the election for judicial and other civil officers on the first Thursday of August, 1950, and shall hold said office from the first day of September, 1950, until the first day of September, 1958, or until his successor is qualified. His successor shall be elected every eight years at such election for the term provided by law for Judges of inferior courts.

SECTION 11. That if the Judge of said Court fails to attend, cannot preside in a pending cause, or for any reason hold Court, or act as Judge, 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 he shall take the same oath and have the same authority as a regular Judge to hold the Court and perform the duties of such Judge for the occasion.

SECTION 12. That in the case of a vacancy in the office of such Judge for any cause the Governor shall have the power to appoint some qualified person to fill such vacancy.

SECTION 13. That the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Criminal Courts 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 Sumner County." The fees, commissions and emoluments of said Court of General Sessions shall be the same as such fees would have been if the process, subpoenas, executions and all other papers had been issued by Justices of the Peace, and the same shall accrue to and be paid to the Clerk of said Court when such papers are actually issued by said Clerk. Provided, however, that when such papers shall have been issued by a Justice of the Peace of Sumner County, Tennessee, the fees, as provided by law, shall accrue to and be paid to such Justices of the Peace of Sumner County, Tennessee, who actually issued such papers, process, etc. 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.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 857.

SECTION 14. 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. Provided, however, that no Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, or Constable shall be entitled to any fees merely for opening and closing said Court, or for waiting upon said Court as Court Officer. But the Judge of said Court may select or appoint any of such officers that may be in attendance to wait upon said Court without any further compensation for such services.

SECTION 15. That this Act shall in no wise impair the right, title or interest of any Justice of the Peace of said 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 16. That all of the official dockets, records and papers in cases which are undisposed of or

pending in the offices of Justices of the Peace of said county at the time this Act becomes 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 17. That said Court shall have authority to hear and determine all undisposed of cases arising in the Court 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 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 18. That the General Assembly expressly declares that each section, subsection, paragraph and provision of this Act is severable, and that should any portion of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Act, but such unconstitutional or invalid portion shall be elided, and the General Assembly declares that it would have enacted this Act with such unconstitutional or invalid portions elided therefrom.

SECTION 19. That this Act shall take effect on July 1, 1949, and not until then, except that after the passage of this Act prior to July 1, 1949, said county shall make provision for a Court Room and otherwise as provided in Section 1 hereof, but such Judge and Clerk of said Court shall not take the oath of office or be entitled to any salary until July 1, 1949, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 1, 1949.

Division II

Private Acts of 1982 Chapter 236

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION. There is hereby designated a "Division I, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee," which shall consist of the presently-existing General Sessions Court of Sumner County, Tennessee, as established by Chapter 481 of the Private Acts of 1949 and all other Acts amendatory thereto.

SECTION 2. CREATION. There is hereby created and established another court in and for Sumner County, Tennessee, which shall be designated "Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee".

SECTION 3. JURISDICTION. The Division I, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall retain the jurisdiction previously conferred thereon, with the exception that the jurisdiction bestowed on said Court by Chapter 298 of the Private Acts of 1974 is hereby divested. The Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, as herein created, is hereby vested and shall have as its primary function jurisdiction over all matters over which jurisdiction is now or shall hereafter be vested in the juvenile courts by the General Laws of the State of Tennessee including, but not limited to, the jurisdiction as is now vested in the County Court of Sumner County, Tennessee, by the General Laws in the State of Tennessee and its judicial powers vested in the County Judge of Sumner County, Tennessee, by Private Acts and by Tennessee Code Annotated Title 30, Chapters 1 through 20, inclusive; Tennessee Code Annotated Title 31, Chapters 1 through 8, inclusive; Tennessee Code Annotated Title 32, Chapters 1 through 5, inclusive; Tennessee Code Annotated Title 34, Chapters 1 through 11, inclusive; Tennessee Code Annotated Title 35, Chapters 1 through 11, inclusive; Tennessee Code Annotated Title 37, Chapters 1 through 17, inclusive; and Chapter 92 of the Private Acts of 1961 as amended by Chapter 306 of the Private Acts of 1974, all to the extent that under such laws the jurisdiction thereunder was vested heretofore in any juvenile court or any county court or any court exercising the jurisdiction thereof; and in addition to the jurisdiction and powers conferred above, is hereby vested and shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Circuit Court and Chancery Court in this County over domestic matters and shall have the powers vested in the Circuit Judge and Chancellor by the General Laws of the State of Tennessee over domestic matters including, but not limited to, Tennessee Code Annotated Title 36, Chapters 1 through 13, inclusive. The Division II, Court of General Sessions, when exercising the jurisdiction conferred upon the General Sessions court shall be designated "Division II, General Sessions Court of Sumner County, Tennessee". When exercising the other jurisdiction herein, it shall be designated as the "Family Court of Sumner County, Tennessee".

As amended by: Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 93.

SECTION 4. DIVESTURE OF JUDICIAL POWERS. The office of County Judge of Sumner county, Tennessee, is hereby divested of any and all judicial powers that may heretofore have been granted by

any former Private Acts; and to the extent thereof, such former Act is repealed. The office of Juvenile Court Referee, to the extent given jurisdictional authority under Chapter 298 of the Private Acts of 1974, is hereby divested of any and all judicial powers given thereunder.

SECTION 5. REPEAL OF PRIVATE ACTS. The office of Juvenile Court Referee, as established by Chapter 298 of the Private Acts of 1974, is hereby abolished; and said Act, under which such position was created, is hereby repealed. Chapter 92 of the Private Acts of 1961, as amended by Chapter 306 of the Private Acts of 1974, which together provide for the establishment of the juvenile court, to the extent that either may be inconsistent herewith, is repealed, except that the compensation provisions contained herein shall remain in effect through August 31, 1982.

SECTION 6. CLERKS OF THE COURTS. The Circuit Court Clerk of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall be the Clerk of the Division I and Division II, Courts of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, to the extent that such Courts perform all the powers, duties and functions associated with juvenile and domestic matters and shall maintain such Minute Books and other records as may be required by law. The Clerks, when performing their duties, shall charge all fees and shall be entitled to receive such fees and charges as shall be fixed from time to time for said County by the General Laws of the State of Tennessee. All such fees, when collected, shall be fully accounted for and disbursed as fees and charges as is similarly done by the other courts operating and functioning in Sumner County, Tennessee. The Clerks, when performing their duties, shall be empowered to designate, from time to time, one or more persons employed by them as Deputy Clerks for the Courts herein created.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1989, Chapter 93.

SECTION 7. CONCURRENT JURISDICTION. The Division I and Division II, Courts of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, and the Judges thereof, are hereby vested with and shall have interchangeable jurisdiction with one another for any and all civil cases, suits or actions provided that such Judge shall, at the time, hold such qualifications as are required of judges to hear specific matters.

SECTION 8. JUDICIAL AUTHORITY. The Judges of the Division I and Division II, Courts of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall have all authority and jurisdiction to punish for contempt, to issue extraordinary writs and processes as now or shall hereinafter be exercised by any judge or chancellor or any Circuit and General Sessions Court of the State of Tennessee or such authority as may be granted under those laws specified in Section 3 herein and such other laws as may be presently or hereafter enacted granting power to the Courts herein created.

SECTION 9. APPEALS. Appeals from the Division I and Division II Courts of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall be to the Circuit Court of Sumner County, Tennessee, or such other court or such other appellate court of the State of Tennessee as may be provided from time to time by the General Laws of the State of Tennessee.

SECTION 10. QUALIFICATIONS AND ELECTION OF JUDGE. There shall be one judge for the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, herein created who shall be duly licensed to practice law within the State of Tennessee, and who shall be at least thirty (30) years of age at the time of his election or appointment, and who shall otherwise have all the qualifications and shall have the same term as provided by the Constitution of the State of Tennessee for inferior court judges, and who shall take the same oath as shall be required for other judges of the State of Tennessee. The position which is to be filled in accordance with the terms hereof shall be a full time position, and the person so elected shall not be permitted to have an outside practice of law. At the biennial election held in August, 1982, there shall be elected a judge for the Division II, Court of General Sessions, Sumner County, Tennessee, for a term of eight (8) years beginning on September 1, 1982, next and held at such biennial elections each eight (8) years thereafter.

SECTION 11. TEMPORARY INABILITY TO PRESIDE. If the Judge of the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, as created, shall fail to attend or cannot preside in any pending case, or for any other reason shall not be able to hold court, he may designate in writing some person otherwise qualified to hold such court in his place and stead; or in default thereof, a majority of the attorneys then present may elect one of their number who has the qualifications of such Judge; and when such person shall have been appointed or so elected, he shall take the same oath and have the same authority as the said Judge to hold said court and perform all the duties of said occasion. In addition thereto, the Judge of the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, and the Judge of the Division I, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall be empowered from time to time to interchange one from the other to hold such respective courts provided that such Judge sitting in interchange shall, at that time, hold such qualifications as are required of a judge to hear the specific matter on that occasion.

SECTION 12. VACANCY IN OFFICE. In case of a vacancy for any cause in the office of the Judge of the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, the same shall be filled by an

election and appointment of the Sumner County Board of Commissioners of some person otherwise qualified to fill such vacancy; and such person so elected and appointed by the County Commission shall serve until the first day of September following the next biennial August election occurring more than thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs and until such person's successor is duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 13. COURT OF RECORD. The Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, herein created, shall when required by law be treated and considered as a Court of Record and such Court shall be in continuous session without the intervention of any term or terms, it being provided herein that such court shall be held by the judge thereof at such time and during such period as shall be required to provide for the orderly dispatch and disposition of all business properly coming before it.

SECTION 14. PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE. The Judge of the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall from time to time be authorized and empowered to adopt rules of practice and procedure for the Court provided that they are not inconsistent with the substantive and procedural laws and rules of the State of Tennessee relative to the matters of the jurisdiction of the Court created hereby or that they shall not otherwise be inconsistent with such rules as may be from time to time promulgated by any superior court having supervisory jurisdiction over the Court herein created.

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATIONS FOR OPERATION. The Sumner County Board of Commissioners shall annually make such appropriations of funds as are necessary and appropriate for the orderly operation and administration of the court herein created; and, to the extent necessary, the Judge, the Clerks and such other personnel, as may from time to time be employed, shall assist in the preparation of budgets and other information necessary to make proper appropriations for the operation of this Court. The County of Sumner initially, upon creation of this Court, and thereafter from time to time, as may be necessary, shall provide the necessary space to provide a courtroom in Gallatin, Tennessee, the necessary furnishings and supplies and equipment for the proper operation and maintenance of said Court and pay for same out of the County general funds. The regular place for holding said Court shall be in the courtroom provided in Gallatin, Tennessee, but at the discretion of the Judge thereof, said Court may be held in any other place or places and at such time and places as the Judge may designate.

SECTION 16. Each July 1, the judges of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall select among themselves a presiding judge. The presiding judge shall be authorized and empowered to set the Courts' dockets, hire personnel associated with the Court, and shall be in charge of the general administration of the Court. The presiding judge of the Sumner County General Sessions Courts shall, from time to time, be authorized and empowered to adopt rules of practice and procedure for the Court. Provided, that they are not inconsistent with: (a) The substantive and procedural laws and rules of the state of Tennessee relative to the matters of the jurisdiction of the Court; or (b) Such rules as may be, from time to time, promulgated by any superior court having supervisory jurisdiction over the Court herein created. The judges of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall be empowered, from time to time, to interchange with each other and hold court in any Division.

As amended by: Private Acts of 2014, Chapter 40.

SECTION 17. COMPENSATION OF JUDGES. The compensation of the Judges of the Division I and Division II, Courts of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, shall, as of September 1, 1982, be calculated as follows: Each Judge shall receive seventy percent (70%) of the compensation afforded to Circuit Court Judges under the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-23-103 (e), said salaries to increase proportionately with the increases provided the Circuit judges under the aforesaid Section. Upon the appointment and election of a qualified person to be the Judge of the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, by the Sumner County Board of Commissioners, said Judge shall, until said September 1, 1982, receive the same monthly compensation as does the Judge of the Division I, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee.

SECTION 18. UNFINISHED AND PENDING MATTERS. All unfinished and pending matters in the court or courts exercising probate or juvenile court jurisdiction shall be transferred to the Division II, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, Tennessee, at the close of business on the date preceding the day this Act becomes effective. On such date, all official books, records and other documents pertaining to any matter within the jurisdiction of said court shall hereby be delivered to such court.

SECTION 19. PROVISIONS SEVERABLE. Every provision of this Act is declared to be severable and should any portion of the same be held inconsistent or invalid for any reason, the same shall not affect the remainder of this Act, it being the intent herein that such unconstitutionally-declared portions shall be deleted and that the General Assembly would have enacted this Act with such unconstitutional or invalid portions deleted therefrom.

SECTION 20. APPROVAL OF COUNTY COMMISSION. This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Sumner County Board of Commissioners on or before July 9, 1982. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the board and certified

by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 21. EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING OR REJECTING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT. 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 20.

Passed: February 25, 1982.

Division III

Private Acts of 2014 Chapter 40

COMPILER'S NOTE: Although the caption of Private Acts of 2014, Chapter 40, stated that this act amended Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 481 (reproduced above), which created the Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, there was no amendatory language in the act itself and it is reproduced herein as a separate act.

SECTION 1. Effective September 1, 2014, there is created and established an additional Division of the Court of General Sessions of Sumner County, which shall be designated "Division III, Court of General Sessions of Sumner County", and there is created the position of General Sessions Judge to serve as Judge of Division III.

SECTION 2. The Judge for Division III of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall have all the qualifications and shall be paid the same compensation as prescribed for judges in Divisions I and II.

SECTION 3. Upon the position of Judge for Division III being approved and created as provided in Section 11, the Sumner County Board of County Commissioners shall appoint, on or after September 1, 2014, but no later than September 1, 2015, a person to serve as the Judge of Division III until the next regular biennial election in August.

SECTION 4. At the next regular biennial election in August, a person shall be elected by the qualified voters of Sumner County to serve as Judge for Division III. The Judge of Division III shall take office on September 1, following the election and shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. Thereafter, the Judge of Division III shall be elected for a full eight (8) year term.

SECTION 5. In case of a vacancy, for any cause, in the office of the Judge of Division III, the Sumner County Board of Commissioners shall appoint a person qualified to fill such vacancy; and such person so appointed by the county commission shall serve until the first day of September following the next biennial August election occurring more than thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs and until such person's successor is duly elected and qualified.

SECTION 6. The jurisdiction of Division III of the General Sessions Court of Sumner County, shall be coextensive with, and the same as, the jurisdiction of Divisions I and II of such court. Such jurisdiction shall consist of all civil and criminal jurisdiction prescribed by general law for judges of general sessions and as set forth in Chapter 481 of the Private Acts of 1949, as amended by Chapter 236 of the Private Acts of 1982.

SECTION 7. The person acting as clerk for Division I and Division II of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall also act as clerk for Division III created by this act.

SECTION 8. Chapter 236 of the Private Acts of 1982, and all acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Section 16 in its entirety and substituting instead the following: Each July 1, the judges of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall select among themselves a presiding judge. The presiding judge shall be authorized and empowered to set the Courts' dockets, hire personnel associated with the Court, and shall be in charge of the general administration of the Court. The presiding judge of the Sumner County General Sessions Courts shall, from time to time, be authorized and empowered to adopt rules of practice and procedure for the Court. Provided, that they are not inconsistent with:

- (a) The substantive and procedural laws and rules of the state of Tennessee relative to the matters of the jurisdiction of the Court; or
- (b) Such rules as may be, from time to time, promulgated by any superior court having supervisory jurisdiction over the Court herein created. The judges of the Sumner County General Sessions Court shall be empowered, from time to time, to interchange with each other and hold court in any Division.

SECTION 9. Sumner County shall provide all funding necessary for the establishment and operation of Division III of the Sumner County General Sessions Court created by this act, including a courtroom and office space for the court and one (1) person to serve as secretary to the Division III Judge. Sumner

County shall also fund one (1) additional assistant district attorney position and one (1) additional assistant public defender position and if necessary, a prorata cost for additional office space for such assistants.

SECTION 10. The Sumner County Board of Commissioners shall annually make such appropriations of funds as are necessary and appropriate for the orderly operation and administration of the Court herein created; and, to the extent necessary, the Judges of the various Divisions, the Clerks, and such other personnel as may, from time to time, be employed, shall assist in the preparation of budgets and other information necessary to make proper appropriations for the operation of this Court. Initially, Sumner County, upon creation of this Court, and thereafter from time to time, as may be necessary, shall appropriate the required space to provide a courtroom in Gallatin, Tennessee, the necessary furnishings, supplies, and equipment for the proper operation and maintenance of the Court. These expenses shall be paid out of the County General Funds. The regular place for holding the Court shall be in the courtroom provided in Gallatin, Tennessee.

SECTION 11. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Sumner County by September 1, 2014. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body of Sumner County and certified by that officer to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 12. 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.

Passed: March 27, 2014.

Juvenile Jurisdiction

Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 92

COMPILER'S NOTE: This Act was repealed by Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 236, inasfar as it is in conflict with that Act.

SECTION 1. That Chapter 481, Private Acts of 1949 be amended so that the General Sessions Court in Sumner County, Tennessee, shall be the Juvenile Court of said County with all the jurisdiction, powers, duties and authority vested by law in the Juvenile Courts of this State and to divest from the County Judge of said county all jurisdiction in juvenile cases.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 481, Private Acts of 1949 be amended so that the General Sessions Judge for his services as Juvenile Judge be paid \$3,800.00 per year in twelve equal monthly installments from the County Treasury.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 306

The purpose of this amendment is to clearly provide that compensation of the General Sessions and Juvenile Judge for the General Sessions and Juvenile Court of Sumner County shall be Three Thousand Eight Hundred (\$3,800.00) Dollars per year for services rendered as Juvenile Court Judge and Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred (\$18,700.00) Dollars per year for services rendered as General Sessions Court Judge, or a total compensation of Twenty-two Thousand Five Hundred (\$22,500.00) Dollars per year, beginning September 1, 1974.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1974, Chapter 306

SECTION 3. That Chapter 481, Private Acts of 1949 be amended so that the Circuit Court Clerk in said county shall be the Clerk of the Juvenile Court and perform all the powers, duties, and functions in that Court now performed by the County Court Clerk who shall have no further authority or responsibility in matters of the Juvenile Court.

SECTION 4. That the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable. If any of its sections, provisions or parts be held unconstitutional or void, the remainder of this Act shall continue in full force and effect, it being the legislative intent that this Act would have been adopted even if such unconstitutional or void matter had not been included herein.

SECTION 5. That this Act shall be of no force and effect until it shall have been approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Quarterly County Court of Sumner County, Tennessee.

SECTION 6. That this Act shall become effective from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 15, 1961.

Safety Program

Private Acts of 1987 Chapter 96

SECTION 1. There is hereby created in Sumner County, a General Sessions Court, Division I, Court Administered Safety Program. The Court Administered Safety Program shall include but not be limited to a traffic school and a DUI school.

SECTION 2. The Judge of the General Sessions Court, Division I, is authorized and empowered to oversee the administration of the Court Administered 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) for persons to enroll in the traffic school. With respect to the DUI school, there is established an enrollment fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Fees shall be collected by the Director of the Court Administered Safety Program and paid directly to the County General Fund within the time provided by statute. All persons receiving or handling funds under this Section shall be properly bonded. Such fees may be increased by resolution of this county commission.

SECTION 4. The minimum requirements for Director of the Court Administered Safety Program shall be as follows:

- (a) A degree in social services or other related field with five (5) years experience in chemical dependency, treatment and aftercare;
- (b) Experience in training and in management;
- (c) Proven ability to work with court, probation and criminal justice systems; and
- (d) Effective communication skills

SECTION 5. A budget for the Court Administered 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 6. All funds collected pursuant to this act shall be allocated to the Court Administered Safety Program and may only be expended for purposes reasonably related to the effectuation of this act.

SECTION 7. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect 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 8. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Sumner County before October 1, 1987. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 9. 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 8.

Passed: April 29, 1987.

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