



April 27, 2025

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# County Attorney

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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](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

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# County Attorney

## Private Acts of 1947 Chapter 55

**SECTION 1.** That the office of County Attorney is hereby created in all Counties of the State of Tennessee having a population of not less than 30,300 nor more than 30,400, according to the Federal Census of 1940 or any subsequent Federal Census. The County Attorney shall be elected by the Quarterly County Court of such Counties at each regular January session of said Quarterly County Court following the effective date of this Act and shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until his successor is elected and qualified. In the event of a vacancy in said office of County Attorney, the same shall be filled by the Quarterly County Court.

**SECTION 2.** That such County Attorney shall be a resident citizen of the County for which he is elected and shall be licensed to practice law in the State of Tennessee.

**SECTION 3.** That it shall be the duty of such County Attorney to advise with the County Chairman and all other County officials upon legal matters pertaining to their respective offices, and shall prepare and render written legal opinions to all County Officials pertaining to the performance of their official duties. He shall give legal advice to the County Chairman and to the Quarterly County Court in regard to the issuance and sale of County bonds and shall execute and prepare all necessary legal papers pertaining thereto when requested to do so by the County Chairman or by the Quarterly County Court.

**SECTION 4.** That upon an election of the County Attorney by the Quarterly County Court, the said Quarterly County Court shall fix his compensation on an annual basis, but which shall be payable on a monthly basis payable on the first day of each month out of the general funds of the County upon a warrant drawn by the County Chairman upon the County Trustee.

**SECTION 5.** That in the event the County Attorney is called upon to represent the County in any extra or special matters or litigation not mentioned or referred to in this Act, he shall be entitled to additional compensation, being within the discretion of the Quarterly County Court of such counties.

**SECTION 6.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 7.** That all prior appropriations of the Quarterly County Court of such Counties heretofore made for compensation of County Attorneys are hereby ratified and confirmed and said appropriations are declared to have and possess the same validity and effect as though the said Courts were legally authorized to do so in the first instance.

**SECTION 8.** That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: January 20, 1947.

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