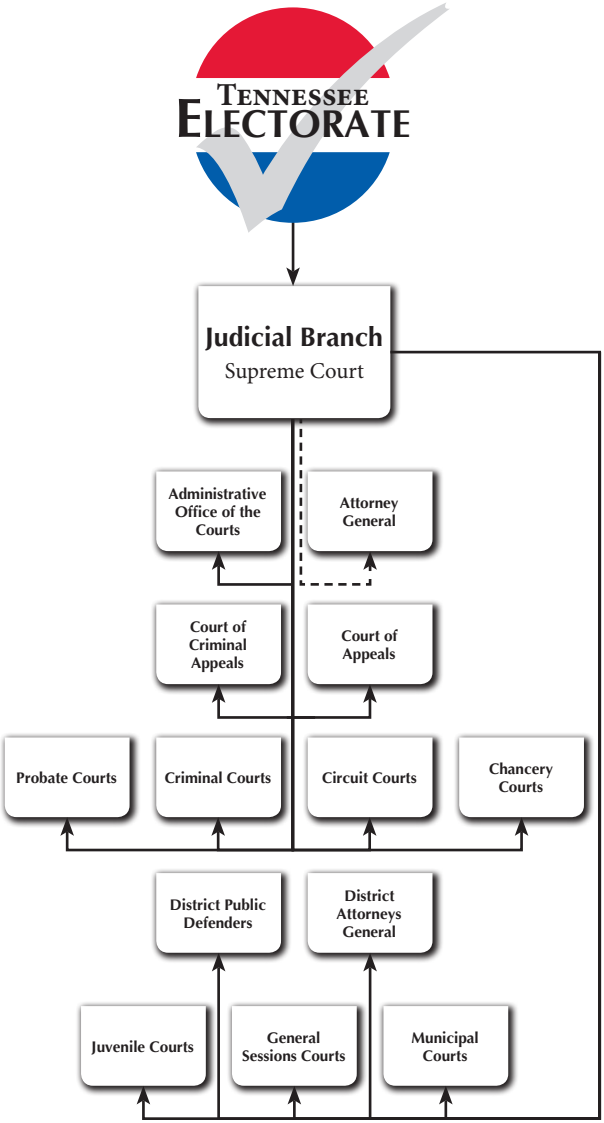
Section III

Judicial Branch


Tennessee
Electorate
Judicial Branch
Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts
Attorney General
Court of Criminal Appeals
Court of Appeals
Probate Courts
Criminal Courts
Circuit Courts
Chancery Courts
District Public Defenders
District Attorneys General
Juvenile Courts
General Sessions Courts
Municipal Courts

Introduction

The judicial branch, one of the three basic divisions of state government, serves as a check on the powers of both the legislative and executive branches. With the power of judicial review, the courts may rule on the constitutionality of legislation passed by the General Assembly and consider the legality of administrative policies and regulations.

Tennessee's judicial system is derived from the state Constitution: "The judicial power of this state shall be vested in one Supreme Court and in such Circuit, Chancery, and other Inferior Courts as the Legislature shall from time to time, ordain and establish;..." (Article VI, Section 1, Constitution of the State of Tennessee).

Although not a part of the court system, the offices of the attorney general, district attorneys general, and district public defenders are associated with the judicial branch of state government. The attorney general represents the interests of the state in litigation. The district attorneys serve as prosecuting counsel in criminal cases. Public defenders and court-appointed private attorneys represent indigent defendants.

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the state. The five justices are nominated by the Judicial Nominating Commission, appointed by the Governor, and retained by a "retain" or "replace" vote for eight-year terms. The majority of this court's workload consists of cases appealed from lower state courts.

The Intermediate Appellate Courts – the Court of Appeals and Court of Criminal Appeals – hear civil and criminal cases appealed from the trial courts.

The state's trial courts include Chancery, Criminal, Circuit, and Probate Courts. Judges in these courts are chosen by popular election within their judicial districts.

The fourth level of courts in Tennessee is composed of the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction – General Sessions, Juvenile, and Municipal Courts. These courts are funded by their respective counties.

Tennessee Courts

Supreme Court

401 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219-1407
(615) 741-2681
TNcourts.gov

The Tennessee Supreme Court is the state's highest court and the court of last resort. The court normally meets in Jackson, Knoxville, and Nashville, as required by the state constitution.

The five justices may accept appeals of civil and criminal cases from lower state courts. They 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.

Supreme Court Justices
Pictured in the courtroom at the Supreme Court Building in Nashville are (seated) Chief Justice Gary R. Wade and (standing left to right) Justice Janice M. Holder, Justice Sharon G. Lee, Justice William C. Koch, Jr., and Justice Cornelia A. Clark.

Attorneys may present oral arguments before the Supreme Court. Unlike trials in lower courts, there are no witnesses, juries, or testimony in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, or Court of Criminal Appeals. After the Supreme Court justices have heard oral arguments and reviewed the attorneys' written materials or briefs, they issue written decisions called opinions. Tennessee Supreme Court opinions on federal constitutional issues can be appealed only to the U.S. Supreme Court, which may or may not agree to consider the appeals.

Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Court of Criminal Appeals are elected on a "retain-replace" ballot every eight years. By state law, judges on the three courts must be evaluated every eight years. Results of the evaluations are published in newspapers across the state to help voters decide whether the judges should be retained.

Chief Justice Gary R. Wade

505 Main Street, Suite 200, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born May 31, 1948, Knox County, Tenn.; married; three children; four grandchildren; Methodist; B.S., University of Tennessee, 1970; J. D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1973; private practice of law, 1973-1987; member, University of Tennessee Chancellor's Associates, 1988-1991; University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences Board of Visitors; University of Tennessee College of Law Dean's Circle; University of Tennessee Development Council; Tennessee Bar Association, past member, House of Delegates and Board of Governors; American Bar Association, convention delegate; Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association; Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; American Inns of Court; fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation; Tennessee Sentencing Commission, 1990-1994; Tennessee Judicial Conference, executive committee, 1990-1997; president, Tennessee Judicial Conference, 1995-1996; president, Eta South Province, Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, 1990-1997; past president, Sevierville Lions Club; chairman, Sevier County Heart Association, 1984-1986; recipient, 1987 American Heart Association Presidential Award; 1987 Key to the City of Sevierville; 1987 Sevierville Chamber of Commerce Award; Mountain Press Mover and Shaker of the Year, 1983-1985 and 1997; Gary R. Wade Boulevard, 1987; mayor, city of Sevierville, 1977-1987; honorary chairman, Boys & Girls Club of the Smoky Mountains 1996 Financial Campaign; board of directors, United Way of Greater Knoxville Campaign Cabinet, 1997; board of directors, Tennessee's Resource Valley; Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, chairman emeritus (president, 1993-2005; board chairman, 2005-2006); Leadership Knoxville Class of 1995-1996; Leadership Sevier Class of 1997; Leadership Sevier Board of Directors, president, 2001; Knoxville Zoological Gardens Board of Directors, 2000-2006 (vice chairman, 2002-2004; chairman, 2005-2006); Citizen of the Year, Sevierville Chamber of Commerce, 2004; Appellate Judge of the Year, American Board of Trial Advocates, 2004; Knoxville Bar Association Judicial Excellence Award, 2004; East Tennessee Regional Leadership Award, 2006; Walters State Community College Foundation Board of Trustees, president, 2005-2006; Pellissippi State Technical Community College President's Associates; board of directors, East Tennessee Historical Society; United States Department of Interior Citizens Award for Exceptional Service, 2007; appointed to Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, 1987; elected 1988; re-elected 1990 and 1998; Presiding Judge, 1998-2006. Appointed to the Tennessee Supreme Court, May 30, 2006; elected 2008. Elected Chief Justice, September 2012.

Justice Cornelia A. Clark

318 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born September 15, 1950, Franklin, Tenn.; United Methodist; B.A., Vanderbilt University, 1971; M.A.T., Harvard University, 1972; J.D., Vanderbilt School of Law, 1979; articles editor and editorial board member, *Vanderbilt Law Review*; graduate, National Judicial College and New York University Appellate Judges Program; private practice, Farris, Warfield & Kanaday, 1979-1989; board member, United Methodist Publishing House, 2008-2020 (vice chairman, 2012-2016); Brentwood Academy Advisory Board; past board member, Lawyers Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter; Nashville Bar Association (second vice president); Williamson County Bar Association; Tennessee Bar Association; American Bar Association; Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women (founding member); National Association of Women Judges; American Judicature Society; member of Nashville, Tennessee, and American Bar Foundations (past chairman, Tennessee Bar Foundation); YWCA of Nashville and Middle Tennessee (past president); Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee, Inc.; American Bar Association Commission on the American Jury, 2004; past faculty member, American Academy of Judicial Education; National Judicial College; former adjunct professor, Vanderbilt University School of Law; chairman, Tennessee Judicial Council, 2006-2010; Harry Phillips American Inn of Court; Tennessee John Marshall American Inn of Court; dean, Tennessee Judicial Academy, 1997-1998; board of directors, Conference of State Court Administrators, 2004-2005; vice president, Tennessee Judicial Conference, 1997-1998; Franklin Tomorrow, Inc. (co-chairman, inaugural steering committee); 2004 City of Franklin Charter Revision Committee (chairman); 2002-2003 City of Franklin Land Use Plan Steering Committee (chairman); previous member, Supreme Court Commissions on the Rules of Civil Procedure and Technology; 2010 inductee, Nashville YWCA Academy for Women of Achievement; 2009 SEABOTA Appellate Judge of the Year; 2006 Patrons Award, Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County; 2005 Liberty Bell Award, Williamson County Bar Association; appointed Circuit Judge 21st Judicial District, October 1989; elected August 1990, re-elected August 1998; appointed administrative director of the Tennessee Courts, May 1999; appointed to Tennessee Supreme Court, September 2005; elected August 2006; elected Chief Justice, September 2010 – September 2012.

Justice Janice M. Holder

50 Peabody Place, Suite 209, Memphis, TN 38103

Born August 29, 1949, Canonsburg, Pa.; Allegheny College, 1967-1968; B.S., Summa Cum Laude, University of Pittsburgh, 1971; J.D., Duquesne University School of Law, 1975; Recent Decisions editor, *Duquesne Law Review,* 1974-1975; senior law clerk to Herbert P. Sorg, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, 1975-1977; Memphis Bar Association (secretary, 1993; treasurer, 1994; board of directors, 1986-1987, 1993-1994); editor, *Memphis Bar Forum,* 1987-1991; chairman, Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee, 1987-1991; American Bar Association (Lawyer Impairment Project, vice chairman, 1987; Judicial Administration Division, 1994-present); Tennessee Bar Association (Tennessee Lawyers Concerned For Lawyers, executive committee, 1989-1998; House of Delegates, 1989-1991; Commission on Women and Minorities, 1992-1996; commission chairman, 1994-1996); Association for Women Attorneys (treasurer, 1989; vice president, 1991); Tennessee Judicial Conference (vice chairman, Pattern Jury Instructions Civil Committee, 1991-1997; treasurer, 1993-1994; executive committee, 1993-1996); Tennessee Task Force Against Domestic Violence (State Coordinating Council, 1994-1996); American Inns of

Court, Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inn of Court (Master of the Bench, 1995-1997; national member, 1998-2000; emeritus, 2001-present); National Association of Women Judges, 1995-present; Conference of Chief Justices, 2008-2011 (second vice president, 2010-2011); iCivics, 2010-present (state chairman for Tennessee, 2011-present); Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women, founding member; Alliance for the Blind and Visually Impaired, board of directors, 1985-1994; Leadership Memphis, Class of 1993 (co-chairman, Crime and Criminal Justice Day, 1995 and 1996); Midtown Mental Health Center, board of directors, Crisis Stabilization Unit, 1995-1997; Memphis Botanic Garden Foundation, board of trustees, 1995-2002; International Women's Forum, 1998-present; Kiwanis Club of Memphis, 2002-present; Memphis Council for International Visitors (board of directors, 2002-2009; secretary, 2003-2005); Memphis Literacy Council, volunteer tutor, 2002-2005; member of the National Conference of Chief Justices Mass Tort Litigation Committee, 1992-1996; Silicone Gel Breast Implant Subcommittee, 1992-1996, (chairman, 1996); member, Tennessee Judicial Council, 1992-1996; appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court as the West Tennessee Coordinating Judge of the Silicone Gel Breast Implant Cases, 1993; recipient, Memphis Bar Association Sam A. Myar Award for Outstanding Service to the Legal Profession and to the Community, 1990; Divorce and Family Law Section of the Memphis Bar Association Judge of the Year, 1992; Memphis Bar Association's Chancellor Charles A. Rond Outstanding Jurist Award, 1992; honorary fellow, Tennessee Bar Association Young Lawyer Division, 1997; fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation, 1991 (trustee, 1995-1999; secretary, 1997-1999); American Bar Foundation, 1997; Memphis and Shelby County Bar Foundation, 2004; Association for Women Attorneys, Marion Griffin-Frances Loring Award, 1999; honored for exceptional support of the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program by the American Bar Association Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs, 1999; honoree, Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women, 2006; honoree, National Association of Women Judges, Southern Regional Conference honoring women leaders of state courts, 2007; St. Mark Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., Community Service Award, 2008; Coalition for Mediation Awareness in Tennessee, Grayfred Gray Public Service Mediation Award, 2008; State of Tennessee House of Representatives, House Joint Resolution No. 1401, 2008; Jurist of the Year Award, Southeastern Region of the American Board of Trial Advocates, 2009; the W.J. Michael Cody Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award, Memphis Area Legal Services, 2009; honored in Shelby County, Tenn., at the "19th turns 90" Celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 2010; Legacy Laureate, University of Pittsburgh, 2010; elected Circuit Court Judge, 30th Judicial District at Memphis, Division II, 1990; appointed, Supreme Court of Tennessee, December 1996, elected August 1998, re-elected 2006; elected Chief Justice, September 2008-August 2010.

Justice William C. Koch, Jr.

321 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born September 12, 1947, Honolulu, Hawaii; married; Episcopalian; B.A., Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., 1969; J.D., Vanderbilt University, 1972; LL.M., University of Virginia, 1996; American, Tennessee, and Nashville Bar Associations; American Inns of Court Foundation, Board of Trustees, 2000-2008, 2012-present (secretary, 2004-2008; Leadership Council, 2008-present); Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, 1990-present; Belmont University College of Law American Inn of Court, 2011-present; American Bar Association, Appellate Judges Conference, executive committee, 2008-2009; United Way of Metropolitan Nashville, Board of Trustees, 1981-present (president, 2003-2004); Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, Board of Trustees,

2005-present; Nashville Rotary Club, 2000-present; Tennessee Bar Foundation, 1993-present; Nashville Bar Foundation, 1993-present; instructor in constitutional law, Nashville School of Law, 1997-present; adjunct instructor, Vanderbilt University School of Law, 1988-1995; adjunct professor in state constitutional law, Vanderbilt University School of Law, 2013; adjunct professor, Belmont University College of Law, 2012-2013; co-chairman, Tennessee Supreme Court Advisory Commission on Technology, 1997-2001; Assistant Attorney General, 1972-1976; Senior Assistant Attorney General, 1976-1977; Deputy Attorney General, 1977-1978; commissioner, Tennessee Department of Personnel, 1979-1981; counsel to Governor Lamar Alexander, 1981-1984; appointed to Court of Appeals in June 1984; elected in August 1984; re-elected in August 1990, 1998, and 2006; Presiding Judge, Middle Section of the Court of Appeals, 2003-2007; appointed to the Supreme Court in June 2007; elected in August 2008.

Justice Sharon G. Lee

505 Main Street, Suite 200, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born December 8, 1953, Knoxville, Tenn.; two children; B.S., University of Tennessee, 1975; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1978; graduate, New York University Appellate Judges Program; private practice, Madisonville, Tenn., 1978-2004; former County Attorney for Monroe County; City Judge for Madisonville; City Attorney for Vonore and Madisonville; Rule 31 listed family mediator; former adjunct faculty, University of Tennessee College of Law; member, Tennessee Bar Association (House of Delegates); American Bar Foundation; Tennessee Bar Foundation; Knoxville Bar Foundation; Tennessee Judicial Conference (executive committee); Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women (director); East Tennessee Lawyers' Association for Women (president); Monroe County Bar Association (president, vice president, and secretary); National Association of Women Judges (director); Knoxville Executive Women's Association (secretary); Boys & Girls Club of Monroe Area (board of directors, 2007-2012); YWCA Knoxville (board of directors); Sequoyah Birthplace Museum (board of directors); East Tennessee Historical Society (board of directors); Tennessee College of Law, Dean's Circle; Webb School of Knoxville Distinguished Alumni Award; recipient of the Spotlight Award from the National Association of Women Judges; Spirit of Justice Award from the East Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women; recognized as a Woman of Achievement by the Girl Scouts Council for the Southern Appalachians; honoree of Tribute to Women by YWCA Knoxville; co-author of *Opening and Closing Arguments;* appointed to Tennessee Court of Appeals, Eastern Section, June 4, 2004; elected August 2004; re-elected in August 2006; appointed to the Tennessee Supreme Court, October 2, 2008; elected August 2010.

Intermediate Appellate Courts

Court of Appeals

Created by the General Assembly in 1925, the Court of Appeals hears appeals in civil – or non-criminal – cases from trial courts and certain state boards and commissions. The court has 12 members who sit in panels of three in Jackson, Knoxville, and Nashville. All decisions made by the Court of Appeals may be appealed, by permission, to the Tennessee Supreme Court. As in all

Court of Appeals judges are (seated from left) David R. Farmer, Patricia J. Cottrell, Charles D. Susano, Jr., Alan E. Highers, John Westley McClarty; (standing from left) J. Steven Stafford, Richard H. Dinkins, Thomas R. Frierson, II, Andy D. Bennett, Frank G. Clement, D. Michael Swiney, and Holly M. Kirby.

three appellate courts, Court of Appeals hearings do not include witnesses, juries, or testimony. Instead, attorneys present oral and written arguments.

Court of Appeals judges are elected on a "retain-replace" ballot every eight years.

As with judges on the Supreme Court and the Court of Criminal Appeals, members of the Court of Appeals must, by state law, be evaluated every eight years. Results of the evaluations are published in newspapers across the state to help voters decide whether the judges should be retained.

Western Section

Alan E. Highers

Supreme Court Building, P.O. Box 909, Jackson, TN 38302

Born July 5, 1937, Muskogee, Okla.; married; two children; Church of Christ; A.A. and LL.D., Freed-Hardeman University; B.A., Lipscomb University; J.D., University of Memphis School of Law; admitted to Bar, 1968; private practice, 1968-1973; lecturer, University of Memphis School of Law, 1972; recipient of Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award by Freed-Hardeman University, 1977; Special Judge and Referee at Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County, 1973-1977; Circuit Court Judge in Memphis, 1977-1982; selected Judge of the Year by National Reciprocal and Family Support Enforcement Association (NRFSEA) in Washington, D.C., 1982; faculty, National College of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, Nev., 1980-1985; Tennessee Judicial Conference (secretary, 1978-1979; vice president, 1981-1982; president, 1984-1985; member of executive csommittee for 10 years); appointed to Court of Appeals, September 1982; elected August 1984; re-elected August 1990, 1998, and 2006; Presiding Judge, Court of Appeals, Western Section, November 2007-present.

David R. Farmer

Supreme Court Building, P.O. Box 909, Jackson, TN 38302

Born December 6, 1940, Springfield, Mo.; married; two children; Methodist; B.B.A., University of Memphis, 1963; J.D., University of Memphis School of Law, 1966; admitted to Bar, 1966; Union Carbide Corp., 1966-1968; private practice in Jackson, 1968-1986; president, Jackson-Madison

County Bar Association, 1980; Tennessee Defense Lawyers Association (director, 1977-1980; secretary treasurer, 1983-1984; vice president, 1985); fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation; Howell Edmunds Jackson American Inn of Court; member, United States Army Reserve, 1966-1972; appointed to Court of Appeals 1986; elected 1986; re-elected 1990, 1998, and 2006.

Holly M. Kirby

5050 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38157

Born in 1957, Memphis, Tenn.; married, two children; Presbyterian; graduate, Columbia Central High School, Columbia, Tenn.; B.S. in engineering, University of Memphis, 1979 (Magna Cum Laude, Herff and Honors Alumni Scholarship); J.D., University of Memphis School of Law, 1982 (Herff Scholarship; *Law Review,* notes editor); admitted to Bar in 1982; Law Clerk to the Honorable Harry W. Wellford, Sixth Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals, 1982-1983; practiced law in Memphis, 1983-1995 (first female partner in law firm Burch, Porter & Johnson); Tennessee Appellate Court Nominating Commission, 1989-1994 (chairperson, 1994); Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inn of Court, 1995-1998; University of Memphis Award for Outstanding Young Alumna, 1996; University of Memphis College of Engineering Outstanding Alumnus, 2002; elected to Memphis Bar Foundation, 2007; appointed to Court of Appeals in 1995 by Governor Don Sundquist (first woman to serve on Court of Appeals); elected 1996; re-elected to eight-year terms in 1998 and 2006.

J. Steven Stafford

100 Main Avenue North, Suite 4, Dyersburg, TN 38024

Born September 2, 1956, McKenzie, Tenn.; married; two children; Baptist; B.S., University of Tennessee at Martin; J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law, 1983; admitted to the Bar, 1983; practiced law in Dyersburg, 1983-1993; Dyersburg City Judge, 1988-1993; Dyer County Juvenile Judge, 1993-1994; first Harry S. Truman Scholar in Tennessee, 1977; president, Dyer County Bar Association, 1987; member, Tennessee Bar Association; member, Tennessee Bar Association House of Delegates, 1991-1998; member, Tennessee Bar Association Board of Governors, 2002-2003; member, American Bar Association; American Bar Foundation Fellow; Tennessee Judicial Conference president, 2002-2003; Tennessee Court of the Judiciary, 1999-2012 (Presiding Judge, 2004-2007); dean, Tennessee Judicial Academy, 1998-2009; Tennessee Bar Foundation Fellow; chairman, Board of Trustees, 2008-2009; selected Judge of the Year by the Tennessee Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, 2007; Howell Edmunds American Inns of Court; First Baptist Church, Dyersburg, deacon; selected Outstanding Young Tennessean by Tennessee Jaycees, 1996; University of Tennessee Board of Governors National Alumni Association, 1991-1992; University of Tennessee at Martin Alumni Council, 1988-1991; appointed Chancellor of the 29th Judicial District, June 1993; elected August 1994; re-elected August 1998 and 2006; appointed to the Court of Appeals, June 2008; elected August 2008.

Middle Section

Frank G. Clement, Jr.

215 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born 1949, Nashville, Tenn.; married; one child; four stepchildren; six grandchildren; West End United Methodist Church; B.S.E., University of Memphis, 1972; president, Student Government

Association, 1972; governor, Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature, 1972; 164th Military Airlift Group, Tennessee Air National Guard, 1968-1974; J.D., Nashville School of Law, 1979; president, Nashville Kiwanis Club, 1987-1988; chairman, Nashville Area Chapter and Tennessee Valley Blood Region, American Red Cross, 1989-1991; private practice of law, 1979-1995; board of directors, Nashville Bar Association, 1991-1995; president, Nashville Bar Association, 1995; Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, 1990-2001; Leadership Nashville, 1995; fellow, Tennessee and Nashville Bar Foundations; member, Tennessee and Nashville Bar Associations; treasurer, Tennessee Trial Judges Association, 1997-2002; chairman, Tennessee Judicial Conference Convention, 1998; recognized as Appellate Judge of the Year for 2012 by the Tennessee Chapter of The American Board of Trial Advocates; appointed in 1995 Judge of the Probate Court, 20th Judicial District; elected 1996 Judge of Division VII of the Circuit Court, 20th Judicial District, re-elected 1998; appointed to the Court of Appeals by Governor Phil Bredesen, September 2003; elected August 2004; re-elected August 2006; Board of Trustees, Nashville School of Law, 2006-present.

Patricia J. Cottrell

203 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born January 15, 1947, in Memphis, Tenn.; one child; graduate, East High School, Memphis, 1965 (National Merit Scholar); B.S. with Honors, University of Tennessee, 1969; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law with Honors, 1976; *Tennessee Law Review*; Assistant Attorney General, 1976-1978 and 1982-1984; director, Public Law Institute, University of Tennessee College of Law, 1978-1979; assistant director, Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission, 1979-1981; Deputy Attorney General, 1984-1991; Director of Law, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, 1991-1993; Chief Deputy Attorney General, 1993-1997; private practice of law in Nashville, 1997-1998; Judicial Conference; Nashville Bar Association; Nashville Bar Association Board of Directors, 2009; Nashville Bar Foundation; Tennessee Bar Foundation; Harry Phillips Inn, American Inns of Court, executive committee; Supreme Court Historical Society; founding member, Lawyers' Association for Women; Leadership Nashville, 1993-1994; Charter Revision Commission of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, 1994-1998; adjunct faculty, Vanderbilt School of Law, 1999-2000; appointed to Court of Appeals, November 1998; elected in 2000; re-elected to an eight-year term in 2006; Presiding Judge, Middle Section, Court of Appeals, 2007-present.

Andy D. Bennett

218 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born July 12, 1957, Charlotte, Tenn.; married with one child; Methodist; graduate, Dickson County Senior High School, Dickson, Tenn. (valedictorian and Gold Medalist); Vanderbilt University, B.A. Cum Laude, 1979; Vanderbilt University School of Law, J.D., 1982, awarded the Weldon White Prize for the best paper on a Tennessee subject; Assistant Attorney General, 1982-1986; Deputy Attorney General, 1986-1993; Associate Chief Deputy Attorney General, 1993-1997; Chief Deputy Attorney General, 1997-2007; Tennessee Historical Society; Tennessee Bar Association; Tennessee Bicentennial Foundation Board of Directors, 1993-1997; Tennessee Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution, 1992-1994; president, Tennessee Supreme Court Historical Society, 2005-2007; author of several legal and historical articles, including "The History of the Tennessee Attorney General's Office" (*Tennessee Bar Journal*, 2000) and "Guarding FDR: A Tennessean's Experience" (*Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, 2006); William M. Leech, Jr.

Award for outstanding service to the Tennessee Attorney General's Office, 1998; Marvin Award from the National Association of Attorneys General for "outstanding leadership, expertise and achievement in advancing the goals of the National Association of Attorneys General," 2004; Tennessee Bar Foundation Fellow, 2001; founder, Tennessee Judiciary Museum, 2012; master, Belmont University College of Law American Inn of Court, 2011-present; appointed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals September 2007; elected August 2008.

Richard H. Dinkins

401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born August 30, 1952, Nashville, Tenn.; Baptist; B.A., Denison University, Granville, Ohio, 1974; J.D., Vanderbilt University School of Law, Nashville, Tenn., 1977; associate, Law Firm of the Honorable Avon N. Williams, Jr., 1977-1980; partner, Williams and Dinkins, 1981-1999; member, Dodson, Parker, Dinkins & Behm, P.C., 1999-2003; member, American, National, and Nashville Bar Associations; member, Napier-Looby Bar Association (board of directors, 1981-1983; vice president, 1984; president, 1985); former cooperating attorney, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund; former cooperating attorney, Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Educational Fund; former member, Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association Board of Governors; member, board of directors, Nashville Bar Association, 1988-1991; former member, Commercial Law Section, National Bar Association; barrister, Harry Phillips Inn of Court, 1990-2002 (master, 2005-present); member, board of directors, Nashville Bar Association, 2006-2008; fellow, Tennessee Bar Association Foundation; appointed Chancellor, Davidson County Chancery Court – Part IV, September 26, 2003; elected May 2004; re-elected August 2006; appointed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals, January 14, 2008; elected August 2008.

Eastern Section

Charles D. Susano, Jr.

505 Main Street, P.O. Box 444, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born March 24, 1936, Knoxville, Tenn.; married; three children; All Saints Roman Catholic Church; Bachelor of Philosophy in commerce (accounting), University of Notre Dame, 1958; U.S. Army, 1958-1960; J.D., University of Tennessee, 1963; member, Order of the Coif; *Tennessee Law Review;* admitted to Bar, 1964; law clerk to Supreme Court, 1963-1964; Assistant District Attorney General, Knox County, 1967-1968; chairman, Knox County Democratic Party, 1972-1974; member, State Democratic Executive Committee, 1974-1982; practiced law in Knoxville, 1964-1994; appointed to Court of Appeals March 1994; elected August 1994; re-elected, August 1998 and August 2006; elected Presiding Judge of the Court of Appeals, March 2013; fellow, American Bar Foundation and Tennessee Bar Foundation.

D. Michael Swiney

505 Main Street, Suite 200, P. O. Box 444, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born May 25, 1949, Sarasota, Fla.; married; two children, Gabe and Eli; Church Street United Methodist Church; University of Tennessee (B.S., 1971; M.S., 1974; and J.D., 1978); member, Order of the Coif; admitted to Bar, 1979; practiced law in Knoxville, 1979-1999; adjunct professor, University of Tennessee College of Law, 1997-2006; Hamilton Burnett Chapter, American Inns

of Court, 1991-present; Tennessee Court of the Judiciary, 2003-2011; appointed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals, July 1999; elected 2000; re-elected 2006.

John W. McClarty

633 Chestnut Street, Suite 1560, P.O. Box 11481, Chattanooga, TN 37450

Born June 5, 1948, Chattanooga, Tenn.; single; two sons; two stepdaughters; African Methodist Episcopal; graduate, Howard High School, Chattanooga, 1967; bachelor degree with double majors in political science and history, Austin Peay State University, 1971; Juris Doctor Degree with Honors, Southern University School of Law, 1976 (ranking No. 5 in his class); recognized as a Distinguished Legal Scholar by Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity; member, *Law Review* staff serving as articles editor and was author of a comment, "Felony Murder Rule in Louisiana," published Vol. I, No. II SULR; admitted to Tennessee Bar, 1976; entered private practice as associate in Law Office of Jerry Summers, 1976; opened sole practice in 1978; senior partner in McClarty & Williams with Walter F. Williams, 1980-1991; sole practice, 1991-January 2009. Involved in excess of 5,000 civil and criminal cases during course of 32 years of practice; *Who's Who in American Law,* Fourth Edition, 1986; Martindale-Hubbell AV rating, 2001; hearing committee member, Supreme Court Board of Professional Responsibility, 2001-2009; board certified civil trial specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy and certified civil trial specialist by the Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization; appointed by Governor Phil Bredesen to serve as board member and later chairman of the Tennessee Registry of Election Finance, May 2005-2007; selected for membership to American Board of Trial Advocacy, 2008; selected fellow to American College of Trial Lawyers, 2009; elected a fellow to the Tennessee Bar Foundation, 2011; appointed by Governor Phil Bredesen as Judge of Tennessee Court of Appeals Eastern Section (first African-American State Judge serving in East Tennessee), January 14, 2009; Elected to Tennessee Court of Appeals, August 2010, on retention ballot, making him the first African-American from East Tennessee to be elected to a statewide position.

Thomas R. Frierson, II

505 Main Street, Suite 383, P. O. Box 444, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born October 9, 1958, Morristown, Tenn.; married, Jane; three children: Reagan, Parker, and Garrett; B.A., University of Tennessee, 1980, Phi Beta Kappa; J.D., University of Tennessee, 1983; admitted to Bar, 1983; practiced law at Bacon, Dugger, Jessee, Perkins in Morristown, 1983-1990; Municipal Court Judge, Morristown, 1990-1996; General Sessions Judge, Hamblen County, 1990-1996; appointed Chancellor, 3rd Judicial District by Governor Don Sundquist, March 1996, elected August 1996; re-elected August 1998 and August 2006; appointed to the Tennessee Court of Appeals, February 7, 2013 by Governor Bill Haslam; ABOTA Trial Judge of the Year, 2000; elected member, Tennessee Bar Foundation, 2007; president, Tennessee Trial Judges Association, 2007-2009; president, Tennessee Judicial Conference, 2010-2011; member, Tennessee Bar Association; member, Tennessee Judicial Conference; served as member of Tennessee Judicial Ethics Committee, 1993-2013; chairman, Tennessee Judicial Family Institute; First United Methodist Church of Morristown; Eagle Scout; Annual National Adoption Day celebration; speaker at Judicial Conferences and Bar Associations.

Court of Criminal Appeals

The Court of Criminal Appeals was created by the Legislature in 1967 to hear trial court appeals in felony and misdemeanor cases, as well as post-conviction petitions. The Tennessee General Assembly increased the membership of the court from nine to 12 on September 1, 1996. The members sit monthly in panels of three in Jackson, Knoxville, and Nashville. They may also meet in other places as necessary.

All Court of Criminal Appeals decisions may be appealed to the state Supreme Court by permission, except in direct appeals of capital cases, which are appealed automatically. No witnesses, juries, or testimonies are present in the Court of Criminal Appeals. Instead, attorneys present oral and written arguments.

Court of Criminal Appeals judges are elected on a "retain-replace" ballot every eight years. Members of the Court of Criminal Appeals must, by state law, be evaluated every eight years. Results of the evaluations are published in newspapers across the state to help voters decide whether the judges should be retained.

Western Section

John Everett Williams

115 Court Square, P.O. Box 88, Huntingdon, TN 38344

Born November 11, 1953, Milan, Tenn.; one son; Methodist; graduate, Huntingdon High School; B.S., (criminal justice), University of Tennessee at Martin; J.D., Cumberland School of Law, 1981; private practice, Williams & Williams Attorneys at Law, Huntingdon, Tenn., 1981-1998; member, Tennessee Bar Association; Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association; Carroll County Bar Association (past president, 1981-1984); Huntingdon Jaycees' Outstanding Chairperson; Huntingdon Lion's Club (past president, 1991-1992); American Heart Association; American Cancer Society; American Red Cross; Carroll County Habitat for Humanity; Carroll County Ducks Unlimited; Cumberland School of Law's co-chairman, Cordell Hull's Speakers' Forum, and

Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals judges are (seated from left) James Curwood Witt, Jr., Jerry L. Smith, Presiding Judge Joseph M. Tipton, Thomas T. Woodall, John Everett Williams; (standing from left) Jeffrey S. Bivins, Camille R. McMullen, Robert W. Wedemeyer, Norma McGee Ogle, Alan E. Glenn, D. Kelly Thomas, Jr., and Roger A. Page.

Director of Special Programs; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals, November 1998; elected to eight-year term, August 2006.

Alan E. Glenn

5050 Poplar Avenue, White Station Tower, Suite 1414, Memphis, TN 38157

Born October 3, 1942, Chicago, Ill.; married; one child; Montgomery Bell Academy; B.A., 1965, J.D., Vanderbilt University, 1968; law clerk, U.S. District Judge, Memphis; Assistant U.S. Attorney, 1970-1971; Assistant District Attorney General, 1971-1982; private practice, Memphis, 1982-1999; instructor, Trial Advocacy, Harvard Law School, 1986-1999; lecturer, National College of District Attorneys, 1982-1986; arbitrator, American Arbitration Association, 1985-1999; member, Board of Construction Advisors, American Arbitration Association, 1995-1999; president, National Ornamental Metal Museum, 1996-2005; president, Memphis Arts in the Park Festival, 1997-1998; vice president, Theatre Memphis, 1995-1997; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals, April 1999; elected in 2000 and 2006.

Camille R. McMullen

5050 Poplar Avenue, White Station Tower, Suite 1416, Memphis, TN 38157

Born February 23, 1971, Nashville, Tenn.; married; two children; member, St. Andrews African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church, Memphis, Tenn.; graduate, John Overton High School, Nashville, Tenn., 1989; B.S., political science, Austin Peay State University, 1993 (Magna Cum Laude, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Honors Scholarships); J.D., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1996; received the following honors: Dean's List, McClure International Fellowship, Order of the Barristers, Ray Jenkins Trial Semi-Finalist; clerk for the Republic of South Africa, post-apartheid; admitted, Tennessee Bar, 1997; law clerk to the Honorable Joe G. Riley, Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, 1996-1997; Assistant District Attorney General, Shelby County District Attorney General's Office, 1997-2001; Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee, 2001-2008; member, Tennessee, Memphis, and National Bar Associations; National Association of Women Judges; American Inns of Court; Memphis Bar Association Fellow; appointed, Court of Criminal Appeals, 2008 by Governor Phil Bredesen (first African-American woman to serve on Court of Criminal Appeals).

Roger A. Page

Supreme Court Building, P.O. Box 909, Jackson, TN 38302

Born October 7, 1955, Henderson, Tenn.; married to Carol McCoy, Davidson County Chancery Court Judge; two sons, two grandsons; Southern Baptist; graduate, Chester County High School, 1973; University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, 1978, with Honors; J.D., University of Memphis, 1984, with High Honors; *Law Review* articles editor; law clerk, Honorable Julia Smith Gibbons, Western District of Tennessee, U.S. District Court, 1984-1985; private practice, Peterson, Young, Self, & Asselin, Atlanta, Ga., 1985-1987, and Holmes, Rich, Sigler, & Page, Jackson, Tenn., 1987-1992; Assistant Attorney General, 1992-1998; elected to Circuit Court, 26th Judicial District, 1998; re-elected 2006; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals by Governor Bill Haslam, December 2011; elected 2012; Tennessee Bar Association; Tennessee Bar Foundation; Tennessee Judicial Conference, executive committee member, chairman of bench-bar committee; Tennessee Appellate Judge Performance Evaluation Commission, 2004-2009; Jackson/Madison County Bar Association;

Howell Jackson American Inn of Court; Jackson Lions Club, member and past president; Dixie Youth baseball coach; Senior Olympics Softball, City Champions.

Middle Section

Jeffrey S. Bivins

221 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born August 31, 1960, Kingsport, Tenn.; married; two children; Independent Christian; graduate, Lynn View High School, 1978; B.A., East Tennessee State University, 1982; J.D., Vanderbilt University School of Law, 1986; private practice, Boult, Cummings, Conners & Berry, Nashville, Tenn., 1986-1995 and 2001-2005; assistant commissioner and general counsel, Tennessee Department of Personnel, 1996-1999 and 2000-2001; appointed to Circuit Court, 21st Judicial District, 1999 by Governor Don Sundquist; appointed to Circuit Court, 21st Judicial District, 2005 by Governor Phil Bredesen; elected 2006; Tennessee Judicial Evaluation Commission; Tennessee Court of the Judiciary; John Marshall American Inns of Court; Tennessee Bar Association; Williamson County Bar Association; Tennessee Bar Foundation; Nashville Bar Foundation; Tennessee Judicial Conference (co-chairman, compensation and retirement committee; member, executive committee; member, criminal pattern jury instructions committee); former County Commissioner, Williamson County; former member, Williamson County Library Board of Trustees; former softball coach and board member, Girls Softball Association of Franklin; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals, August 2011 by Governor Bill Haslam; elected 2012.

Jerry L. Smith

200 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born December 9, 1953, Etowah, Tenn.; Roman Catholic; graduate, McMinn Central High, 1971; B.A., University of Tennessee, 1975; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1978; private practice, 1978-1980; Assistant Attorney General, 1980-1984; Deputy Attorney General, 1984-1995; member: Tennessee Judicial Conference, Tennessee Bar Association, Nashville Bar Association; Harry Phillip's American Inn of Court, Vanderbilt University; Attorney General's designee to the Tennessee Sentencing Commission, 1986-1989; served on the Sixth Circuit Task Force on Capital Cases, 1987; president, National Association of Extradition Officials, 1985-1986; instructor, criminal law and criminal constitutional law, Nashville School of Law, 2003-present; appointed to the Court of Criminal Appeals, November 1995; elected, 1996; re-elected to eight-year terms, August 1998 and 2006.

Thomas T. Woodall

P.O. Box 1075, Dickson, TN 37056

Born 1955, Nashville, Tenn.; two children; Presbyterian; graduate, Battle Ground Academy; B.S., Tennessee Tech; J.D., University of Memphis; admitted to practice law in Tennessee, 1981; member, Tennessee Court of the Judiciary, 2003-2011; member, Tennessee and Dickson County Bar Associations; Tennessee Judicial Conference; First Presbyterian Church of Dickson; "City of Dickson 100 Years Celebration" Committee, 1999; co-chairman, Dickson County American Cancer Society Relay for Life Event, 2005; former chairman, Benton County, Tenn., Unit of American Heart Association; former member, board of directors, Dickson County Habitat for Humanity, Inc.; board of directors, Dickson Help Center; law clerk for the Honorable Mark Walker, Presiding

Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, 1981-1982, private practice, Shelby County, Tenn., 1982-1984; Assistant District Attorney General, 24th Judicial District, Huntingdon, Tenn., 1984-1990; private practice, Dickson, Tenn., 1990-November 1996; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals, December 1996; elected to eight-year terms, August 1998 and August 2006.

Robert W. Wedemeyer

211 Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37219

Born May 23, 1951, Nashville, Tenn.; married to Patricia Wedemeyer, professional harpist; three children, two stepchildren, six grandchildren; resides in Nashville, Tenn.; Oak Ridge High School; B.A., Vanderbilt University, 1973; J.D., University of Memphis School of Law, 1976; private practice, Cunningham, Mitchell, Hicks & Wedemeyer, 1977-1984, Wedemeyer & Grimes, 1985-1990. Appointed to Circuit Court for the 19th Judicial District (Montgomery and Robertson counties) by Governor Ned R. McWherter, 1990. Elected in 1990 and re-elected in 1998. Appointed to the Court of Criminal Appeals by Governor Don Sundquist in 2000; elected in 2000; re-elected in 2006. Member, criminal jury instructions committee of Tennessee Judicial Conference, 1992-1998. Former little league baseball coach, youth soccer coach, YMCA youth basketball coach; past president, Montgomery County Chapter of American Red Cross; member, Montgomery County Bar Association (president, 1981); member, Robertson County Bar Association; graduate, Leadership Clarksville, 1988. Served as deacon, elder, and stewardship chairman, First Presbyterian Church in Clarksville, Tenn.

Eastern Section

Joseph M. Tipton

505 Main Street, Suite 200, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born March 9, 1947, Birmingham, Ala.; married; two children; Episcopal; graduate, Webb School of Knoxville, Distinguished Alumni Award, 2006; B.S., University of Tennessee at Knoxville, 1969; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1971; Order of the Coif; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Fraternity; past president, Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (TACDL); first recipient of TACDL's Outstanding Service Award; member, Tennessee Bar Association; former delegate to Tennessee Bar Association House of Delegates; member, Knoxville Bar Association; recipient, 2006 KBA Dicta Award for Outstanding Writing; member, Tennessee Judicial Conference; former adjunct professor, UT College of Law, 1983-1992; assistant member, Tennessee Board of Law Examiners, 1981-1996; member, Hamilton Burnett American Inn of Court; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals, September 1990; elected, August 1992; re-elected to eight-year terms, August 1998 and August 2006; Presiding Judge of the Court since September 2006.

James Curwood Witt, Jr.

505 Main Street, Suite 356, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born October 23, 1948, Knoxville, Tenn.; married; four children; Methodist; graduate, Madisonville High School, 1966; associate degree, Hiwassee College, 1968; bachelor's degree, Tennessee Wesleyan College, 1970; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1973; Order of the Coif; *Tennessee Law Review;* member, Tennessee and Monroe Country Bar Associations; president, Monroe County Bar Association, 1977; Judge, Monroe County Juvenile Court, 1979-1982; Tennessee Council of Juvenile Court Judges, 1979-1982; hearing committee member, Board of

Professional Responsibility, 1986-1992; member, Tennessee Judicial Council, 1980-1988; chairman, board of trustees, Emory & Henry College, Tennessee Wesleyan College, and Hiwassee College, 1987-1990; member, Holston Conference (United Methodist Church) Board of Trustees, 1995; president, Boys & Girls Club of the Monroe Area, Tennessee Inc., 1996; presenter, Phi Theta Kappa, Tennessee Regional Honors Institute, 1995; member, Tennessee Bar Foundation; adjunct professor of law, U.T. College of Law; faculty, Tennessee Judicial Academy; appointed to Court of Criminal Appeals January 1997; elected to eight-year terms, August 1998 and 2006.

Norma McGee Ogle

505 Main Street, Suite 350, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born September 9, 1952, Lawrenceburg, Tenn.; married; one child; Methodist; graduate, Loretto High School; B.S., University of Tennessee, 1974; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1977; admitted to practice law in Tennessee, 1977; member: Tennessee Bar Association, Sevier County Bar Association, Knoxville Bar Association; Tennessee Human Rights Commission, commissioner and chairperson, 1995-1998; State of Tennessee Local Planning Advisory board member, 1997-1998; Sevier County Board of Education member and chairperson, 1982-1994; advisory board member, Walters State Community College, 1997-present; Pigeon Forge City Attorney, 1990-1998; Pittman Center City Attorney; Sevier County Library Foundation; Memphis Area Legal Services, 1977-1979; private practice, 1979-1998. Appointed to Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, 1998; elected, 2000; re-elected, 2006.

D. Kelly Thomas, Jr.

505 Main Street, Suite 334, Knoxville, TN 37902

Born February 17, 1952, Maryville, Tenn.; married; graduate, Maryville High School; B.A., University of Tennessee, 1974; J.D., University of Tennessee, 1977; admitted to Tennessee Bar, 1978; partner, Thomas & Thomas, 1978-1987; associate, Thomas & Cunningham, 1987-1990; elected Circuit Court Judge, 5th Judicial District, Division II, 1990; re-elected 1998 and 2006; appointed Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Eastern Section, 2006; past president, Blount County Bar Association; faculty member, National Judicial College, University of Nevada, Reno, 1994-1999; East Tennessee representative, State-Federal Judicial Council Board of Directors, 1992; president, Tennessee Trial Judges Association, 1996-1998; Tennessee Judicial Conference executive committee, 1995-1996; ethics instructor: Tennessee General Sessions Judges Conference, Tennessee Court Clerks Association Conference, Tennessee Juvenile Association Conference, 1996, 1997, and 2000; East Tennessee director, Tennessee Judicial Conference executive committee, appointed in 2002; president, Tennessee Judicial Conference, 2007; founding member, board of directors, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Blount County.

Senior Judges

Senior judges are appointed by the Tennessee Supreme Court to serve two- or four-year terms. The retired trial or appellate court judges may be assigned on a temporary basis to any state court.

Don R. Ash
Jon Kerry Blackwood
Ben H. Cantrell
Paul G. Summers

Administrative Office of the Courts

511 Union Street
Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 741-2687

Elizabeth Sykes, Administrative Director

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides support to the Tennessee Supreme Court and the entire state court system. The director, appointed by the Supreme Court, is the administrative officer for the courts and oversees the AOC. Duties of the office include preparing the court system's annual budget; providing judicial education, law libraries, computers, other equipment, training, and technical support for judges and other court personnel; assisting judges with case assignments; administering payroll accounts for the court system; conducting orientation for new judges; administering the official state criminal court reporters system; administering the court interpreter credentialing program; providing assistance to judicial committees; compiling data; and disbursing funds to court-appointed attorneys representing indigent defendants.

Appellate Court Clerks

Mike Catalano, Appellate Court Clerk
Joanne Newsome, Chief Deputy Clerk, Knoxville
Lisa Marsh, Chief Deputy Clerk, Nashville
Susan Turner, Chief Deputy Clerk, Jackson

Michael Catalano

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

In addition to cases on appeal, all Rules of Court, petitions for public response altering or amending the Rules of Court, and Supreme Court opinions are filed in the Middle Division. This division is responsible for matters before the Board of Judicial Conduct, Board of Law Examiners, Board of Professional Responsibility, and certified questions of law from federal courts.

The clerk of the appellate courts is appointed by the Supreme Court for a six-year term. The office is based in Nashville, the Middle Division. The appellate court clerk oversees the offices in Knoxville, Nashville, and Jackson. Each office also has a chief deputy clerk.

Trial Court Clerks

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 daily 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 are also 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 judges for a six-year term.

State Trial Courts

Tennessee's 95 counties are divided into 31 judicial districts. Within each district are circuit courts and chancery courts as provided by the state Constitution. Some districts also have legislatively established criminal courts and probate courts. Judges of these courts are elected to eight-year terms.

Circuit Courts are courts of general jurisdiction in Tennessee. Circuit judges hear civil and criminal cases and appeals of decisions from City, Juvenile, Municipal, and General Sessions courts. The jurisdiction of Circuit Courts often overlaps that of the Chancery Courts.

Chancery Courts are a good example of the court system's English heritage. These traditional equity courts are based on the English system in which the chancellor acted as the "King's conscience." Chancellors may, by law and tradition, modify the application of strict legal rules and adapt the relief given to the circumstances of individual cases.

Criminal Courts are established by the General Assembly in areas where they are justified by heavy caseloads. In addition to having jurisdiction over criminal cases, Criminal Court judges hear misdemeanor appeals from lower courts and certain appeals from juvenile courts. In districts without Criminal Courts, criminal cases are handled at the trial level by Circuit Court judges.

Probate Courts are created by the Legislature and given exclusive jurisdiction over probate of wills and administration of estates. These courts also handle conservatorships and guardianships.

Trial Court Judges by Judicial District

1st Judicial District ..... (Carter, Johnson, Unicoi, and Washington)
Chancery Court ..... John Rambo
Circuit Court ..... Thomas J. Seeley, Jr. (Part I)
Jean A. Stanley (Part II)*
Criminal Court ..... Robert E. Cupp (Part I)
Stacy L. Street (Part II)

2nd Judicial District ..... (Sullivan)
Chancery Court ..... E.G. Moody*
Circuit Court ..... John S. McLellan, III (Part I)
R. Jerry Beck (Part II)
Criminal Court ..... Robert H. Montgomery, Jr.

3rd Judicial District ..... (Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, and Hawkins)
Chancery Court ..... Douglas T. Jenkins
Circuit Court ..... John K. Wilson (Part I)
Thomas J. Wright (Part II)
Mike Faulk (Part III)
Criminal Court ..... John F. Dugger, Jr. *

4th Judicial District ..... (Cocke, Grainger, Jefferson, and Sevier)
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)
Chancery Court ..... Telford E. Forgety, Jr.
Circuit Court ..... Tammy Harrington (Part I)
David R. Duggan (Part II)*

6th Judicial District ..... (Knox)
Chancery Court ..... John F. Weaver (Part I)
Daryl R. Fansler (Part II)
Michael W. Moyers (Part III)
Circuit Court ..... Dale C. Workman (Division I)
Harold Wimberly, Jr. (Division II)
Deborah C. Stevens (Division III)
Bill Swann (Division IV)
Criminal Court ..... Steven W. Sword (Division I)
Bobby Ray McGee (Division II)*
Mary Beth Leibowitz (Division III)

7th Judicial District ..... (Anderson)
Chancery Court ..... William E. Lantrip
Circuit Court ..... Donald R. Elledge*

8th Judicial District ..... (Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union)
Chancery Court ..... Andrew Tillman
Circuit Court ..... John McAfee
Criminal Court ..... E. Shayne Sexton*

9th Judicial District ..... (Loudon, Meigs, Morgan, and Roane)
Chancery Court ..... Frank V. Williams, III
Circuit Court ..... Russell E. Simmons, Jr.
Criminal Court ..... E. Eugene Eblen*

10th Judicial District ..... (Bradley, McMinn, Monroe, and Polk)
Chancery Court ..... Jerri S. Bryant
Circuit Court ..... Larry H. Puckett (Part I)
J. Michael Sharp (Part II)
Carroll Lee Ross (Part III)*
Criminal Court ..... Amy F. Reedy

11th Judicial District ..... (Hamilton)
Chancery Court ..... W. Frank Brown, III (Part I)
Jeffrey M. Atherton (Part II)
Circuit Court ..... Jacqueline E. "Jackie" Bolton (Division I)
Jeff Hollingsworth (Division II)
L. Marie Williams (Division III)
W. Neil Thomas, III (Division IV)*
Criminal Court ..... Barry A. Steelman (Division I)
Rebecca J. Stern (Division II)
Don W. Poole (Division III)

12th Judicial District ..... (Bledsoe, Franklin, Grundy, Marion, Rhea, and Sequatchie)
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, and White)
Chancery Court ..... Ronald Thurman
Circuit Court ..... Amy V. Hollars (Part I)
John J. Maddux, Jr. (Part II)
Criminal Court ..... Leon C. Burns, Jr. (Division I)*
David A. Patterson (Division II)

14th Judicial District ..... (Coffee)
Circuit Court ..... L. Craig Johnson (Part I)
Vanessa Agee Jackson (Part II)*

15th Judicial District ..... (Jackson, Macon, Smith, Trousdale, and Wilson)
Chancery Court ..... C. K. Smith
Circuit Court ..... Clara W. Byrd (Division I)*
John D. Wootten, Jr. (Division II)
Criminal Court ..... David E. Durham

16th Judicial District ..... (Cannon and Rutherford)
Chancery Court ..... Robert E. Corlew, III
Circuit Court ..... J. Mark Rogers (Part I)*
David M. Bragg (Part II)
M. Keith Siskin (Part III)
Royce Taylor (Part IV)

17th Judicial District ..... (Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall, and Moore)
Chancery Court ..... James B. "J.B." Cox
Circuit Court ..... Forest A. Durard (Part I)
Franklin Lee Russell (Part II)*

18th Judicial District ..... (Sumner)
Chancery Court ..... Tom E. Gray*
Circuit Court ..... C. L. "Buck" Rogers
Criminal Court ..... Dee David Gay

19th Judicial District ..... (Montgomery and Robertson)
Chancery Court ..... Laurence M. "Larry" McMillan, Jr.
Circuit Court ..... Ross H. Hicks (Part I)*
Michael R. Jones (Part II)
John H. Gasaway, III (Part III)

20th Judicial District ..... (Davidson)
Chancery Court ..... Claudia Bonnyman (Part I)
Carol L. McCoy (Part II)
Ellen Hobbs Lyle (Part III)
Russell T. Perkins (Part IV)
Circuit Court ..... Hamilton V. Gayden, Jr. (Division I)
Amanda McClendon (Division II)
Phillip Robinson (Division III)
Philip E. Smith (Division IV)
Joe P. Binkley, Jr. (Division V)*
Thomas W. Brothers (Division VI)
David Randall "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 D. Watkins (Division V)
Mark J. Fishburn (Division VI)

21st Judicial District ..... (Hickman, Lewis, Perry, and Williamson)
Circuit Court ..... Robbie T. Beal (Division I)
James G. Martin, III (Division II)*
Michael Binkley (Division III)
Timothy L. Easter (Division IV)

22nd Judicial District ..... (Giles, Lawrence, Maury, and Wayne)
Circuit Court ..... Jim T. Hamilton (Part I)
Robert L. "Bobby" Holloway, Jr. (Part II)
Robert L. "Bob" Jones (Part III)
Stella L. Hargrove (Part IV)*

23rd Judicial District ..... (Cheatham, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, and Stewart)
Circuit Court ..... Robert E. Burch (Division I)*
Larry J. Wallace (Division II)
George C. Sexton (Division III)

24th Judicial District ..... (Benton, Carroll, Decatur, Hardin, and Henry)
Chancery Court ..... Ron E. Harmon
Circuit Court ..... Charles Creed McGinley (Part I)
Donald E. Parish (Part II)*

25th Judicial District . . . . . (Fayette, Hardeman, Lauderdale, McNairy, and Tipton)
Chancery Court . . . . . William C. Cole (Part I)
Martha B. Brasfield (Part II)
Circuit Court . . . . . J. Weber McCraw (Part I)
Joe H. Walker, III (Part II)*

26th Judicial District . . . . . (Chester, Henderson, and Madison)
Chancery Court . . . . . James F. Butler
Circuit Court . . . . . Roy B. Morgan, Jr. (Division I)
Donald H. Allen (Division II)*
Nathan Pride (Division III)

27th Judicial District . . . . . (Obion and Weakley)
Chancery Court . . . . . W. Michael Maloan*
Circuit Court . . . . . William B. Acree, Jr.

28th Judicial District . . . . . (Crockett, Gibson, and Haywood)
Chancery Court . . . . . George R. Ellis
Circuit Court . . . . . Clayburn Peeples*

29th Judicial District . . . . . (Dyer and Lake)
Chancery Court . . . . . Tony A. Childress (Part I)*
Circuit Court . . . . . Russell Lee Moore, Jr. (Part I)

30th Judicial District . . . . . (Shelby)
Chancery Court . . . . . Walter L. Evans (Part I)
Arnold B. Goldin (Part II)
Kenny W. Armstrong (Part III)
Circuit Court . . . . . John R. McCarroll, Jr. (Division I)
James F. Russell (Division II)
Karen R. Williams (Division III)
Gina C. Higgins (Division IV)
Vacant (Division V)
Jerry Stokes (Division VI)
Donna Fields (Division VII)
Robert S. "Bob" Weiss (Division VIII)
Robert L. Childers (Division IX)
Criminal Court . . . . . Paula L. Skahan (Division I)
Glenn Wright (Division II)
J. Robert Carter, Jr. (Division III)*
Carolyn Wade Blackett (Division IV)
James M. Lammey, Jr. (Division V)
John W. Campbell (Division VI)
Lee V. Coffee (Division VII)
Chris Craft (Division VIII)
W. Mark Ward (Division IX)
James C. Beasley, Jr. (Division X)
Probate Court . . . . . Karen D. Webster
Kathleen Gomes

31st Judicial District . . . . . (Van Buren and Warren)
Circuit & Chancery Court . . . . . Judge Larry B. Stanley, Jr.*

* indicates presiding judge

Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

General Sessions Court jurisdiction varies by county based on state laws and private acts. Every county is served by the court, which hears civil and criminal cases. Civil jurisdiction is restricted to specific monetary limits and types of actions. Criminal jurisdiction is limited to preliminary hearings in felony cases and misdemeanor trials where defendants waive the right to a grand jury investigation and trial by jury in Circuit or Criminal Court. General Sessions judges also serve as juvenile judges except in counties in which the Legislature has established separate Juvenile Courts.

Juvenile Courts have exclusive jurisdiction in proceedings involving minors alleged to be delinquent, unruly, dependent, and neglected. Juvenile Courts also have concurrent jurisdiction with Circuit, Chancery, and Probate Courts in some areas.

Municipal Court, also known as city court, has jurisdiction in cases involving violations of city ordinances. Jurisdiction varies widely by city.

Robert E. Cooper, Jr.
Attorney General and Reporter

Office of the Attorney General and Reporter

425 Fifth Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243-3400
(615) 741-3491
TN.gov/attorneygeneral
Robert E. Cooper, Jr., Attorney General and Reporter

Introduction

The Office of Attorney General and Reporter is established by Article VI, Section 5 of the Tennessee Constitution. The attorney general is appointed by the justices of the Tennessee Supreme Court for an eight-year term.

The attorney general is the chief legal officer of the state. Through his staff, he represents the officers and agencies of the state in civil litigation before state and federal courts and the Claims Commission. The attorney general prosecutes all criminal cases in the appellate courts and exercises original prosecutorial powers in limited areas. He has the authority to institute civil actions for consumer fraud, environmental enforcement, and antitrust violations as well as ouster proceedings of public officials. In addition to courtroom duties, the attorney general provides legal advice to state departments and agencies and the General Assembly. Published opinions of the attorney general on legal issues are rendered to state officials upon request. The attorney general reviews all administrative regulations and many state contracts, deeds, and leases. In the exercise of his reporter function, the attorney general reports the opinions of the Tennessee Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

The attorney general is assisted by a chief deputy, solicitor general, and chief policy deputy. The chief deputy coordinates and supervises the work of the office, including review of substantive work and general management of the office. The solicitor general supervises and coordinates the appellate work of the office and the preparation of the office's published opinions. The chief policy deputy supervises special projects, oversees legislative matters and external communications, and coordinates multistate initiatives with the National Association of Attorneys General.

Robert E. Cooper, Jr.

Attorney General and Reporter

Born January 19, 1957, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Presbyterian; B.A., Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Princeton University, 1979; J.D., Yale University, 1983; reporter, *Raleigh Times* (N.C.), 1979-1980; law clerk for U.S. District Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer, Washington, D.C., 1983-1984; private practice, Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC, Nashville, Tenn., 1984-2003; Vanderbilt University

Law School, adjunct professor since 1998; legal counsel to Governor Phil Bredesen, 2003-2006; Tennessee Board of Law Examiners (member, 2002-2006; assistant Bar examiner, 1994-2001); Charter Revision Commission of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (member, 2000-2006; chairman, 2002-2006); member: Tennessee Bar Association, Nashville Bar Association, American Bar Association, Tennessee Bar Foundation, Nashville Bar Foundation, National Association of Attorneys General, Southern Region of Attorneys General (chairman, 2012-2013); appointed Attorney General and Reporter, November 2006.

Divisions

The Office of the Attorney General is divided into 18 divisions.

Administrative Division: *Ruth A. Thompson, Deputy.* The Administrative Division is the internal support division of the office. Its responsibilities include hiring, budget and fiscal matters, purchasing, information systems, library services, personnel, facilities management, and records management.

Bankruptcy Division: *Kathryn Behm Celauro, Deputy.* The Bankruptcy Division represents state agencies in bankruptcy courts across the country. Specifically, it represents the state's interest by filing proofs of claims and administrative claims in bankruptcy cases where a state entity is owed a debt. The division also collects penalties and other debts owed to state departments and agencies.

Civil Litigation and State Services Division: *Kevin Steiling, Deputy.* This division represents the state's various educational agencies and institutions and deals with state purchasing and personnel matters. It represents the state in employment and construction litigation along with reviewing state contracts.

Civil Rights and Claims Division: *Mark A. Hudson, Deputy.* This division defends tort and workers' compensation actions filed against departments and agencies of state government. The division also defends state employees sued in civil rights actions for money damages.

Consumer Advocate and Protection Division: *Cynthia E. Kinser (Mills), Deputy.* This division consists of three teams. The Consumer Protection team protects consumers and businesses from unfair and deceptive trade practices, enforces state and federal antitrust laws, and enforces the Unauthorized Practice of Law statutes. The Consumer Advocate team represents the interests of Tennessee consumers of public utilities services. The False Claims team handles non-Medicaid false claims matters.

Criminal Justice Division: *Amy L. Tarkington, Deputy.* The Criminal Justice Division handles all appellate matters involved in procuring and defending criminal judgments in the state appellate courts. Division attorneys are responsible for interlocutory, extraordinary, direct and post-conviction appeals, and for defending criminal judgments in state habeas corpus proceedings in both the trial and appellate courts.

Environmental Division: *Barry Turner, Deputy.* This division enforces civil environmental protection laws regarding clean air, clean water, hazardous waste, and other areas. The division gives advice to and reviews regulations for the Department of Environment and Conservation and represents the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

Financial Division: *C. Scott Jackson, Deputy.* The Financial Division provides legal services for much of the State's business-related activities such as investments of the State Treasury and the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. The division represents a number of agencies handling issues of government financing, banking, and insurance regulation.

General Civil Division: *Martha A. Campbell, Deputy.* The General Civil Division handles a wide variety of civil matters representing a number of state departments, boards, and agencies including the Departments of Children's Services, Human Services, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Labor and Workforce Development, Agriculture, Tourist Development, Veterans Affairs, and Military.

Health Care Division: *Linda A. Ross, Deputy.* The Health Care Division provides legal advice and representation to the Bureau of TennCare and the Department of Health and its health-related boards such as the Board of Dentistry, the Board of Medical Examiners, the Board of Nursing, and the Board of Optometry along with the Health Services Development Agency.

Law Enforcement and Special Prosecutions Division: *Jennifer L. Smith, Deputy.* This division handles criminal matters related to white collar cases, as well as some civil enforcement actions, including forfeitures. The division defends district attorneys and state law enforcement agencies in actions for injunctive relief and criminal judgments in habeas corpus proceedings in both the federal district and appellate courts.

Medicaid Fraud and Integrity Division: *Peter M. Coughlan, Deputy.* This division works with TennCare, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and the Office of Inspector General in combating medical provider fraud in the TennCare/Medicaid program.

Office of the Solicitor General: *Bill Young, Solicitor General.* This office oversees all appellate litigation practice in the Tennessee Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Criminal Appeals, the United States Supreme Court, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. The office also oversees all published opinions issued by the Attorney General.

Public Interest Division: *Janet M. Kleinfelter, Deputy.* This division carries out the office's statutory duty to oversee the operation of nonprofit entities on behalf of Tennesseans. The division handles charitable oversight and charitable solicitations as well as issues involving open meetings, public records, and campaigns and elections.

Real Property and Transportation Division: *Larry Teague, Deputy.* This division represents the state in land acquisition for all purposes. Most of the work performed by the division involves the Tennessee Department of Transportation. In addition to Nashville, the Real Property Division has regional offices in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Jackson.

Special Litigation Division: *Steven A. Hart, Special Counsel. Michael A. Meyer, Deputy.* This division handles special litigation and assists other divisions in litigation matters.

Tax Division: *Charles L. Lewis, Deputy.* The Tax Division represents the Department of Revenue in all matters related to collecting taxes. It represents a wide variety of other agencies including the Board of Professional Responsibility, the Board of Law Examiners, the Commission on Continuing Legal Education, the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System, and many of the regulatory boards of the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

Tobacco Enforcement Division: *John H. Sinclair, Jr., Deputy.* The Tobacco Enforcement Division enforces the provisions of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement and handles other tobacco-related matters.

Staff

Lucy Honey Haynes
Chief Deputy Attorney General

Native of Fayetteville, Tenn.; B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 1969; J.D., Vanderbilt University School of Law, 1972; staff attorney, Legal Services of Nashville, 1973-1974; private practice, Dyersburg, Tenn., 1974-1981; staff attorney, Assistant Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Labor, 1981-1987; managing attorney, Attorney General's Office, 1987-1992; deputy director of law, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, 1992-1993; Deputy Attorney General, 1993-1997; Associate Chief Deputy, 1997-2007; appointed Chief Deputy Attorney General, January 2008.

Lawrence Harrington
Chief Policy Deputy

Native of Jackson, Tenn.; B.A., Middle Tennessee State University, 1974; J.D., Vanderbilt Law School, 1979; law clerk, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Tennessee, 1981-1982; senior staff and counsel, U.S. Congressman, Senator Al Gore and DSCC, 1982-1990; private practice, 1991-1995; United States executive director and alternate, board of executive directors, Inter-American Development Bank/Inter-American Investment Corporation, Multi-lateral Investment Fund, 1995-2001; U.S. Treasury Exceptional Service Award, 2001; public policy scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, 2002; private practice/consulting, 2002-2004; representative, Inter-American Development Bank, 2004-2008; adjunct professor, Belmont University MBA program, 2008; adjoint faculty, Vanderbilt University, 2009-2013; appointed Chief Policy Deputy, March 2008.

Bill Young
Solicitor General

Native of Clarksville, Tenn.; B.A., Cum Laude, Vanderbilt University, 1977; J.D., Vanderbilt University School of Law, 1981; law clerk, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Nashville, 1981-1984; private practice, Washington, D.C., and Nashville, Tenn., 1984-1985; staff attorney, FDIC, Nashville, Tenn., 1985-1986; Assistant Attorney General, Attorney General's Office, 1986-1991; Senior Counsel, 1991-1995; Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, 1995-1998; president, Hospital Alliance of Tennessee, 1999-2000; general counsel, Tennessee Hospital Association, Nashville, 2000-2001; counsel, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, 2001-2002; general counsel, BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Chattanooga, 2002-2011; appointed Solicitor General, September 2011.

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Chief of Staff

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Deputy

Kathryn Behm Celauro
Deputy

Peter M. Coughlan
Deputy

Steven A. Hart
Special Counsel

Mark A. Hudson
Deputy

C. Scott Jackson
Deputy

Cynthia E. Kinser (Mills)
Deputy

Janet M. Kleinfelter
Deputy

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Michael A. Meyer
Deputy

Linda A. Ross
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Lacy Wilber
Aaron E. Winter
Jeffrey D. Zentner

District Attorneys General Conference

226 Capitol Boulevard Building, Suite 800
Nashville, TN 37243
(615) 741-1696
James W. Kirby, Executive Director

Introduction

The Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference was created by the General Assembly in 1961 to provide for a more prompt and efficient administration of justice in the courts of this state. It is comprised of the district attorneys general from the state's 31 judicial districts. The district attorneys general are elected for a term of eight years and are responsible for the prosecution of criminal cases on behalf of the state.

The Office of the Executive Director, which was created in 1972, serves as the central administrative office for the District Attorneys General Conference. The office is responsible for budgeting, accounting, payroll, personnel, property management, and the administration of all fiscal matters pertaining to the district attorneys general and their staff. Other duties include providing law libraries to each district attorney's office, coordinating prosecution efforts, developing and implementing training programs, and providing automation support. This office is also responsible for maintaining liaison between the district attorneys general and other governmental agencies, including the courts, the General Assembly, the executive branch, and the Office of the Attorney General and Reporter.

The executive director is elected by the district attorneys general for a term of four years.

James W. Kirby

Executive Director to the District Attorneys General Conference

Born March 16, 1947, Louisville, Ky.; Macon County High School; B.S., Middle Tennessee State University, 1969; J.D., Nashville School of Law; administrator, Tennessee Crime Lab, 1972-1976; Assistant District Attorney, 23rd District, 1976-1990; Senior District Attorney, 23rd District, 1990-1997; Deputy District Attorney, 23rd District, 1997-1999; member, Tennessee Judicial Council; member, Tennessee Bureau of Identification Nominating Commission; vice president, National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators, 2006-2007; president, National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators, 2007-2008; board of directors, National District Attorneys Association, 2007-2008; appointed executive director to District Attorneys General Conference, 1999.

Staff

Guy R. Jones
Deputy Executive Director

Nancy White
Director, Fiscal Services

Casey Murphree
Director, Information Services

Laurie Steen
Director, Personnel Services

Lurene Sanders
State Child Support Coordinator

Mary Tom Hudgens
Director, Education and Training

Sue Jones
State Victim/Witness Coordinator

District Attorneys General

Judicial District	Name
1st	Anthony Clark
2nd	Barry P. Staubus
3rd	C. Berkeley Bell
4th	Jimmy Dunn
5th	Mike Flynn
6th	Randall Nichols
7th	Dave Clark
8th	Lori Phillips-Jones
9th	Russell Johnson
10th	Steve Bebb
11th	William H. Cox, III
12th	J. Michael Taylor
13th	Randall York
14th	Mickey Layne
15th	Tom P. Thompson
16th	William C. Whitesell
17th	Robert Carter
18th	Lawrence Ray Whitley
19th	John W. Carney
20th	Victor S. Johnson, III
21st	Kim Helper
22nd	Mike Bottoms
23rd	Dan Alsobrooks
24th	Hansel McCadams
25th	D. Michael Dunavant
26th	Jerry Woodall
27th	Thomas Thomas
28th	Garry Brown

29th . . . . . Phillip Bivens
30th . . . . . Amy P. Weirich
31st . . . . . Lisa Zavogiannis

LAW
I II III IV V
VI VII VIII IX X

District Public Defenders Conference

211 Seventh Avenue North, Suite 320
Nashville, TN 37219-1821
(615) 741-5562
Jeffrey S. Henry, Executive Director

Introduction

District Public Defenders fulfill the state's obligation under the U.S. Constitution to provide a lawyer to persons accused of crimes who cannot afford one. District Public Defenders are attorneys elected in each judicial district who are appointed by the courts to represent indigent persons facing deprivation of liberty in criminal matters. The statewide system of public defenders was created by the General Assembly in 1989 as an alternative to the practice of court-appointed private attorneys.

The Executive Director's office is the central administrative office for 29 of the District Public Defenders' offices. The executive director handles budgeting, payroll, purchasing, personnel, and administration of all fiscal matters pertaining to the operation of District Public Defender offices. Other duties include coordinating defense efforts of the various District Public Defenders, development of training programs, and maintaining liaison with various state government agencies.

The executive director is elected by the District Public Defenders for a four-year term and serves as a member of the judicial planning groups as specified in the code.

Jeffrey S. Henry

Executive Director to the District Public Defenders Conference

Born 1946; married; two children; elementary and secondary education, Murfreesboro City and Rutherford County Schools; Middle Tennessee State University; B.S., Liberal Arts, University of Tennessee, 1968; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1971; active duty Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Army, 1971-1975; Assistant District Attorney, 1976-1980; private practice, 1980-1989; legal counsel, Tennessee National Guard, 1989-1997; Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), Tennessee Army National Guard; Assistant District Public Defender, 1998-2001; director of research and training, Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference, 2001-2005; elected executive director of Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference by the District Public Defenders, June 2005, re-elected 2008 and 2012; member: Tennessee Bar Association, Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, National Legal Aid and Defender Association, and Tennessee Judicial Council (2005-2010); life member, Tennessee National Guard Association and National Guard Association of the United States.

Staff

Paige Edwards
Assistant Executive Director

Maria Anderson
Personnel Director

Kathy Hartman
Fiscal Services Director

District Public Defenders

Judicial District	Name
1st	Jeff Kelly
2nd	Stephen M. Wallace
3rd	Greg W. Eichelman
4th	Edward C. Miller
5th	Mack Garner
6th	Mark E. Stephens
7th	Tom Marshall
8th	Mark Blakley
9th	Joe H. Walker
10th	Richard Hughes, Jr.
11th	Ardena J. Garth
12th	Jeff Harmon
13th	David N. Brady
14th	B. Campbell Smoot
15th	Comer L. Donnell
16th	Gerald Lynn Melton
17th	Donna L. Hargrove
18th	David Allen Doyle
19th	Roger E. Nell
20th	Dawn Deaner
21st	Vanessa Pettigrew Bryan
22nd	Claudia Jack
23rd	William B. “Jake” Lockert, III
24th	Guy T. Wilkinson
25th	Gary F. Antrican
26th	George Morton Googe
27th	Joseph P. Atnip
28th	Tom W. Crider
29th	James E. Lanier
30th	Stephen Bush
31st	Dan T. Bryant