

*The 2004-2005 Annual Report
of the
Tennessee Judiciary
is dedicated to
Frank F. Drowota, III,
in appreciation for
his 35 years of service
to the
administration of justice*



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A Special Message from the Chief Justice and State Court Administrator



**Chief Justice
William M. Barker**

Dear Fellow Tennesseans,

When we started planning the Annual Report of the Tennessee Judiciary for fiscal year 2004-2005, there was no question that it would be dedicated to a very special individual – a man whose legacy will include a remarkable role in the administration of justice.

Frank F. Drowota, III, devoted 35 years of his life to public service in the Tennessee judiciary, including a quarter-century on the state Supreme Court. His retirement on September 2, 2005, was a day those of us who remain in the judicial branch had faced with trepidation. Few of us had experienced a judicial system without his wisdom and presence.

Justice Drowota is a humble man who values his family, church and service to community above all else. His legions of friends have been privileged to enjoy his warmth, graciousness and a legal mind that always made us marvel. Opinions written by the former chief justice will endure and guide the state's system of justice into the future.

Although he would say he is undeserving of this token of our respect and admiration, we disagree. We would like to take this opportunity to say, "thank you" to Frank F. Drowota, III, for his long and distinguished career in the judiciary. It is our sincere hope that his well-deserved retirement is a satisfying one.



**Interim Director
Elizabeth Sykes**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William M. Barker".

**William M. Barker
Chief Justice**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Sykes".

**Elizabeth Sykes
Interim Director**

Frank F. Drowota, III, Ends Distinguished Judicial Career

When young Frank F. Drowota, III, was appointed to the Chancery Court bench in 1970, many of the issues with which he would later grapple as a judge were unimaginable. During his 35 years of service, including a quarter-century on the Tennessee Supreme Court, the judicial system was confronted with new complex legal issues brought about by societal and technological changes.

As *The Tennessean* newspaper said in an editorial when he announced his retirement, "In the 25 years he's been on the Tennessee Supreme Court, Chief Justice Frank Drowota, III, has had a front-row seat on Tennessee history in the making. A good bit of that history he has written himself."

Drowota wrote or participated in decisions dealing with a myriad of emerging important and controversial issues ranging from the constitutionality of drugs used in lethal injections to a custody dispute over frozen embryos. His personal pick as the most broadly significant opinion he wrote was McIntyre v. Balentine, a 1992 decision that overhauled tort law in Tennessee.

Until his retirement on September 2, 2005, Drowota was the longest-serving active state judge, outranking 182 others in terms of years on the bench. Only one Supreme Court justice, Grafton Green, who sat from 1910-1947, served longer on the state's highest court.

The end of his remarkable career sparked newspaper editorials thanking him for his service. *The Knoxville News Sentinel* wrote, "For all of the grouching and complaining Americans like to do about judges and the decisions they make ... it is our justice system that keeps our society civilized. And for this, we owe a debt to Drowota and to all of the judges who serve the greater good."

He also received the thanks of Governor Phil Bredesen, who said, "We all owe a debt of gratitude to Justice Frank Drowota for his long judicial service. He has made a lasting and important contribution not just to the Tennessee Supreme Court but to the entire judicial branch." Similar sentiments were

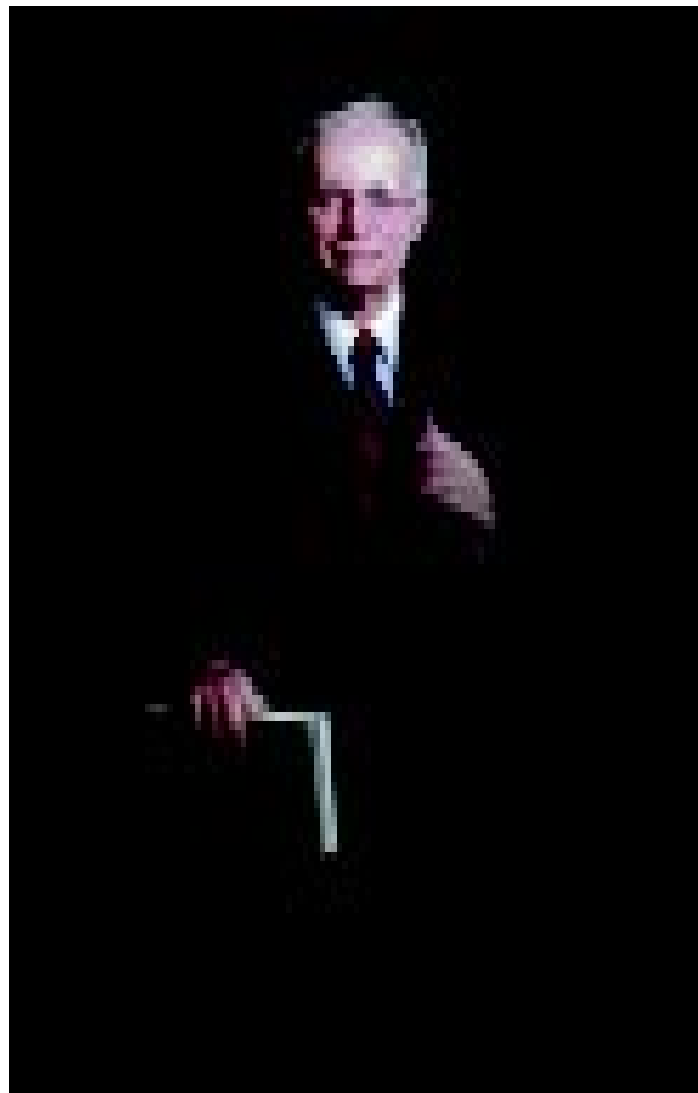
Drowota, who served two terms as chief justice, participated in more than 4,500 appellate court decisions, authored at least 1,000 majority opinions and wrote more than 100 dissenting and concurring opinions.

echoed in the legal community across the state.

Drowota described his years in the judiciary as "an extraordinarily rewarding experience" and said he was grateful to Tennesseans for allowing him to be part of the system.

He began his judicial career at age 31 when he was appointed by Governor Buford Ellington to the Chancery Court of Davidson County. In 1974, Governor Winfield Dunn appointed him to the state Court of Appeals where he remained until his first election to the state Supreme Court in 1980.

Drowota, who served two terms as chief justice, participated in more than 4,500 appellate court



This portrait of retired Chief Justice Frank F. Drowota, III, by artist Michael Shane Neal will hang in the Nashville Supreme Court Building. The portrait was privately commissioned by a long-time friend of Drowota's, Dr. Thomas Frist, Jr.

decisions, authored at least 1,000 majority opinions and more than 100 dissenting and concurring opinions.

"To be sure, Chief Justice Drowota's opinions, both civil and criminal, have served to update Tennessee law and bring it in line with much of the rest of the country," staff attorney Marshall Davidson and Drowota's law clerk Lisa Rippy wrote in an article honoring their mentor.

"He has written in a direct and concise style with a common-sense focus on making the law clear to judges, lawyers and the public. A Drowota opinion,

forged from practical realities, tells readers what they need to know. Direct and to the point, the opinions speak with strength and clarity. They are promptly issued too. Chief Justice Drowota is keenly aware that few things cause litigants and their lawyers more frustration, and the judiciary more criticism, than the

"In the 25 years he's been on the Tennessee Supreme Court, Chief Justice Frank Drowota, III, has had a front-row seat on Tennessee history in the making. A good bit of that history he has written himself."

**The Tennessean
June 8, 2005**

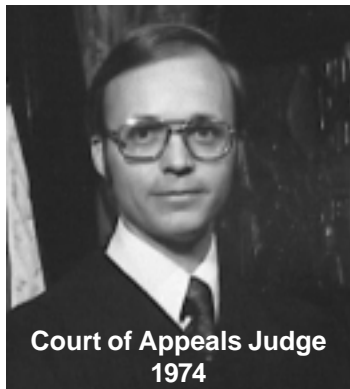
failure of courts to decide cases on a reasonably prompt basis."

Drowota, who often describes himself as a "p.k. – a preacher's kid," was born in Kentucky, but moved to Nashville in 1943 when his father was asked to be minister of a new church. He was a popular student at Montgomery Bell Academy, participating in sports and being voted "Most Friendly" by his classmates.

The future judge graduated from Vanderbilt University, where he played football. After receiving his undergraduate degree, he joined the Navy and was an officer aboard an aircraft carrier.

When he completed active duty in the Navy, Drowota earned a law degree at Vanderbilt and also continued his military service as a member of the Naval Reserve.

He and his wife of 42 years, Claire, have two children and five grandchildren. They, he said, were the impetus for his decision to retire. He wanted more time to spend with them.



**Court of Appeals Judge
1974**

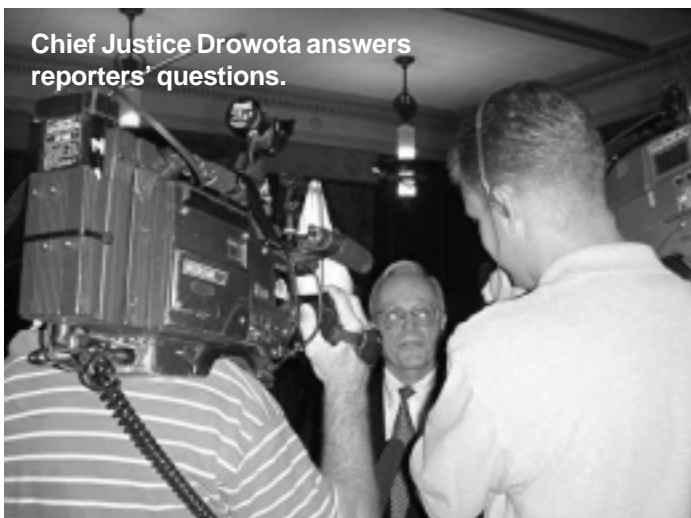
On September 19, 2005, Cornelia Clark was appointed by Governor Phil Bredesen to succeed Drowota on the Tennessee Supreme Court. Clark, a former Circuit Court judge, served as administrative director of the state court system until her appointment. William M. Barker was elected by the court to succeed Drowota as chief justice.



Claire Drowota congratulates her husband on his appointment to Chancery Court in 1972



Chief Justice Drowota administers the oath of office to Governor Phil Bredesen.



Chief Justice Drowota answers reporters' questions.

A Year of Change in the Administrative Office of the Courts

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) took on additional significant responsibilities in fiscal year 2004-2005 as the office began providing an array of services to municipal and juvenile court judges and municipal court clerks.

With enactment by the General Assembly of the Municipal Court Reform Act of 2004, effective March 1, 2005, the AOC was charged with providing services to the state's municipal court judges and their organization, the Tennessee Municipal Judges Conference. The conference, formerly the Tennessee Municipal Judges Association, is the legislatively created official organization for 250 municipal court judges statewide.

Education for municipal court judges and clerks is among mandated services the AOC now provides. Under the act, judges and clerks are to receive three hours of continuing education through the AOC each year.

A month later, on April 1, 2005, an agreement was signed designating the director of the AOC as executive director for the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Under that agreement, the AOC is providing staff to meet the council's needs, including statistical collection and reporting as required by law; conducting two educational conferences each year; providing legal and technical assistance to juvenile courts; providing legislative updates; maintaining a roster of judges and staff; conducting staff training; and maintaining a web presence for the council.

While assuming these new duties, the AOC continues to provide assistance to state trial and appellate courts and the general sessions courts.

The office's duties are far-ranging, including preparing the judicial system budget (see page 7), handling payroll and benefits for judicial branch employees across the state, providing computer training and support and developing and

implementing a complex court automation system – TnCIS (Tennessee Court Information System).

Data used in trying to project and meet judicial system needs is collected and compiled by the AOC. The office processes approximately 575,000 records annually and compiles statistics from courts across the state.

The list of approved mediators for court-annexed Alternative Dispute Resolution is maintained by the AOC, as are rosters of qualified capital case attorneys and credentialed foreign language court interpreters. The office also trains judges, lawyers, Foster Care Review Boards and others who deal with abused and neglected children in state custody.

A critical and time consuming responsibility is administration of the state's indigent defense fund. Each year, staff members individually review more than 66,000 claims filed by attorneys and experts before payments are made. In FY 2004-2005, expenditures from the indigent defense fund totaled \$17,434,503.

Court reporter contracts are managed by the AOC, which also is responsible for oversight of all leases for Supreme Court buildings and individual offices for judges statewide.

Support services include providing judges and their staffs with supplies and equipment; maintaining law libraries; collecting local rules of practice; processing requests for judge designations; and administering the senior judge program. The office also staffs and supports dozens of boards and commissions.

The AOC routinely handles a number of other tasks, such as producing court-related publications and reports, maintaining and updating the court system website and providing information, as requested or needed, to judges, legislators, the public and the media.

Court System: 0.38 Percent of Total State Budget

The Judicial Department budget for fiscal year 2004-2005 was \$94,953,500, with total expenditures of \$93,238,113. The budget for courts and related services was 0.38 percent of the total state budget (see graph below). Nearly half of judicial branch expenditures - \$45,955,709 - was for appellate and trial courts across the state. The second largest single expenditure was \$17,434,503 for criminal indigent defense, including \$2,541,961 for capital cases. The budget also provided funds for Supreme Court buildings, child support referees, guardians ad litem, the civil legal representation fund, transcripts, law libraries, educational conferences for judges and clerks, the Administrative Office of the Courts, judicial programs commissions, the Appellate Court Clerks' Offices, the Board of Law Examiners, the Board of Professional Responsibility, the

Tennessee Lawyers' Assistance Program, the Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and the Lawyers Fund for Client Protection.

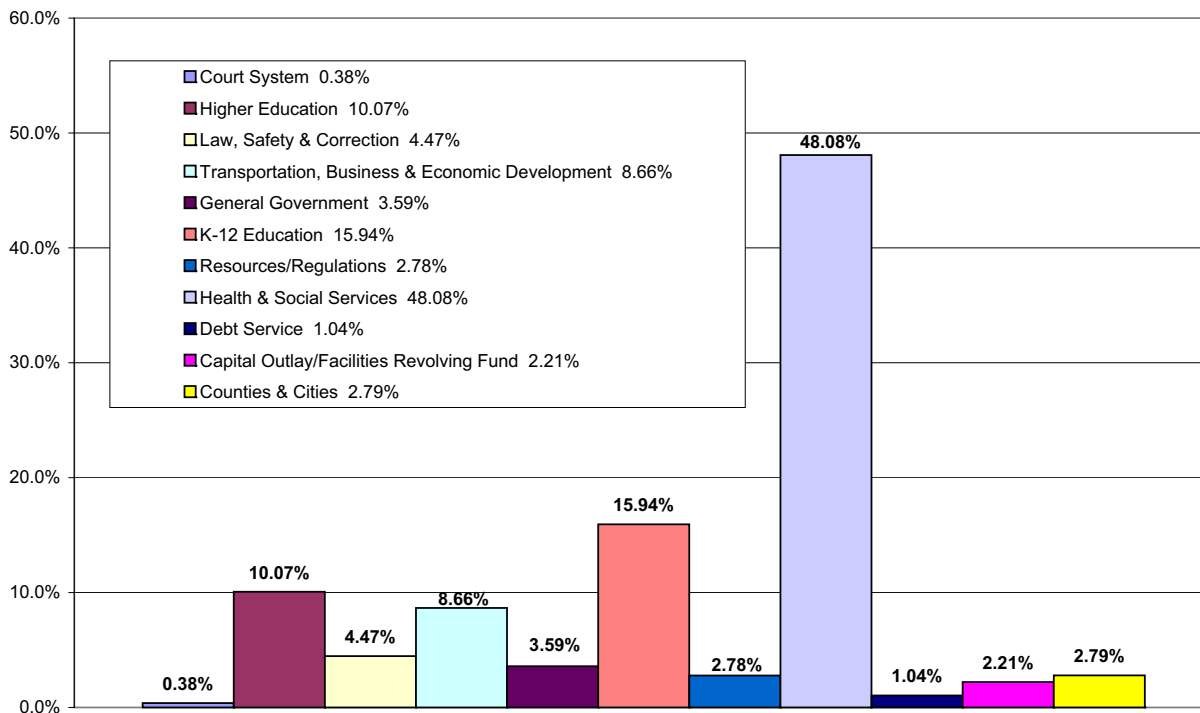
Expenditures from the indigent defense fund:

Fiscal Year 2004-2005	\$17,434,503
Fiscal Year 2003-2004	\$17,896,454
Fiscal Year 2002-2003	\$16,897,986
Fiscal Year 2001-2002	\$14,987,665
Fiscal Year 2000-2001	\$12,877,960

Expenditures from the indigent defense fund for capital cases:


Fiscal Year 2004-2005	\$2,541,961
Fiscal Year 2003-2004	\$2,826,388
Fiscal Year 2002-2003	\$3,649,471
Fiscal Year 2001-2002	\$3,014,000
Fiscal Year 2000-2001	\$2,719,636

Total State Budget
Fiscal Year 2004-05



The Year In Review: A Sampling of Significant Events

Access to Justice

 Tennessee was in the national spotlight as 2004 began with the U.S. Supreme Court hearing oral arguments in a high-profile case involving access to courthouses.

The issue in the case was whether a state – Tennessee – may be held liable for money damages under the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which since 1992 also applies to state and local governments.

The case, Lane v. Tennessee, started in 1998 when one of the plaintiffs, George Lane, filed a lawsuit against the State of Tennessee and 25 counties for failure to comply with the ADA. Lane's lawsuit stemmed from his inability to access a courtroom without assistance because he was in a wheelchair. The suit claimed that 25 courthouses in the state did not have ADA-compliant access for the disabled.

The Supreme Court heard arguments in January and ruled in May that a state government may be held liable for money damages under the act. When the case returned to federal district court, the state and all but one county reached settlement.

Plaintiffs in the case received monetary settlements from counties and also relief that required counties to bring courthouses into compliance. The state paid expert and attorney fees and adopted an ADA policy setting out procedures to make judicial programs readily accessible. The Administrative Office of the Courts is conducting ADA training statewide and also has worked with local court officials to appoint an ADA coordinator in each county.

Court accessibility information can be found on the court system website at www.tncourts.gov.

Uniform Court Costs

A law implementing what a Blount County court clerk described as “one of the most monumental changes in the judicial system in the last 25 years” was enacted by legislators in May 2005 and takes

effect Jan. 1, 2006. The new law equalizing most court costs and litigation taxes statewide was recommended by the Judicial Council .

Blount County Circuit Court Clerk Tom Hatcher, a member of a study committee appointed by the Judicial Council, said the change means court costs no longer will vary widely from county to county and also will increase revenues by having the fees paid “up front” when a suit is filed or a fine is imposed. Clerks no longer have to spend time trying to track down court users who have unpaid fees.

In 2004, the General Assembly asked the Judicial Council to appoint a committee to look into court costs across the state. Hatcher said they found 26 different state laws dealing with court costs. The new law sets flat fees and applies to most counties.

Criminal Sentencing

In response to a 2004 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, Blakely v. Washington, the Tennessee General Assembly enacted legislation, effective June 7, 2005, designed to ensure that Tennessee's criminal sentencing procedures are not declared unconstitutional.

The Blakely decision invalidated Washington State's sentencing system, which was similar to Tennessee's. In Blakely, the U.S. Supreme Court said defendants' Sixth Amendment rights are violated when judges, rather than juries, use aggravating factors to enhance criminal sentences.

Although the Tennessee Supreme Court said in a 3-2 decision following Blakely that Tennessee's criminal sentencing laws do not violate the Sixth Amendment guarantee of a jury trial, Gov. Phil Bredesen appointed a judicial task force to study the federal court ruling's possible impact on Tennessee. The new law was based on recommendations of the task force.

“It was obvious to me that something needed to be done to preserve as much of this system as possible so that punishments would continue not only to fit the crime, but the criminal as well,” the governor said in a written statement.

Under the new law, the governor said judges will have the discretion “to make the time fit the crime.”

A link to the Tennessee law, the task force recommendations and the Blakely decision can be found at www.tncourts.gov.

Senior Judges

The number of senior judges in Tennessee increased from five to seven during the fiscal year with the appointment by the Supreme Court of Judges Jon Kerry Blackwood and Donald P. Harris. Blackwood previously served as a Circuit Court judge in the 25th Judicial District and Harris was a Circuit Court judge in the 21st Judicial District. Other senior judges are James L. Weatherford, Allen Wallace, William Inman, J.S. (Steve) Daniel and Jerry Scott.

Senior judges are former trial and appellate court judges who may be assigned on a temporary basis to any state court.

Law School for Journalists

More than 100 print and broadcast reporters and editors from across the state gathered in Nashville on June 6, 2005, to attend a Law School for Journalists, co-sponsored by the Tennessee Supreme Court and the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University.

The day-long educational program featured seminars to help journalists understand the legal system and legal proceedings. Participants also received copies of “A Media Guide to Tennessee’s Legal System,” a book providing information for reporters covering courts. A reception sponsored by the Tennessee Trial Lawyer’s Association followed the program.

The Supreme Court and First Amendment Center had partnered in 2001 to present the first Law School for Journalists, which also was attended by about 100 journalists.

Milestones

The Administrative Office of the Courts’ web site (www.tncourts.gov) set a new record this past year averaging over 7,100 visitors per day.

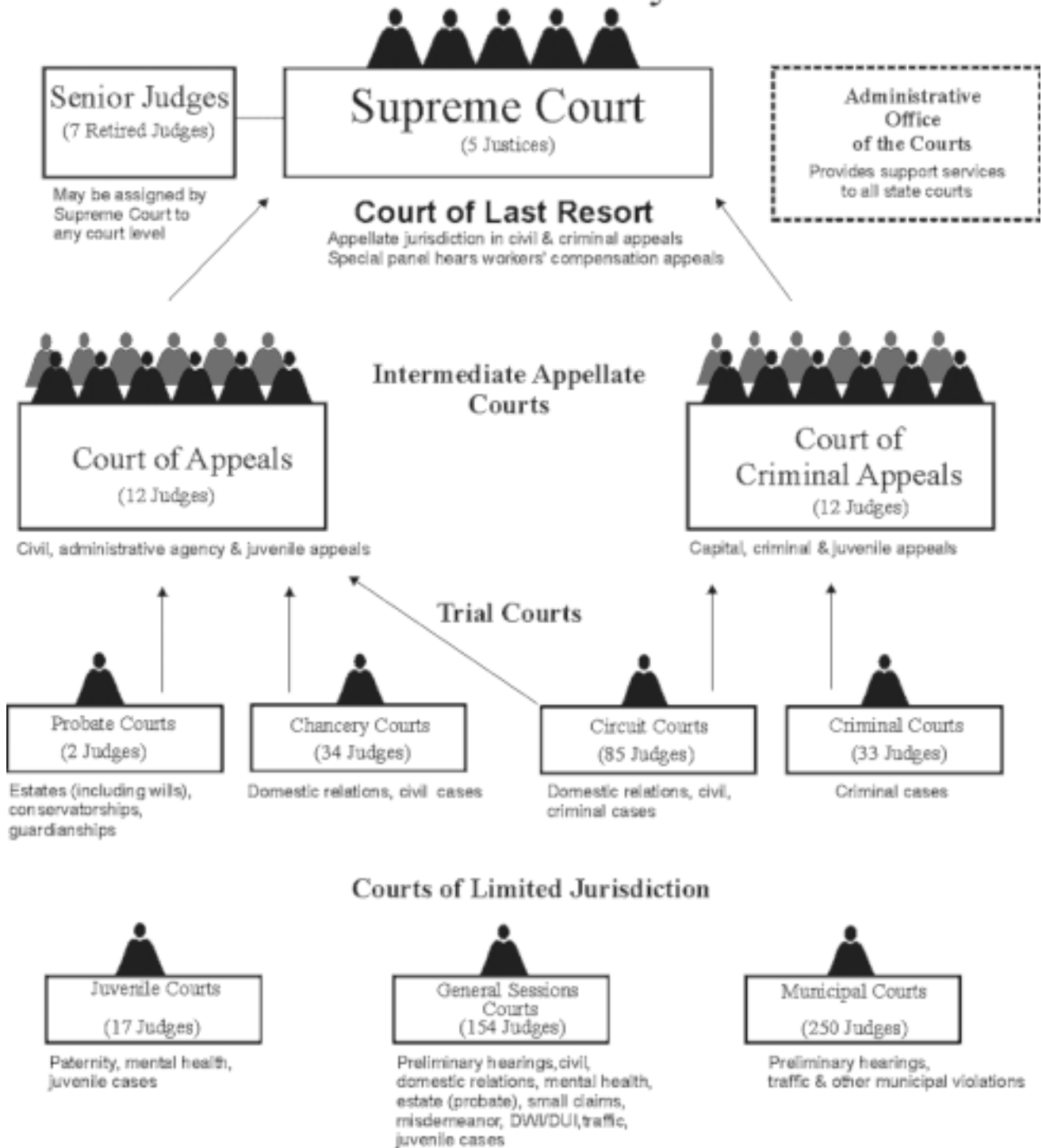
In addition to the Administrative Office of the Courts’ site, the office is also now maintaining web sites for the Municipal Judges Conference (www.tsc.state.tn.us/geninfo/Courts/MunicipalJudges/MunilIndex.htm), the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (www.tennessee.gov/tcjfcj) as well as the Tennessee Lawyers’ Assistance Program (www.tlap.org).

The Supreme Court’s SCALES Project passed the 15,000 students mark in 2004-2005. Since the program started in 1995 as a Supreme Court initiative to educate young Tennesseans about the judicial system, 15,029 students from 337 schools across the state have participated, including 1,625 students from 29 schools during the 12 month period.

SCALES - an acronym for the Supreme Court Advancing Legal Education for Students - brings the Supreme Court to communities where high school students are invited to hear oral arguments in actual cases. Participating teachers attend professional development training prior to SCALES to learn about the cases their students will hear and are provided with materials to use in their classrooms. Local judges and attorneys visit the classes to discuss the court system and issues in the Supreme Court cases.

The number of languages in which court interpreters are registered or certified continues to increase. Interpreters are available in Spanish, Japanese, Arabic, Bosnian/Serbian/Croatian, Bulgarian, French, German, Haitian Creole, Laotian, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese, Russian and Thai. More than 100 interpreters have met requirements to become registered or certified in the languages. Interpreters are credentialed by the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Tennessee Judicial System



Supreme Court



As required by the state Constitution, the five members of the Tennessee Supreme Court normally hear cases in Nashville, Jackson and Knoxville. Pictured are (from left) Justice Janice M. Holder of Memphis; Justice E. Riley Anderson of Knoxville; Chief Justice William M. Barker of Chattanooga; Justice Adolpho A. Birch, Jr., of Nashville; and Justice Cornelia A. Clark of Franklin.

THE SUPREME COURT is the state's highest court and may accept appeals of civil and criminal cases from lower state courts. The five justices also interpret the laws and Constitutions of Tennessee and the United States.

The Supreme Court may assume jurisdiction over undecided cases in the Court of Appeals or Court of Criminal Appeals when there is special need for a speedy decision. The court also has appellate jurisdiction in cases involving state taxes, the right to hold public office and issues of constitutional law. Appeals to the Supreme Court are discretionary except in death penalty cases. The court is required by law to review those cases on direct appeal.

Attorneys may present oral arguments before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals and the Court of Criminal Appeals. The appellate courts also

review attorneys' briefs and the records in cases before them and issue written opinions, or rulings. Only opinions on federal constitutional issues can be appealed to the federal courts, which may or may not agree to consider them.

*"For we cherish justice and profess knowledge of what is equitable and just."
Justinian's Digest, Book I*

The Supreme Court has administrative responsibilities relating to the entire court system and adopts rules to ensure that the judicial branch functions efficiently and fairly.

Rules of the court can be found on the court system website at www.tncourts.gov.

Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Court of Criminal Appeals are elected on a "yes-no" ballot every eight years. When a vacancy occurs the 17-member Judicial Selection Commission interviews applicants and recommends three candidates to the governor, who appoints a new judge to serve until the next August general election.

Intermediate Appellate Courts

The **COURT OF APPEALS**, created by the General Assembly in 1925, hears appeals in civil - or non-criminal - cases from trial courts and certain state boards and commissions. Members of the Court of Appeals are appointed and elected under the same system as the Tennessee Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals. The method of judicial selection is legislatively established for all three appellate courts.

The **COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS**, created by the General Assembly in 1967, hears trial court appeals in felony and misdemeanor cases, as well as post-conviction petitions. State law requires the Court of Criminal Appeals to review all death sentences. If a capital case conviction and sentence are affirmed by the Court of Criminal Appeals, there is an automatic review by the state Supreme Court.

All other Court of Appeals and Court of Criminal Appeals decisions may be appealed, by permission, to the state Supreme Court. Each of the intermediate appellate courts has 12 members, who normally sit in panels of three in Jackson, Knoxville and Nashville. They may also meet in other places as necessary.



Court of Appeals judges are (seated from left) Charles D. Susano, Jr., William Frank Crawford, Herschel P. Franks, William C. Koch, Jr., Alan E. Highers, (standing from left) Patricia J. Cottrell, William Bryan Cain, D. Michael Swiney, David R. Farmer, Frank G. Clement, Jr., Holly M. Kirby and Sharon G. Lee.



Court of Criminal Appeals judges are (seated from left) David G. Hayes, Joseph M. Tipton, Gary R. Wade, David H. Welles, Jerry Smith, (standing from left) Norma McGee Ogle, James Curwood Witt, Jr., Robert W. Wedemeyer, Alan E. Glenn, John Everett Williams, J.C. McLin and Thomas T. Woodall.

Message from the Tennessee Judicial Conference President

Criminal Court Judge Arthur T. Bennett of Shelby County took office as president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference in June 2005 for a one-year term. The conference is made up of the state's trial and appellate court judges.

As president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference, I wrote to each member of the state Legislature commending them for the good job they do for the people of Tennessee. I also indicated that the Judicial Conference would like to work with them in improving conditions for citizens of this state. I am happy to have received a number of favorable responses from the various legislators.

The entire Judicial Conference was very happy and honored to have Governor Phil Bredesen once again deliver the keynote speech at our luncheon in Knoxville this past June. We are fortunate to have a governor who will take the time to attend our conference and relay helpful information. We also sincerely thank the governor for his insightful appointment of judges who are well qualified.

We are proud of the job our Supreme Court is doing to improve the image of the judiciary and educate Tennesseans regarding the roles of judges and lawyers in our constitutional form of government. The SCALES Project and other educational programs are exceptional.

The Tennessee Judicial Family Institute, headed by Chancellor Thomas R. (Skip) Frierson, II, has now been made a permanent part of our Judicial Conference program. This institute will be a tremendous aid to judges and their families.

Security in the courtroom has received high priority in the wake of the Chicago and Atlanta murders involving judges, court staff, and/or members of their families. The incident that happened here in East Tennessee concerning a prisoner and a state employee who aided the prisoner's escape also causes great concern. A lack of adequate security personnel in some districts is a problem that must be addressed.



Tennessee Judicial Conference President Judge Arthur Bennett presents a gavel to Supreme Court Justice Cornelia Clark at the October TJC educational and business meeting at Fall Creek Falls State Park.

The Security Committee of the Tennessee Judicial Conference under the chairmanship of Chancellor George R. Ellis is doing an outstanding job in improving security in courtrooms. The committee's mission is "to set up and maintain procedures for the safety of citizens, judges, court personnel in the courtroom, as well as, in and around the courthouse building as set out in (T.C.A.) Section 16-2-505 (d)(2)(E); to maintain up-to-date metal detectors for the courthouse entrance, as well as, entrance to the courtroom; have ample security personnel based on the volume of traffic in the courthouse and courtroom; monitoring of courtroom and courthouse procedures throughout the state each year with emphasis on improving security in each courthouse."

In this day and time, security is of utmost importance for the safety of our judicial family.

The people of Tennessee can be extremely proud of their judges and the job that they are doing to administer justice.

I am extremely blessed and honored to have been chosen as the second African-American president in the history of the Tennessee Judicial Conference.

Trial Court Judges by Judicial District

1st JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Carter, Johnson, Unicoi & Washington counties

CHANCERY COURT

G. Richard Johnson

CIRCUIT COURT

Thomas J. Seeley, Jr. (Part I)

Jean A. Stanley (Part II)

CRIMINAL COURT

Lynn W. Brown

Robert E. Cupp

2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Sullivan County

CHANCERY COURT

Richard E. Ladd

CIRCUIT COURT

John S. McLellan, III (Part I)

R. Jerry Beck (Part II)

CRIMINAL COURT

Phyllis H. Miller

3rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Greene, Hamblen, Hancock & Hawkins counties

CHANCERY COURT

Thomas R. Frierson, II

CIRCUIT COURT

John K. Wilson (Part I)

Ben K. Wexler (Part II)

Kindall T. Lawson (Part III)

CRIMINAL COURT

James E. Beckner

4th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson & Sevier counties

CHANCERY COURT

Telford E. Forgety, Jr.

CIRCUIT COURT

Ben W. Hooper, II (Part I)

Richard Robert Vance (Part II)

Rex Henry Ogle (Part III)

O. Duane Slone (Part IV)

5th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Blount County

CHANCERY COURT

Telford E. Forgety, Jr.

CIRCUIT COURT

W. Dale Young (Part I)

D. Kelly Thomas, Jr. (Part II)

6th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Knox County

CHANCERY COURT

John F. Weaver (Part I)

Daryl R. Fansler (Part II)

Sharon J. Bell (Part III)

CIRCUIT COURT

Dale Workman (Division I)

Harold Wimberly, Jr. (Division II)

Wheeler A. Rosenbalm (Division III)

Bill Swann (Division IV)

CRIMINAL COURT

Richard R. Baumgartner (Division I)

Ray L. Jenkins (Division II)

Mary Beth Leibowitz (Division III)

7th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Anderson County

CHANCERY COURT

William E. Lantrip

CIRCUIT COURT

James B. Scott, Jr. (retired 9-2-05)

Donald R. Elledge (appointed 9-6-05)

8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott & Union counties

CHANCERY COURT

Billy Joe White

CIRCUIT COURT

John D. McAfee

CRIMINAL COURT

E. Shayne Sexton

9th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Loudon, Meigs, Morgan & Roane counties

CHANCERY COURT

Frank V. Williams, III

CIRCUIT COURT

Russell E. Simmons, Jr.

CRIMINAL COURT

E. Eugene Eblen

10th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Bradley, McMinn, Monroe & Polk counties

CHANCERY COURT

Jerri Bryant

CIRCUIT COURT

Larry H. Puckett (Part I)
John B. Hagler, Jr. (Part II)
Carroll Lee Ross (Part III)

CRIMINAL COURT

Robert Steven Bebb

11th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Hamilton County

CHANCERY COURT

W. Frank Brown, III (Part I)
Howell N. Peoples (Part II)

CIRCUIT COURT

Jacqueline E. Schulten (Division I)
Samuel H. Payne (Division II)
L. Marie Williams (Division III)
W. Neil Thomas, III (Division IV)

CRIMINAL COURT

Douglas A. Meyer (Division I)
Rebecca J. Stern (Division II)
Stephen M. Bevil (Division III) (Died 11-17-05)

12th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea & Sequatchie counties

CHANCERY COURT

Jeffrey F. Stewart

CIRCUIT COURT

Thomas W. (Rusty) Graham (Part I)
J. Curtis Smith (Part II)
Buddy D. Perry (Part III)

13th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Overton, Pickett, Putnam & White counties

CHANCERY COURT

Vernon Neal

CIRCUIT COURT

John A. Turnbull (Part I)
John J. Maddux, Jr. (Part II)

CRIMINAL COURT

Leon C. Burns, Jr. (Division I)
Lillie Ann Sells (Division II)

14th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Coffee County

CIRCUIT COURT

L. Craig Johnson (Part I)
John W. Rollins (Part II)

15th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale & Wilson counties

CHANCERY COURT

C. K. Smith

CIRCUIT COURT

Clara W. Byrd (Division I)
John D. Wootten, Jr. (Division II)

CRIMINAL COURT

James O. Bond

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Cannon & Rutherford counties

CHANCERY COURT
Robert E. Corlew, III

CIRCUIT COURT
J. Mark Rogers (Part I)
James K. Clayton, Jr. (Part II)
Don R. Ash (Part III)
Royce Taylor (Part IV)

17th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall & Moore counties

CHANCERY COURT
James B. (J. B.) Cox

CIRCUIT COURT
Robert Crigler (Part I) (appointed 2-1-05)
Lee Russell (Part II)

18th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Sumner County

CHANCERY COURT
Thomas E. Gray

CIRCUIT COURT
C. L. (Buck) Rogers

CRIMINAL COURT
Jane W. Wheatcraft

19th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Montgomery & Robertson counties

CHANCERY COURT
Laurence M. (Larry) McMillian
(appointed 12-31-04)

CIRCUIT COURT
Ross H. Hicks (Part I)
Mike Jones (Part II)
John H. Gasaway, III (Part III)

20th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Davidson County

CHANCERY COURT
Claudia Bonnyman (Part I)
Carol McCoy (Part II)
Ellen Hobbs Lyle (Part III)
Richard Dinkins (Part IV)

CIRCUIT COURT
Hamilton Gayden, Jr. (Division I)
Marietta M. Shipley (Division II)
Barbara N. Haynes (Division III)
Muriel Robinson (Division IV)
Walter C. Kurtz (Division V)
Thomas W. Brothers (Division VI)
David (Randy) Kennedy (Division VII)
Carol Soloman (Division VIII)

CRIMINAL COURT
Steve R. Dozier (Division I)
J. Randall Wyatt, Jr. (Division II)
Cheryl A. Blackburn (Division III)
Seth W. Norman (Division IV)
Monte Watkins (Division V)
Mark Fishburn (Division VI)

21st JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Hickman, Lewis, Perry & Williamson counties

CIRCUIT COURT
Russ Heldman (Division I)
Robert E. Lee Davies (Division II)
Jeffrey S. Bivins (Division III) (appointed 3-1-05)
Timothy Easter (Division IV)

22nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Giles, Lawrence, Maury & Wayne counties

CIRCUIT COURT
Jim T. Hamilton (Part I)
Robert Holloway (Part II)
Robert L. (Bob) Jones (Part III)
Stella L. Hargrove (Part IV)

23rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys
& Stewart counties

CIRCUIT COURT
Robert E. Burch (Division I)
Leonard M. Martin (Division II)
George C. Sexton

24th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin & Henry
counties

CHANCERY COURT
Ron E. Harmon

CIRCUIT COURT
Charles Creed McGinley (Part I)
Julian P. Guinn (Part II)

25th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy & Tipton counties

CHANCERY COURT

Dewey C. Whinton (Part I)
Martha B. Brasfield (Part II)

CIRCUIT COURT

J. Weber McCraw (Part I) (appointed 2-1-05)
Joseph H. Walker, III (Part II)

26th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Chester, Henderson & Madison counties

CHANCERY COURT

James F. Butler

CIRCUIT COURT

Roy B. Morgan, Jr. (Division I)
Donald H. Allen (Division II)
Roger A. Page (Division III)

27th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Obion & Weakley counties

CHANCERY COURT

W. Michael Maloan

CIRCUIT COURT

William B. Acree, Jr.

28th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Crockett, Gibson & Haywood counties

CHANCERY COURT

George R. Ellis

CIRCUIT COURT

Clayburn Peeples

29th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dyer & Lake counties

CHANCERY COURT

J. Steven Stafford (Part I)

CIRCUIT COURT

Russell Lee Moore, Jr. (Part I)

30th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Shelby County

CHANCERY COURT

Walter L. Evans (Part I)
Arnold Goldin (Part II)
D. J. Alissandratos (Part III)

CIRCUIT COURT

John R. McCarroll, Jr. (Division I)
James F. Russell (Division II)
Karen R. Williams (Division III)
Rita L. Stotts (Division IV)
Kay S. Robilio (Division V)
George H. Brown, Jr. (Division VI) (retired 2-18-05)
Jerry Stokes (appointed 4-27-05)
Donna M. Fields (Division VII)
D'Army Bailey (Division VIII)
Robert L. Childers (Division IX)

CRIMINAL COURT

Paula L. Skahan (Division I)
W. Otis Higgs, Jr. (Division II)
John P. Colton, Jr. (Division III)
Carolyn Wade Blackett (Division IV)
Joseph B. Dailey (Division V)
W. Fred Axley (Division VI)
Arthur T. Bennett (Division VII)
Chris Craft (Division VIII)
W. Mark Ward (Division IX)
James C. Beasley, Jr. (Division X)

PROBATE COURT

Donn Southern
Robert Benham

31st JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Van Buren & Warren counties

CIRCUIT COURT & CHANCELLOR

Larry B. Stanley, Jr.

Senior Judges

Senior judges are appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court and may be assigned on a temporary basis to any state court.

*Allen Wallace
William H. Inman
James L. Weatherford
J.S. (Steve) Daniel
Jerry Scott
Donald P. Harris
Jon Kerry Blackwood*

General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judges By County

Anderson County *

Don A. Layton
Ronald N. Murch
Patricia R. Hess (Juvenile Court)

Bedford County

Charles L. Rich

Benton County

Clyde W. Watson

Bledsoe County

Howard L. Upchurch

Blount County

Hugh E. Delozier, Jr. (Division 1)
William Terry Denton (Division 2)
William R. Brewer, Jr. (Division 3)
David R. Duggan (Division 4)

Bradley County

Andrew F. Bennett, Jr.
Carrell Van Deacon, Jr.

Campbell County

Joseph M. Ayers

Cannon County

Susan Melton

Carroll County

Larry J. Logan

Carter County

John W. Walton

Cheatham County

Phillip A. Maxey

Chester County

Larry F. McKenzie

Claiborne County

Robert M. Estep

Clay County

James D. White, Jr.

Cocke County

John A. Bell

Coffee County

Jere Ledsinger
Timothy R. Brock

Crockett County

Shannon A. Jones

Cumberland County

Steven C. Douglas

Davidson County *

Gale B. Robinson (Division I)
Daniel Eisenstein (Division II)
William Joseph Faimon (Division III)
Gloria A. Dumas (Division IV)
John P. Brown (Division V)
Michael F. Mondelli (Division VI)
William Edward Higgins (Division VII)
Leon Ruben (Division VIII)
Sue McKnight Evans (Division IX)
Casey Moreland (Division X)
John Aaron Holt (Division XI)
Betty Adams Green (Juvenile Court)

Decatur County

Ricky L. Wood

DeKalb County

Bratten Hale Cook, III

Dickson County *

Durwood G. Moore
A. Andrew Jackson (Juvenile Court)

Dyer County

Charles V. Moore

Fayette County

William S. (Bill) Rhea

Fentress County

Paul Crouch

Franklin County

Thomas C. Faris

Gibson County *

James Webb

Robert W. Newell (Juvenile Court)

Giles County

John P. Damron

Grainger County

Joe Wayne Wolfenbarger

Greene County

Thomas J. Wright

Grundy County

Earlene Y. Speer

Hamblen County *

Herbert M. Bacon

Joyce Mills Ward

Mindy Norton Seals (Juvenile Court)

Hamilton County *

Richard Holcomb (Division I)

David Bales (Division II)

Clarence E Shattuck, Jr. (Division III)

Ronald W. Durby (Division IV)

Robert L. Moon, Jr. (Division V)

Suzanne Bailey (Juvenile Court)

Hancock County

Floyd W. (Bill) Rhea

Hardeman County

Charles (Chip) Cary

Hardin County

Daniel L. Smith

Hawkins County *

David L. Brand

Herbert Holcomb (Juvenile Court)

Haywood County

J. Roland Reid

Henderson County

Robert Stevie Beal

Henry County

Hansel J. McCadams

Hickman County

Samuel H. Smith

Houston County

Sidney Vinson

Humphreys County *

Dan R. Bradley

Anthony L. Sanders (Juvenile Court)

Jackson County

Steven Cassetty

Jefferson County

Alfred B. Strand, Jr.

Johnson County

William Bliss Hawkins

Knox County *

Chuck Cerny, Jr. (Division I)

Geoffrey P. Emery (Division II)

Bobby Ray McGee (Division III)

Brenda J. Waggoner (Division IV)

Tony W. Stansberry (Division V)

Carey E. Garrett (Juvenile Court) (Died 12-01-2005)

Lake County

Danny Goodman, Jr.

Lauderdale County *

Janice C. Craig

Rachel Anthony (Juvenile Court)

Lawrence County

Patricia McGuire

Lewis County

Billy W. Townsend

Lincoln County

Charles Crawford

Loudon County

William H. Russell

Macon County

Ken Witcher, Jr.

Madison County

Christy R. Little
Hugh H. Harvey, Jr.

Marion County *

J. Clifford Layne
Charles Jenkins, Sr. (Juvenile Court)

Marshall County

Steve Bowden

Maury County

George Logan Lovell
J. Lee Bailey, III
Bobby Sands

McMinn County

James F. Watson

McNairy County

Bob G. Gray

Meigs County

Jayne Johnston-Crowley

Monroe County

Reed Dixon

Montgomery County

Jack Hestle
Ray Grimes
Wayne C. Shelton

Moore County

Terry Gregory

Morgan County

Michael A. Davis

Obion County *

Raymond Morris
Sam C. Nailling, Jr. (Juvenile Court)

Overton County

John R. Officer

Perry County

Clovis Parnell

Pickett County

Ronnie Zachary

Polk County

Billy D. Baliles

Putnam County

John P. Hudson
Nolan R. Goolsby

Rhea County

James W. McKenzie

Roane County

Dennis W. Humphrey
Thomas A. Austin

Robertson County

Max D. Fagan

Rutherford County *

Ben Hall McFarlin, Jr.
David Loughry
Donna Scott (Juvenile Court)

Scott County

James L. Cotton, Jr.

Sequatchie County

L. Thomas Austin

Sevier County

Dwight E. Stokes
Jeff D. Rader

Shelby County *

Lynn Cobb (Division 1)
Phyllis B. Gardner (Division 2)
John A. Donald (Division 3)
Russell Sugarmon, Jr. (Division 4)
Betty Thomas Moore (Division 5)
Lonnie Thompson (Division 6)

Ann Lucas Pugh (Division 7)
Tim James Dwyer (Division 8)
Joyce Broffitt (Division 9)
Anthony Johnson (Division 10)
Mischelle Alexander-Best (Division 11)
Gwen Rooks (Division 12)
Louis J. Montesi, Jr. (Division 13)
Larry E. Potter (Division 14)
Loyce Lambert Ryan (Division 15)
Kenneth Turner (Juvenile Court)

Smith County

Mose Jackie Preston

Stewart County

Gueary Andrew Brigham

Sullivan County *

J. Klyne Lauderback (Division 1)
Steven Hal Jones (Division 2)
Duane S. Snodgrass (Division 3)
W.A. (Bill) Watson (Division 4)
Paul R. Wohlford (Bristol City Juvenile Court)

Sumner County

Barry R. Brown
James Hunter

Tipton County

William A. Peeler

Trousdale County

Kenny Linville

Unicoi County

David R. Shults

Union County

Darryl W. Edmondson

Warren County

Larry G. Ross

Washington County *

John L. Kiener
Robert Lincoln
Sharon Green (Johnson City Juvenile Court)

Wayne County

James Yeiser Ross

Weakley County *

Thomas L. Moore, Jr.
James H. Bradberry (Juvenile Court)

White & Van Buren Counties

Sam Benningfield

Williamson County

Alfred L. Nations
Lonnie R. Hoover

Wilson County

Barry Tatum (Division 1)
Robert P. Hamilton (Division 2)

* ***Generally, general sessions judges exercise juvenile jurisdiction. However, in counties noted with an asterisk (*), a special juvenile court has been created by a private act of the legislature. General sessions courts do not exercise juvenile jurisdiction in these counties.***

Municipal Court Judges and Clerks By City

Adamsville

Bob G. Gray, Judge
Linda Walker, Clerk

Alamo

Robert G. McLean, Judge
Cindy Coneley, Clerk

Alcoa

H. Allen Bray, Judge
Melanie Water, Clerk

Alexandria

Brody N. Kane, Judge
Shelly Tatrow, Clerk

Ardmore

Joseph F. Fowlkes, Judge
Mary Prier, Clerk

Ashland City

James W. Stinnet, Jr., Judge
Anita Justice, Clerk

Athens

Donald B. Reid, Judge
Amy Arnwine, Clerk

Atoka

David L. Douglas, Judge
Shonda Burress, Clerk

Baileytown

Linda Thomas-Woolsey, Judge
Barbara Tilson, Clerk

Baneberry

Rebecca D. Slone, Judge
Patricia Lunsford, Clerk

Bartlett

Freeman C. Marr, Judge
George D. McCrary, Judge
Helen Moser, Clerk

Baxter

David Craig Bush, Judge
Stacey Austin, Clerk

Bean Station

Robert C. Edwards, Judge
Barbara S. Wolfe, Clerk

Belle Meade

Richard B. Hart, Judge
Diane Borum, Clerk

Bells

Harold C. Craig, Judge
Elizabeth Harber, Clerk

Benton

Frances Stephens, Judge
Jan Martin, Clerk

Berry Hill

Larry D. Cantrell, Judge
Cheri Thompson, Clerk

Bethel Springs

Ken Seaton, Judge
Denny Whitley, Clerk

Big Sandy

Ronald E. Darby, Judge
Debbie Wright, Clerk

Blaine

Robert C. Edwards, Judge

Bluff City

Michael E. Large, Judge
Judy A. Dulaney, Clerk

Bolivar

Catherine Hornsby, Judge
Paula Whilhite, Clerk

Bradford

Jimmy Merrell, Judge
Sherry Featherson, Clerk

Brentwood

Thomas W. Schlater, Judge
Carl Odom, Clerk

Brighton

Elizabeth B. Ziarko, Judge
Bonnie Barker, Clerk

Bristol

Shelton B. Hillman, Jr., Judge
April Strong, Clerk

Brownsville

J. Roland Reid, Judge
Jerry Taylor, Clerk

Bruceston

Dewayne D. Maddox, III, Judge
Holly Watts, Clerk

Bulls Gap

Lorraine Heck, Clerk

Burns

David B. Brogdon, Judge
Jaine Grove, Clerk

Calhoun

Robert Sherwood, Judge
Roxanna Carman, Clerk

Camden

Ronald E. Durby, Judge
Bobby Melton, Clerk

Carthage

Randell D. Wakefield, Judge
Richard M. Brooks, Judge
Faye Cosby, Clerk

Caryville

Jeffery L. Hall, Judge
Cheryl Ivey, Clerk

Celina

William Hershel Lacy, Judge
Donna Hamilton, Clerk

Centerville

Samuel H. Smith, Judge
Susan H. Griggs, Clerk

Chapel Hill

William "Bill" M. Haywood, Judge
Dawn Lovins, Clerk

Charleston

Robert B. Wilson, III, Judge
Janet Newport, Clerk

Chattanooga

Sherry Paty, Judge
Russell J. Bean, Judge
Edward Hammonds, Clerk

Church Hill

Allen J. Coup, Judge
Joyce Tunnell, Clerk

Clarksburg

Dewayne D. Maddox, III, Judge
Terry McCoy, Clerk

Clarksville

Charles W. Smith, Judge
Paulette Redmon, Clerk

Cleveland

Bill B. Moss, Judge
Kristi Powers, Clerk

Clifton

James Yeiser Ross, Judge
Miranda Burcham, Clerk

Clinton

Leslie Richard Hunt, Judge
Patricia Johnson, Clerk

Collegedale

Kevin B. Wilson, Judge
Robin Shannon, Clerk

Collierville

William Craig Hall, Judge
Rae Dowdy, Clerk

Collinwood

James Yeiser Ross, Judge
Sherry Gallien, Clerk

Columbia

Thomas DuBois, Jr., Judge
Molly Benderman, Clerk

Cookeville

David W. Ledbetter, Judge
Cheryl Chambers, Clerk

Coopertown

Earl J. Porter, Jr., Judge
Cacie Reynolds, Clerk

Cornersville

Ron Bailey, Judge
Jackie Boatright, Clerk

Covington

Elizabeth B. Ziarko, Judge
Renee Harper, Clerk

Cowan

Becky Sherman, Judge
Becky Sherman, Clerk

Cross Plains

Chip Hellman, Judge
Tammy Covington, Clerk

Crossville

Thomas L. Bean, Judge
Wendy Davis, Clerk

Crump

William Reynolds, Judge
Pamela Hardy, Clerk

Cumberland City

W. Sidney Vinson, III, Judge
Cheryl Milliken, Clerk

Cumberland Gap

David Ray, Judge
Linda Moyers, Clerk

Dandridge

Rebecca D. Slone, Judge
Jean Murray, Clerk

Dayton

William G. McPheeters, Judge
Vicki Massengill, Clerk

Decatur

William B. McKenzie, Judge
Carris Davis, Clerk

Decaturville

Ricky Woods, Judge
Tara Anglin, Clerk

Decherd

Raymond Ferguson, Judge
Raymond Ferguson, Clerk

Dickson

David Wolfe, Judge
JoAnn L. Brown, Clerk

Dover

Marlin L. Blane, Judge
Tammy Fielder, Clerk

Dresden

Thomas L. Moore, Jr., Judge
Jennifer McAlpin, Clerk

Dunlap

M. Keith Davis, Judge
Amy Layne, Clerk

Dyer

J. Mark Johnson, Judge
Kenneth W. McEwen, Clerk

Dyersburg

Lyman E. Ingram, Judge
Diane Williamson, Clerk

Eagleville

Andrew L. Messick, Judge
Michelle Bennett, Clerk

East Ridge

Arvin H. Reingold, Judge
Mary Lou Whaley, Clerk

Elizabethton

Lewis Merryman, Judge
Mary Anderson, Clerk

Elkton

M. Andrew Hoover, Judge
Laurel Newton, Clerk

Englewood

Donald B. Reid, Judge
Jamie Moses, Clerk

Erin

Roland Roby, Judge
Paula Horn, Clerk

Erwin

Randy Trivette, Judge
Randy Trivette, Clerk

Estill Springs

Trudy Edwards, Judge
Kay L. Young, Clerk

Ethridge

Christopher V. Sockwell, Judge
Julie Yokley, Clerk

Etowah

E. L. Parker, III, Judge
Jacky Cornell, Clerk

Fairview

Murray Thomas Taylor, Jr., Judge
Diane Trevett, Clerk

Farragut

Timothy A. Priest, Judge
Alexis J. Crawford, Clerk

Fayetteville

J. Rhea Thompson, Judge
Marilyn Henda, Clerk

Finger

Ann Baggett, Clerk

Franklin

Murray Thomas Taylor, Jr., Judge

Gadsden

Tommy A. Smith, Judge

Gainesboro

Lee G. Richardson, Judge
Karen Head, Clerk

Gallatin

Connie W. Kittrell, Judge
Conniw W. Kittrell, Clerk

Gallaway

R. Price Harris, Judge
M. Francis Cantrell, Clerk

Gates

D. Michael Dunavant, Judge
Shirley Dansby, Clerk

Gatlinburg

Jerry H. McCarter, Judge
Susan Brandenburg, Clerk

Germantown

Raymond S. Clift, Jr., Judge
Robert Mark Brannon, Jr., Judge
Janet Donnell, Clerk

Gibson

James Waddell, Judge
Sidney Hill, Clerk

Gleason

Susan B. Collins, Judge
Donna Crawford, Clerk

Goodlettsville

Robert G. Wheeler, Jr., Judge
Linda Jackson, Clerk

Gordonsville

Richard M. Brooks, Judge
Sandy Gibbs, Clerk

Grand Junction

Russell X. Thompson, Judge
Vera Downing, Clerk

Graysville

Darren Gibson, Judge
Karen Beene, Clerk

Greenbrier

William Robert Underhill, Judge
Lisa White, Clerk

Greeneville

Linda Thomas-Woolsey, Judge
Phyllis Smith, Clerk

Greenfield

Susan B. Collins, Judge
Tabi Essary, Clerk

Halls

Marianna Williams, Judge
Tammy Lewis, Clerk

Harriman

Charles J. Crass, Judge

Henderson

Charles E. Patterson, Judge
Jim Garland, Clerk

Hendersonville

Curtis M. Lincoln, Judge
Brenda Monroe-Linzy, Clerk

Henning

Herman Reviere, Judge
Carolyn Nichols, Clerk

Henry

Vicki H. Hoover, Judge
Michael L. Ainley, Judge
Cheri Townes, Clerk

Hickory Valley

Charles M. Cary, Judge
Rosemary Bishop, Clerk

Hohenwald

Billy W. Townsend, Judge
Joy Brown, Clerk

Hollow Rock

Laura A. Keeton, Judge
Pat Gallimore, Clerk

Hornbeak

H. Allen Nohsey, Judge
Betty M. Walley, Clerk

Hornsby

Harriet Sue Thompson, Judge
Helen Coffman, Clerk

Humboldt

Harold R. Gunn, Judge
Ella Abbott, Clerk

Huntingdon

Donald E. Parish, Judge
Lorine Dunn, Clerk

Huntland

Marie Stovall, Clerk

Jacksboro

Robert R. Asbury, Judge
Emma Caldwell, Clerk

Jackson

Blake J. Anderson, Judge
Darryl Hubbard, Clerk

Jamestown

Sarah Ann Threet, Judge
Sarah Ann Threet, Clerk

Jasper

J. Clifford Layne, Judge
Linda Bash, Clerk

Jefferson City

W. Keith Repass, Judge
Cindy Prater, Clerk

Jellico

Thomas E. Barclay, Judge
Jackie Ricardson, Clerk

Johnson City

William Mooney, Judge
James A. Nidiffer, Judge
Donna Little, Clerk

Jonesborough

John Rambo, Judge
Abbey Miller, Clerk

Kenton

Charles Crouson, Judge
Camilla Cunningham, Clerk

Kimball

William L. Gouger, Judge
Peggy Thomas, Clerk

Kingsport

J. Robert Boatright, Judge
Hope Lewis, Clerk

Kingston

Brenda Y. Hall, Judge
Brenda Tipton, Clerk

Kingston Springs

Phillp A. Maxey, Judge
Rita Cathey, Clerk

Knoxville

John R. Rosson, Jr., Judge
Phyllis Baker, Clerk

La Grange

Russell X. Thompson, Judge
Vera Downen, Clerk

Lafayette

James Chamberlain, Judge
Deneshia Hesson, Clerk

LaFollette

Wesley Lynn Hatmaker, Judge
Linda Miller, Clerk

Lake City

Leslie Richard Hunt, Judge
Vergie Sue Ealy, Clerk

Lakesite

Arnold A. Stolce, Jr., Judge
Roberta Thomas, Clerk

Lakewood

Dan R. Alexander, Judge
Jeanette Childers, Clerk

LaVergne

Guy Dotson, Jr., Judge
Donna Ruch, Clerk

Lawrenceburg

Ben Boston, Judge
Melanie Wisdom, Clerk

Lebanon

James H. Flood, Judge
Beth Hayward, Clerk

Lenoir City

Terry Vann, Judge
Debbie Cook, Clerk

Lewisburg

Roger E. Brandon, Judge
Kathy A. Ingram, Clerk

Lexington

Mary Jowers, Judge
Tobi Little, Clerk

Linden

Donald W. Schwendimann, Judge
Linda Jones, Clerk

Livingston

Kelly R. Williams, Judge
Melissa Barnes, Clerk

Lookout Mountain

W. B. "Brad" Weeks, Judge
Pat Lane Fricks, Clerk

Loretto

W. Charles Doerflinger, Judge
Kathy Wathers, Clerk

Loudon

Russell Johnson, Judge
Carol Hart, Clerk

Luttrell

Betty Satterfield, Clerk

Lynnville

Christopher Williams, Judge
Faye Wheeler, Clerk

Madisonville

Ted Cagle, Judge
Ashley Cook, Clerk

Manchester

Gerald L. Ewell, Jr., Judge
Edna Givens, Clerk

Martin

Langdon S. Unger, Jr., Judge
Cathy Lawrence, Clerk

Maryville

William D. Yarborough, Judge
Jennifer Cunningham, Clerk

Mason

David L. Douglas, Judge
Arnita Mitchell, Clerk

Maury City

Rayce Castello, Judge
Stacy Williams, Clerk

Maynardsville

William Bruce, Judge
Hazel Gillenwater, Clerk

McEwen

Dan R. Bradley, Judge
Vicky Moran, Clerk

McKenzie

Matthew M. Maddox, Judge
Charlie Beal, Clerk

McMinnville

Timothy L. Reed, Judge
Shirley Rackley, Clerk

Medina

Jerry Spore, Judge
Patsy Moore, Clerk

Memphis

Earnestine Hunt Dorse, Judge
Tarik B. Sugarmon, Judge
Jayne R. Chandler, Judge
Thomas Long, Clerk

Middleton

Charles M. Cary, Judge
Jerry Mills, Clerk

Milan

W. Collin Bonds, Judge
Patsy Bradley, Clerk

Millersville

John H. Lowe, Judge
Carolyn F. Dorris, Clerk

Millington

Vicki L. Green, Judge
Diane Landsee, Clerk

Minor Hill

Samuel B. Garner, Jr., Judge
Mabel Thornton, Clerk

Monteagle

Dorothy Buck, Judge
Wanda McDaniel, Clerk

Monterey

Henry Fincher, Judge
Pam Phillips, Clerk

Morrison

John D. Partin, Judge

Morristown

Janice H. Snider, Judge
Page Vaughn, Clerk

Moscow

Arthur Druien, Jr., Judge
Joel A. Pace, Judge
Tisa Tulgetske, Clerk

Mount Carmel

Terry Risner, Judge
Marian Sandidge, Clerk

Mount Juliet

John T. Gwin, Judge
Carrie Paris, Clerk

Mount Pleasant

Barton E. Kelley, Judge
Sue English, Clerk

Mountain City

Terry Reece, Judge
Terry Reece, Clerk

Munford

David L. Douglas, Judge
Marilyn Bond, Clerk

Murfreesboro

Ewing Sellers, Judge
Wanda Wrather, Clerk

Nashville

John P. Brown, Judge
Gloria A. Dumas, Judge
Daniel Eisenstein, Judge
Sue McKnight Evans, Judge
William Joseph Faimon, Judge
William Edward Higgins, Judge
John Aaron Holt, Judge
Michael F. Mondelli, Judge
Casey Moreland, Judge
Gale B. Robinson, Judge
Leon Ruben, Judge
Marilyn Swing, Clerk

New Johnsonville

Joseph Hornick, Judge
Emily Houston, Clerk

New Market

Max Stiner, Judge
Judy Rogers, Clerk

New Tazewell

James Hershel Beeler, Judge
Linda Stillson, Clerk

Newbern

Stephen D. Scofield, Judge
Steve Anderson, Clerk

Newport

J. William "Bill" Myers, Judge
Jack Shephard, Clerk

Niota

Donald B. Reid, Judge
Sandra Lowry, Clerk

Nolensville

James D. Petersen, Judge
Cathi Little, Clerk

Norris

Bradley H. Hodge, Judge
Darlene Buckner, Clerk

Oak Ridge

Robert A. McNees, Judge
Karen Hendrix, Clerk

Oakland

James P. Gallagher, Judge
Gail Reid, Clerk

Obion

Sam C. Nailling, Jr., Judge
Royce Aker, Clerk

Oliver Springs

Joseph H. Van Hook, Judge
Ramona Walker, Clerk

Oneida

Harold G. Jeffers, Judge
Melissa Bowling, Clerk

Paris

David F. Hessing, Judge
Carolyn Crouch, Clerk

Parkers Cross Roads

Jack C. Hinson, Judge

Parsons

J. Michael Ivey, Judge
Judy Daugherty, Clerk

Pegram

Gregory D. Smith, Judge

Petersburg

Quinn Brandon, Judge
Dawn Forlines, Clerk

Pigeon Forge

David W. Webb, Judge
Darlene Sipoas, Clerk

Pikeville

Edward L. Boring, Judge
Debra Barnett, Clerk

Piperton

James P. Gallagher, Judge
Elizabeth A. McCommon, Clerk

Pittman Center

A. Randolph Sykes, Judge
Jan Huskey, Clerk

Plainview

Byron Bryant, Judge

Pleasant View

Gregory D. Smith, Judge
Lisa Parker, Clerk

Portland

Steven F. Glaser, Judge
Sherri Cousin, Clerk

Pulaski

Roger N. Hays, Judge
Henry Vernon, Clerk

Puryear

Paul D. Hessian, Judge
Verla Smith, Clerk

Ramer

Brian Jackson, Judge
Matt Clifton, Clerk

Red Bank

Gary M. Disheroon, Judge
Donna Rogers, Clerk

Red Boiling Springs

Channie Newberry, Judge
Paulette Pippin, Clerk

Ridgely

Billy Gray, Judge
Jan Platt, Clerk

Ridgetop

G. Wayne Detring, Judge
Kelly Rider, Clerk

Ripley

Herman Reviere, Judge
Omega Woodard, Clerk

Rockford

Norman Newton, Judge
Terry Willett, Clerk

Rockwood

Greg Leffew, Judge
Susan Thomas, Clerk

Rogersville

William H. Lyons, Judge
Linda Wingar, Clerk

Rossville

William Craig Hall, Judge
Becky Feathers, Clerk

Rutherford

Pamela H. Flowers, Judge
Ann Tidwell, Clerk

Rutledge

Robert M. Burts, Judge
Lisa Loveday, Clerk

Saint Joseph

Paul Plant, Judge
Jean Hill, Clerk

Samburg

Sam C. Nailling, Jr., Judge
Carrie Hogg, Clerk

Savannah

Carma McGee, Judge
Dyna Franks, Clerk

Scotts Hill

Don Buckingham, Judge
Marilyn Kelly, Clerk

Selmer

Bill W. Webb, Judge
Lisa Blankenship, Clerk

Sevierville

Lanning P. Wynn, Judge
Kim Graves, Clerk

Sharon

Langdon S. Unger, Jr., Judge
Tabi Essary, Clerk

Shelbyville

John T. Bobo, Judge
Kim Nash, Clerk

Signal Mountain

Mark G. Rothberger, Judge
Roxie Thornton, Clerk

Smithville

J. Hilton Conger, Judge
Angela Banks, Clerk

Smyrna

Christopher D. Coats, Judge
Terry Davenport, Clerk

Sneedville

Patricia Johnson, Judge

Soddy-Daisy

David W. Norton, Judge
Sylvia Lovelady, Clerk

Somerville

William S. Rhea, Judge
Cheryl Mason, Clerk

South Carthage

Debra Willar, Clerk

South Fulton

Heard Critchlow, Judge
Debbie Beadles, Clerk

South Pittsburg

William L. Gouger, Judge
Leland Dodson, Clerk

Sparta

William D. Mitchell, Judge
Lori Spivey, Clerk

Spring City

Darren Gibson, Judge
Aaron Loden, Clerk

Spring Hill

Huntly Gordon, Judge
Melissa Beard, Clerk

Springfield

Charlotte Fleming, Judge
Martha Benton, Clerk

Surgoinsville

C. Christopher Raines, Jr., Judge
Sherry Minor, Clerk

Sweetwater

John W. Cleveland, Judge
Shannon Crossman, Clerk

Tazewell

Douglas Harbin, Judge
Judy Buchanan, Clerk

Tellico Plains

Clifford Wilson, Judge
Margaret Hunt, Clerk

Tennessee Ridge

Woodrow J. Adams, Judge
Nancy Cobb, Clerk

Tiptonville

Danny Cook, Judge
Fran Hearn, Clerk

Townsend

Christopher R. Ralls, Judge
Gwen Jordan, Clerk

Tracy City

Mark Raines, Jr., Judge
Helen Dykes, Clerk

Trenton

J. Mark Johnson, Judge
Sammy Dickey, Clerk

Trezevant

Matthew M. Maddox, Judge
Rhonda Cunningham, Clerk

Trimble

Mollie Williams, Judge
Jimmy Ring, Clerk

Troy

Sam C. Nailling, Jr., Judge
Cheryl Cranford, Clerk

Tullahoma

James Conley, Judge
Rosemary Jernigan, Clerk

Tusculum

Linda Thomas-Woolsey, Judge

Union City

H. Allen Nohsey, Judge
Mike George, Clerk

Vonore

Thomas B. Moser, Judge
Angela Shaffer, Clerk

Walden

Herbert Thornbury, Judge
Fern Lockhart, Clerk

Wartrace

Ginger Bobo Shofner, Judge
Lora Gentry, Clerk

Watauga

Richard Norris, Judge
Shirley Fair, Clerk

Watertown

Robert Evans Lee, Judge
Cody Jenkins, Clerk

Waverly

Dan R. Bradley, Judge
Debbie Warren, Clerk

Waynesboro

Robert C. Turman, Judge
Sherry Wilson, Clerk

Westmoreland

Jade Rogers Maberry, Judge
Judith J. McClure, Clerk

White Bluff

William R. Hamilton, Judge
Carol Harmon, Clerk

White House

Susan Kay Johnson, Judge
Sharon Jessee, Clerk

White Pine

Sandra K. Smith, Judge
Sandra Smith, Clerk

Whiteville

Charles M. Cary, Judge
Patricia Randolph, Clerk

Whitwell

Mark Raines, Jr., Judge
Bill Harris, Clerk

Winchester

Trudy Edwards, Judge
Beth Rhoton, Clerk

Winfield

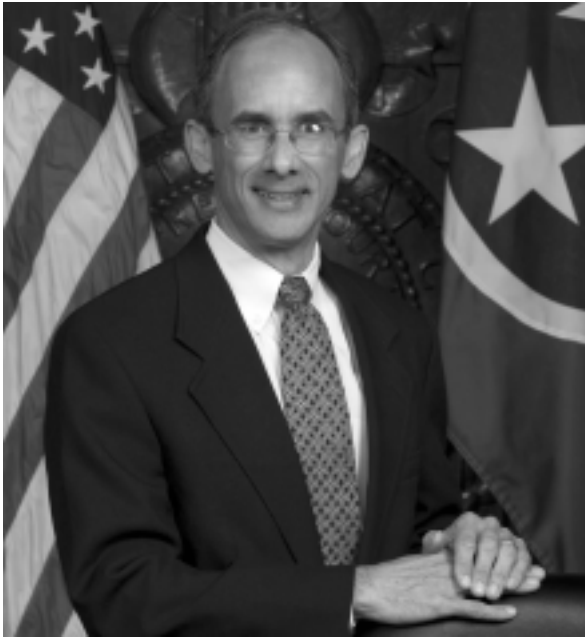
Leif E. Jeffers, Judge
Teresa Buttram, Clerk

Woodbury

Richard A. Northcutt, Judge
Ann Alsup, Clerk

Yorkville

Jonathan Murray, Judge
Glen Allmon, Clerk



Michael Catalano
Appellate Court Clerk

Tennessee's Appellate Court Clerk

Mike Catalano was appointed by the Supreme Court two years ago to serve as Tennessee's appellate court clerk. For more than two decades prior to his appointment, he had been with the Office of the Attorney General.

As clerk, he oversees offices and staffs in Nashville, Knoxville and Jackson where the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Court of Criminal Appeals hear cases. His offices handle dockets, appellate court filings and administrative matters.

Catalano graduated Summa Cum Laude from Memphis State University and earned his law degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law.

Appellate and Trial Court Clerks

Appellate and trial court clerks are responsible for maintaining dockets and records and handling administrative matters in their courts. The clerks also serve as judicial system goodwill ambassadors since they have day-to-day interaction with the public.

Circuit Court clerks, elected in each county for four-year terms, also serve as General Sessions Court clerks in counties without designated General Sessions Court clerks. Clerks also are elected in counties with Probate and Criminal Courts. Each Chancery Court is served by a clerk and master who is appointed by the Chancery Court judge for a six-year term.

The Office of the Appellate Court Clerk is responsible for filing appellate papers submitted by the parties with cases on appeal. The division where a case originates controls where the parties file their appeals. In capital cases in which all appeals have been exhausted and the execution date has been set, all papers submitted to the Supreme Court are filed in the Middle Division.

In addition to cases on appeal, the Middle Division is where all Rules of Court are filed, and

where matters before the Court of the Judiciary, Board of Law Examiners, Board of Professional Responsibility and certified questions of law from federal courts are heard. Also, any petition for public response altering or amending the rules is filed in the Middle Division.

The clerk of the appellate courts is appointed by the Supreme Court for a six-year term and is based in Nashville, the Middle Division.

Michael Catalano
Appellate Court Clerk

Janice Rawls
Chief Deputy Clerk
401 7th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407

Susan Turner
Chief Deputy Clerk
P.O. Box 909
Jackson, TN 38302-0909

Frankie Holt
Chief Deputy Clerk
P. O. Box 444
Knoxville, TN 37901-0444

Court Clerks by County

Anderson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Barry Pelizzari
Clerk and Master
Steve Queener

Bedford County
Circuit Court Clerk
Thomas A. Smith
Clerk and Master
Patricia Finney

Benton County
Circuit Court Clerk
Terry Hudson
Clerk and Master
Tim Burrus

Bledsoe County
Circuit Court Clerk
Jamey Roberson
Clerk and Master
Greg Forgey

Blount County
Circuit Court Clerk
Tom Hatcher
Clerk and Master
James A. Carroll

Bradley County
Circuit Court Clerk
Pam D. Mull
Clerk and Master
Carl Shrewsbury

Campbell County
Circuit Court Clerk
Bobby Vann
Clerk and Master
Bill Archer

Cannon County
Circuit Court Clerk
Robert Davenport
Clerk and Master
Harold Patrick

Carroll County
Circuit Court Clerk
Paul Newmon
Clerk and Master
Kenneth Todd

Carter County
Circuit Court Clerk
John Paul Mathis
Clerk and Master
Charlotte McKeehan

Cheatham County
Circuit Court Clerk
Julie Womack
Clerk and Master
Pamela Jenkins

Chester County
Circuit Court Clerk
Keith Frye
Clerk and Master
Cornelia Hall

Claiborne County
Circuit Court Clerk
Billy Ray Cheek
Clerk and Master
Frances Cardwell

Clay County
Circuit Court Clerk
Peggy Ballard
Clerk and Master
Corrinne McLerran

Cocke County
Circuit Court Clerk
Peggy Lane
Clerk and Master
Craig Wild
General Sessions Court Clerk
Frankie Cody

Coffee County
Circuit Court Clerk
Heather Duncan
Clerk and Master
Charlotte V. Broyles

Crockett County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kim Kail
Clerk and Master
Betty Johnson

Cumberland County
Circuit Court Clerk
Larry Sherrill
Clerk and Master
Sue Tollett

Davidson County
Circuit/Probate Court Clerk
Richard R. Rooker
Clerk and Master
Cristi Scott
Criminal Court Clerk
David Torrence
Juvenile Court Clerk
Vic Lineweaver

Decatur County
Circuit Court Clerk
Danny Tanner
Clerk and Master
Elizabeth J. Carpenter

DeKalb County
Circuit Court Clerk
Katherine Pack
Clerk and Master
Debra Malone

Dickson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Pam Myatt
Clerk and Master
Nancy Miller
General Sessions Court Clerk
Barbara Spann

Dyer County
Circuit Court Clerk
Tom T. J. Jones
Clerk and Master
John H. Hoff

Fayette County
Circuit Court Clerk
Jimmie German
Clerk and Master
Barbara Walls

Fentress County
Circuit Court Clerk
W. Frank Smith
Clerk and Master
Kathryn T. Robbins

Franklin County
Circuit Court Clerk
Nancy Silvertooth
Clerk and Master
Brenda Clark

Gibson County
Clerk and Master
Amanda Brown
Circuit Court Clerk
Janice Jones
Clerk and Master
Lois Lockhart
Juvenile Court Clerk
Lee Hayes

Giles County
Circuit Court Clerk
Crystal Greene
Clerk and Master
Merry B. Sigmon

Grainger County
Circuit Court Clerk
Rhonda Reagan
Clerk and Master
Vickie B. Greenlee

Greene County
Circuit Court Clerk
Gail Jeffers
Clerk and Master
Kay Armstrong

Grundy County
Circuit Court Clerk
Marcia Bess
Clerk and Master
Phyllis Dent

Hamblen County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kathy Mullins
Clerk and Master
Kathy Jones-Terry

Hamilton County
Circuit Court Clerk
Paula Thompson
Clerk and Master
S. Lee Akers
Criminal Court Clerk
Gwen Tidwell
Juvenile Court Clerk
Ron Swaford

Hancock County
Circuit Court Clerk
Bill McMurray
Clerk and Master
Scott Collins

Hardeman County
Circuit Court Clerk
Linda K. Fulghum
Clerk and Master
Janice Bodiford

Hardin County
Circuit Court Clerk
Diane B. Polk
Clerk and Master
Martha Smith

Hawkins County
Circuit Court Clerk
Holly H. Jaynes
Clerk and Master
Shirley Graham

Haywood County
Circuit Court Clerk
Joe Moore
Clerk and Master
Judy Hardister

Henderson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kenny Cavness
Clerk and Master
Leigh Milam

Henry County
Circuit Court Clerk
Rondall Myers
Clerk and Master
Mary Burns

Hickman County
Circuit Court Clerk
Dana Nicholson
Clerk and Master
Sue Smith

Houston County
Circuit Court Clerk
Cora Sue McMillan
Clerk and Master
Patsy Brooks

Humphreys County
Circuit Court Clerk
Elaine Choate
Clerk and Master
Mike Bullion

Jackson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Aaron P. Thomas
Clerk and Master
Garry W. Jones

Jefferson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kathy Bunch Carpenter
Clerk and Master
Nancy C. Humbard

Johnson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Carolyn Wilson Hawkins
Clerk and Master
Linda Morefield

Knox County
Circuit Court Clerk
Catherine F. Quist
Clerk and Master
Howard G. Hogan
Criminal Court Clerk
Martha Phillips

Lake County
Circuit Court Clerk
Debbie Beasley
Clerk and Master
Nanette Cook

Lauderdale County
Circuit Court Clerk
Richard Jennings
Clerk and Master
Sandra Burnham

Lawrence County
Circuit Court Clerk
Leon Clanton
Clerk and Master
Kristi Gang

Lewis County
Circuit Court Clerk
Donna Couch
Clerk and Master
Janet Williams

Lincoln County
Circuit Court Clerk
Gail Corder
Clerk and Master
Rebecca N. Bartlett

Loudon County
Circuit Court Clerk
Lisa Niles
Clerk and Master
Fred Chaney

Macon County
Circuit Court Clerk
Jennifer Hudson
Clerk and Master
Gwen Linville

Madison County
Circuit Court Clerk
Judy Barnhill
Clerk and Master
Pam Carter
Juvenile Court Clerk
Lacy Bond

Marion County
Circuit Court Clerk
Evelyn Griffith
Clerk and Master
Levoy Gudger

Marshall County
Circuit Court Clerk
Elinor Foster
Clerk and Master
Tommy Higdon

Maury County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kathy Kelley
Clerk and Master
Cheryl Church

McMinn County
Circuit Court Clerk
Norma Corn White
Clerk and Master
Patty Gaines

McNairy County
Circuit Court Clerk
Ronnie Brooks
Clerk and Master
Fairy R. Hunter

Meigs County
Circuit Court Clerk
Debbie Smith
Clerk and Master
Jim Mercer

Monroe County
Circuit Court Clerk
Martha Cook
Clerk and Master
Robert J. Pennington

Montgomery County
Circuit Court Clerk
Cheryl J. Castle
Clerk and Master
Ted Crozier, Jr.

Moore County
Circuit Court Clerk
Trixie Harrison
Clerk and Master
Tammy Roberts

Morgan County
Circuit Court Clerk
Rachel Smith
Clerk and Master
Angela Anderson

Obion County
Circuit Court Clerk
Harry Johnson
Clerk and Master
Paula Rice

Overton County
Circuit Court Clerk
Johnny Brown
Clerk and Master
Dorothy Stanton

Perry County
Circuit Court Clerk
Robert O'Guin
Clerk and Master
Joyce Marshall

Pickett County
Circuit Court Clerk
Larry Brown
Clerk and Master
Sue Whited

Polk County
Circuit Court Clerk
Connie H. Clark
Clerk and Master
Kim Ingram

Putnam County
Circuit Court Clerk
Marcia Borys
Clerk and Master
Linda F. Reeder

Rhea County
Circuit Court Clerk
Regina Metts
Clerk and Master
John Fine

Roane County
Circuit Court Clerk
Angela Randolph
Clerk and Master
Shannon Conley

Robertson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Lisa Cavander
Clerk and Master
Kenneth Hudgens

Rutherford County
Circuit Court Clerk
Eloise Gaither
Clerk and Master
John A. W. Bratcher

Scott County
Circuit Court Clerk
Verda "Buddy" Cope
Clerk and Master
Jane A. Lloyd

Sequatchie County
Circuit Court Clerk
Karen Milsaps
Clerk and Master
Thomas Goins

Sevier County
Circuit Court Clerk
Janette Ballard
Clerk and Master
Carolyn McMahan
General Sessions Clerk
Connie Holt

Shelby County
Circuit Court Clerk
Jimmy Moore
Clerk and Master
Kenny W. Armstrong
Criminal Court Clerk
William R. Key
General Sessions Court Clerk
Chris Turner
Probate Court Clerk
Chris Thomas
Juvenile Court Clerk
Steve Stamson

Smith County
Circuit Court Clerk
Myra Hardcastle
Clerk and Master
Dianna Dillehay

Stewart County
Circuit Court Clerk
Barbara Wallace
Clerk and Master
Jane Link

Sullivan County
Circuit Court Clerk
Raymond Winters
Clerk and Master
Sara Housewright

Sumner County
Circuit Court Clerk
Mahailiah Hughes
Clerk and Master
Brenda Page

Tipton County
Circuit Court Clerk
Mike Forbess
Clerk and Master
Judy Billings

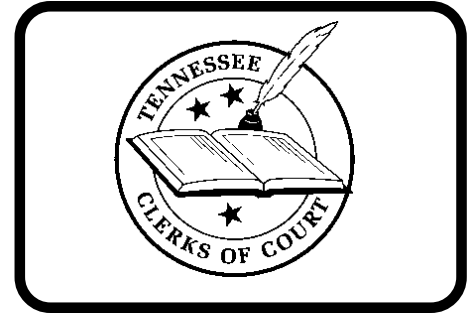
Trousdale County
Circuit Court Clerk
Kim Taylor
Clerk and Master
Shelly Jones

Unicoi County
Circuit Court Clerk
Christy Howard
Clerk and Master
Teresa W. Simerly

Union County
Circuit Court Clerk
Barbara Williams
Clerk and Master
Doris Seymour

Van Buren County
Circuit Court Clerk
Teresa Simmons-DeLong
Clerk and Master
Tina Shockley

Warren County
Circuit Court Clerk
Bernie Morris
Clerk and Master
Richard McGregor



Washington County
Circuit Court Clerk
Karen Guinn
Clerk and Master
Brenda Sneyd

Wayne County
Circuit Court Clerk
Billy G. Crews
Clerk and Master
Carolyn Mathis

Weakley County
Circuit Court Clerk
Pam Belew
Clerk and Master
Patricia Taylor

White County
Circuit Court Clerk
Henry E. Foster
Clerk and Master
Linda McCoy

Williamson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Debbie McMillan Barrett
Clerk and Master
Elaine Beeler
Juvenile Court Clerk
Brenda Hyden

Wilson County
Circuit Court Clerk
Linda Neal
Clerk and Master
Barbara Webb

Board of Professional Responsibility
1101 Kermit Drive, Suite 730
Nashville, TN 37217
615-361-7500
www.tbpr.org.

The Board of Professional Responsibility investigates complaints against attorneys and disciplines those who violate professional rules. The program also publishes ethics opinions, operates an ethics hotline, conducts seminars and oversees an attorney trust fund program.

In fiscal year 2004-2005, there were 982 complaints filed, an increase of 6 percent. The board has received 35,625 complaints during the past 29 years resulting in 155 disbarments, 381 suspensions, 436 public censures and 2,695 private reprimands or admonitions.

The Consumer Assistance Program addressed 4,820 concerns during the fiscal year. Informal mediation for concerns not rising to the level of serious ethical violations occurred in 3,285 instances.

Tennessee attorneys have contributed \$26.4 million in annual court assessments to finance the board's programs, with no contributions from other sources.

Tennessee Court of the Judiciary
731-264-5671

The 16-member Court of the Judiciary investigates complaints of judicial misconduct against Tennessee judges and disciplines those who are found in violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct. In FY 2004-2005, the court received 345 complaints. All complaints are reviewed and, when appropriate, prosecuted by the court's disciplinary counsel.

**Commission on Continuing Legal Education
& Specialization**
221 Fourth Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219
615-741-3096
www.cletn.org

The commission evaluates CLE courses nationwide and records attendance at approved courses for more than 15,000 Tennessee attorneys. The commission also makes sure all Tennessee

attorneys either meet requirements of 12 hours of general and three hours of ethics/professionalism CLE each year or are eligible for exemption. The commission oversees certification of attorneys as specialists in 11 areas of the law.

**Tennessee Lawyers' Fund for Client
Protection**
615-741-3097

TLFCP manages a fund of more than \$1 million from which it reimburses clients whose attorneys have misappropriated funds. The fund is administered by the same staff as the Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization.

Tennessee Board of Law Examiners
706 Church Street, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37243-0740
615-741-3234

www.tennessee.gov/lawexaminers

The Board of Law Examiners governs the examination and admission of attorneys applying to practice law in Tennessee. The board, with a staff of three, admits qualified attorneys previously licensed in other jurisdictions and administers the two-day bar examination in February and July to law school graduates. During fiscal year 2004-2005, 875 law school graduates took the exam and 75.4 percent passed.

Tennessee Lawyers' Assistance Program
200 Fourth Ave. North, Suite 810
1-877-424-8527
email: tnlap@aol.com
www.tlap.org

Tennessee Lawyers' Assistance Program (TLAP) is a free confidential assistance program, providing consultation, referral, intervention, peer support and advocacy for lawyers, judges, bar applicants and law students with physical, mental and emotional health issues. The program provides assistance for issues such as substance abuse, dependency, stress, anxiety, professional burnout, family problems, depression, gambling or other compulsive disorders, old age/senility and physical handicaps. Since it was created by the Tennessee Supreme Court in 1999, TLAP has received more than 1,322 inquiries and referrals.

