



# 2022

## COUNTY COURTROOM 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 <b>courthouses</b> are in your county, including criminal justice centers with courtrooms?	1
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?)	
2. Number of <b>courtrooms</b> used only for state Circuit Court, state Criminal Court, Chancery Court, or Probate Court.	0
3. Number of courtrooms used only for General Sessions Court and/or Juvenile Court.	0
4. Number of courtrooms used for both state court and county courts.	2
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).	0
6. <b>Total number of courtrooms in your county.</b> 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>	2



**SILENT BENCH PANIC BUTTONS (MCSS #1)**

1. Number of courtrooms equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	2
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.	2
a. Number of court clerk public transaction counters equipped with a silent bench panic button connected to law enforcement.	2

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

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

**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?	
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)	We have one certified court officer. If we need more an on duty officer will come in.
3. Do court proceedings impact your county's ability to respond to emergencies in other areas of your county?	yes
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?	
5. Have the judicial staff and courthouse personnel from your county attended a court security briefing in 2022?	no

**HAND-HELD DETECTORS/MAGNETOMETERS (MCSS # 5)**

1. Total number of hand-held detectors in your county courthouse(s).	4
2. Total number of stand-alone magnetometers in each county courthouse.	1
3. Does your county have sufficient security staff to operate magnetometers during regular business hours?	no



**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?	no

**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)?	323 Link Signal Wire
c. Can your county consistently connect with TDOC facilities for virtual proceedings?	we would have to set up a link for us to
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?	2
b. What type of video conferencing systems do you utilize?	323 link signal wire
c. Does your county need additional or upgraded video conferencing capabilities for judicial proceedings?	no



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.**

We secured the access to the basement. You have to enter a code to gain access the basement from the elevator. And you also have to have a key to enter the basement from the stairway.

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

We have people entering the courthouse that become upset for whatever reason. When that happens our only resource is to push our panic button or call 911. We need security at the doors entering the courthouse. We have no security when court is not in session. When court is in session it is on the 2nd floor. When people are leaving court a problem may arise from a court case when they pass on the 1st floor. Our security is in the courtroom up stairs. Our biggest need in my option is for the courthouse to have security when the courthouse is open. Not just a court officer.

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

It has been brought to the county commission several times about the need for security in the courthouse. It always comes back to like of money.

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

Funding to post security at the entrance entering the courthouse.



**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: Darrell Davis  
Date: December 12, 2022  
Please print title: Circuit Court Clerk  
County: Meigs  
Telephone Number: 423-334-5821  
Email Address: darrell.davis@tncourts.gov

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

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