



2022

COUNTY COURTHOUSE SECURITY REPORT

Per statute, this survey must be completed each year. Completion of this survey will require input from multiple people, including court clerks, court officers, and judges.

COURTHOUSE(S) AND COURTROOMS

1. How many courthouses are in your county, including criminal justice centers with courtrooms?	3
a. If there is more than one courthouse, please explain what types of court are held in which locations (where is circuit court, chancery court, general sessions, and juvenile court held?) The downtown courthouse holds (2) Circuit Civil Courts, (1) Chancery Court, (1) General Sessions Civil Court. The Juvenile Center holds (1) Juvenile Court, and sometimes holds an additional juvenile court upstairs at the same time. The Justice Center Complex holds (1) Circuit Criminal Court, and (1) General Sessions Criminal Court.	
2. Number of courtrooms used only for state Circuit Court, state Criminal Court, Chancery Court, or Probate Court. (3) courtrooms used for state courts	3
3. Number of courtrooms used only for General Sessions Court and/or Juvenile Court.	2
4. Number of courtrooms used for both state court and county courts.	0
5. Number of courtrooms in your county that are no longer used for official state or county proceedings (ex. Ceremonial or historical courtrooms that are no longer in use for official proceedings).	1
6. Total number of courtrooms in your county. Do NOT include ceremonial courtrooms no longer in use for official proceedings. <i>Please note the total number of courtrooms in your county is used to evaluate whether your county meets the minimum security standards.</i>	7



SILENT BENCH PANIC BUTTONS (MCSS #1)

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	7
2. Number of court clerk public transaction counter areas in all of your courthouses. Please include public transaction counters for Circuit, Criminal, Chancery, General Sessions and/or Juvenile Court clerks.	7
a. Number of court clerk public transaction counters equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	7

BULLET-PROOF BENCHES/WORK AREAS (MCSS # 2)

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a bullet-proof bench.	7
2. Number of courtrooms with bullet-proof court clerk work area.	7

COURT OFFICERS (MCSS #3 and #4)

1. Is an armed, uniformed guard in each courtroom during court?	Yes
a. If no, is a court officer available in the courthouse?	N/A
2. Does your county have dedicated court officers or does it utilize on-duty law enforcement when there are court proceedings? (Dedicated, mix, on-duty)	Yes, dedicated full-time court officers
3. Do court proceedings impact your county’s ability to respond to emergencies in other areas of your county?	No
4. Did your court officers attend court security training in 2022?	Yes
a. If no, how often do court officers in your county attend training?	N/A
5. Have the judicial staff and courthouse personnel from your county attended a court security briefing in 2022?	Yes

HAND-HELD DETECTORS/MAGNETOMETERS (MCSS # 5)

1. Total number of hand-held detectors in your county courthouse(s).	11
2. Total number of stand-alone magnetometers in each county courthouse.	3
3. Does your county have sufficient security staff to operate magnetometers during regular business hours? We also have x-ray machines at each location.	Yes



SIGNAGE (MCSS # 6)

1. Does each of the court buildings in your county have signage posted at each court access entrance stating that persons are subject to search by security personnel, that prohibited items are subject to seizure and forfeiture, and include a listing of the prohibited items?	Yes
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HAND-HELD INSPECTION MIRRORS (MCSS # 7)

1. Do you have at least one hand-held inspection security mirror per county courthouse?	Yes
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COURT SECURITY COMMITTEE

1. Does your county have a court security committee?	Yes
a. If yes, did the committee meet this year to review security issues and make recommendations?	Yes

VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT & CONFERENCING

1. Does your county utilize video arraignment and conferencing?	Yes
a. If yes, how many courtrooms have video arraignment and conferencing capabilities?	2
b. What type of video arraignment system do you utilize (i.e. BIS, Zoom)?	BIS Digital & Zoom
c. Can your county consistently connect with TDOC facilities for virtual proceedings?	Yes
d. If you cannot consistently connect with TDOC facilities, would doing so decrease the amount of inmate transfers to your county?	Yes
2. Does your county utilize video conferencing for hearings, conferences, and other types of judicial proceedings (not just criminal court)?	Yes
a. If yes, how many courtrooms have the capability to hold video conference proceedings?	5
b. What type of video conferencing systems do you utilize?	BIS Digital & Zoom



c. Does your county need additional or upgraded video conferencing capabilities for judicial proceedings?	Yes

Please list any security measures that you have taken to improve your facilities and/or to protect personnel between **December 1, 2021 and November 30, 2022.**

During the December 1, 2021 and November 30, 2022 term the following improvements were made to assist, protect, or improve the security of judicial personnel. The digital video recorders were replaced and updated to more advanced technology. The court security computers were replaced with the latest technology. We are now hosting the basic court security school and we have opened the training up to other sheriff's agencies that may need this training.

Please describe any recent court security incidents in your county or unique court security issues facing your county.

On March 24 two of our court security personnel were involved in an incident in General Sessions court where a handcuffed and leg shackled inmate being moved from the court holding cell to the courtroom attacked one of the officers and attempted to remove the officer's service weapon from its holster. The officer's good weapon retention technique, security holster, and the response of the second officer prevented what could have been a very tragic incident. The incident was captured on security video. The inmate was later convicted in criminal court and was sentenced to 6 years in the TDOC for the attack.

Please explain if and how security staffing issues have impacted court security in your county.

We need to increase the staffing numbers of our court security team. The level of hostile behavior in our culture has spilled over into our courtrooms. It would be very helpful if the AOC could assist with staffing grants for additional court security personnel.

What are your highest priority needs related to improving court security in your county?

Increasing the number of court security personnel.
The Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy **MUST** return to offering the basic court security training course that is required that they stopped offering during COVID.



2022
COUNTY COURTROOM SECURITY REPORT

Please include the name of the PERSON preparing this report, the COUNTY that you represent, and your full contact information.

This report was prepared by: Captain Bill Dyer

Date: 12/12/2022

County: Bradley County TN

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**Please return this form by email, fax, or mail
no later than **January 6, 2023** to:**

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