



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

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Change of Boundary Lines

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Change of Boundary Lines 3
Chapter 1807 Chapter 28 3
Act of 1813 Chapter 97 3
Acts of 1815 Chapter 182 3
Acts of 1819 Chapter 63 4
Acts of 1837-38 Chapter 65 4
Private Acts of 1915 Chapter 477 5
Private Acts of 1915 Chapter 542 5
Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 220 5

Change of Boundary Lines

Chapter 1807 Chapter 28

SECTION 1. That the county of White shall be divided into two distinct counties, as follows, to wit: Beginning on the Caney Fork, where Smith county line crosses the same; running up the channel of said river to the mouth of Rocky river; thence along the top of the dividing ridge between the Caney Fork and Rocky river, to the top of Cumberland mountain; thence along the extreme height of the mountain, eastwardly, until it strikes the wilderness road; then with said road, to the Jackson county line, including Daniel Alexander's dwelling house, in White county; then with the line of Jackson and Smith counties to the beginning. And all that part of White county, lying within the described bounds, be and remain the county of White; and that the courts in the said county of White, shall hereafter commence on the second Mondays of February, May, August and November, and shall be held at the house where Caleb Friley now lives, until otherwise provided for by law.

SECTION 2. That there be a new county laid off, by the following boundary, to wit: Beginning on Cumberland mountain, where the line of White county strikes the same; thence westwardly, with said mountain to the Indian boundary line; then along said line to the most eastwardly branch of Duck river; thence north, to the east boundary of Rutherford county; thence with the lines of Rutherford, Wilson, Smith and White, to the beginning. Which last mentioned bounds shall compose a new county, by the name of Warren.
Passed: November 26, 1807.

Act of 1813 Chapter 97

WHEREAS it appears to this General Assembly that the citizens residing in the south east corner of the county of Jackson labour under great inconveniency in consequence of their remote situation from the seat of justice in said county; for remedy whereof,

SECTION 1. That all that part of Jackson lying east and south of the following lines to wit: Beginning where the eastern boundary line of Jackson county, and the northern boundary line of White county intersect each other on the Walton road at the White Plains, thence westwardly along the dividing ridge that divides the waters of Roaring river and Falling water, until it strikes the main branch of Cane creek, thence down said creek including the dwelling house of Smith Hutchins in White county, to where the dividing line between Jackson and White crosses the same, leaving said Walton's road and all the waters of Roaring river in Jackson county, and that the same is hereby stricken off the county of Jackson, and is hereby attached to, and shall become a part of the county of White; PROVIDED nothing herein contained shall deprive Jackson county of its constitutional limits.

SECTION 2. That the sheriff of Jackson county shall collect all arrearages of taxes already laid by any order or orders of the county court of Jackson, and all state taxes already due and uncollected in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as he could have done if this act had not passed.

SECTION 3. That this law shall take effect from and after the first day of December next.
Passed: November 16, 1813.

Acts of 1815 Chapter 182

SECTION 1. That all that part of White county, lying east and south of the following described lines, that is to say; Beginning on the old Cumberland road, where the line of Rhea county strikes the same, thence with said road to the ford of Obed river so as to include all the citizens on each side of said road, in Bledsoe county, thence a direct line to the cross road near Simpson's stand, on the new road leading to Sparta, so as to include said stand in Bledsoe county, thence a direct line to a point two miles north west of Peter Hoodenpyles, thence a direct line to the ford of Brush creek where the Madison road crosses the same so as to include Archibald Beard in Bledsoe county, be and the same is hereby made a part of Bledsoe county.

SECTION 2. That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the sheriff of White county from collecting any tax or arrearages of tax that is or may be due from those who are by this act added to the county of Bledsoe, for the year 1815.

SECTION 3. That this act shall be in force from and after the passage thereof.

SECTION 4. That all settlements left out of Bledsoe county, lying on Cumberland road, by the

establishment of the above line shall be included in White county. PROVIDED NEVERTHELESS, That the settlements on Cumberland mountain called Anderson's and Robertson's settlements, and a settlement near Crance's shall still be considered a part of White county.

Passed: November 6, 1815.

Acts of 1819 Chapter 63

WHEREAS by an act of the General Assembly, passed 1813, a certain portion of Jackson county was attached to White county, which by actual admeasurement has been found to reduce Jackson county below her constitutional limits, for remedy whereof:

SECTION 1. That the dividing line between the counties of White and Jackson shall be as follows, to wit: Beginning at or near the White plains where the former line of Jackson county crosses the Cumberland road; thence south twenty three degrees east, about two miles to an Elm, black gum, hickory, and two dogwoods at a large sink hole, on a spur of Cumberland mountain; thence south forty two degrees west, five miles to three white oaks and two red oaks on the east bank of Hutchens' creek; thence west fourteen miles one hundred and sixty poles to the south west corner of Jackson county, which line as hereby designated shall be the true jurisdictional line between the said counties forever.

SECTION 2. That all civil officers as well as military, that now live in said territory intended to be re-attached to Jackson county, shall hold, occupy, exercise and enjoy said offices, in as full and ample a manner in the county of Jackson as they now enjoy the same in the county of White, provided nevertheless, if there be any constable, heretofore appointed, by the authority of White county whose term is not expired, he shall give new and additional security to the county court of Jackson, for the faithful discharge of his duties for the time unexpired.

SECTION 3. That all judgments rendered and executions issued to, for or against any person or persons residing in said territory so attached, shall be proceeded upon and collected in the same manner they could or would have been, in case this act had never been passed; and nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the sheriff of White county, from collecting any taxes, public dues, or monies due upon executions in his hands against any person resident therein.

SECTION 4. That John Murry is appointed to run and mark that part of the southern boundary line of Jackson county, and the northern boundary of White county, in a plain and distinct manner, where the same has not been heretofore done, and the commissioners of the town of Gainsboro', shall allow the said Murry such compensation as they may think proper, out of any monies that may remain in their hands not otherwise appropriated. And for the prevention of disputes between the citizens of Morgan and Overton counties, in regard to their boundary:

SECTION 5. That the following shall be the dividing line between said counties until otherwise provided for by law, (to wit:) beginning at Johnson's stand on the great Cumberland Turnpike road; thence a direct course to the house now occupied by Joseph French on Pile's road; thence a direct course to the extreme height of the ridge, that divides the waters of Wolf river from the waters of White Oak creek; thence a due north course to the Kentucky line. Which said lines shall be the jurisdictional lines, in all respects whatever.

SECTION 6. That this act shall be in force from and after the first day of January next.

Passed: November 11, 1819.

Acts of 1837-38 Chapter 65

SECTION 1. That a part of the dividing line between the counties of White and Bledsoe, be so altered, as to leave the line, at present dividing the said counties, at the point where said line crosses big Laurel creek, running thence down Laurel Creek, so far that a parallel line with the present county line, running from said Laurel creek to Bee creek, and thence up Bee creek, or down the same as the case may be, to the mouth of Glade creek, thence up Glade creek to the present county line, will include the plantations or farms, on which Thomas F. Barnett, Jonathan Acuff, William Campbell, George Gregory and William Graham now live. And the surveyor of Bledsoe county, is hereby authorised and directed, to run and plainly mark the said line between Laurel and Bee creeks, for which the county court of Bledsoe county is authorised to make him a reasonable compensation, to be paid out of any money in the county treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the line so designated and marked shall be the true dividing line between the said counties, and the territory lying, between the said line and the old one shall be attached to and considered a part of Bledsoe county, Provided, that the plantation of John Mitchell, shall be attached to, and constitute a part of White county; Provided, also, that nothing in this act contained, shall be so construed, as to include any other person or persons in the said county of Bledsoe, other than those

mentioned in this Act, or to prevent the sheriff and other officers of White county from collecting taxes and other debts in their hands for collection at the passage of this act, from those persons attached to Bledsoe county.

Passed: December 16, 1837.

Private Acts of 1915 Chapter 477

SECTION 1. That the County line between said Counties be changed as follows: Beginning at a white oak and marked on the North side of the Sam's Gap Road, and in the South boundary line of the 1000 acres lying in the Northeast corner of a 5000 acre tract granted by the State of Tennessee to Francis Church, July 14th, 1831, being Grant No. 2137, based on White County Entry No. 2032, said 1000 acres having been conveyed by said Francis Church to D. S. Bedford and more recently by H. C. Snodgrass, et al., to the Bon Air Coal, Land & Lumber Co., said white oak being a corner of Cumberland and White Counties, and running thence North 77 " West to a rock where the West boundary line of said Grant No. 2137 crosses the line between Putnam and White Counties, as now located; giving to White County all the land lying South of said line as hereinbefore described, including about 340 acres now lying in the 4th Civil District of Putnam County and giving to Putnam County all of the land north of said line and Eastward to the West boundary line of Cumberland County, as now established, including about 360 acres now lying in the 13th Civil District of White County, being in the Northeast corner of said County.

SECTION 2. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 14, 1915.

COMPILER'S NOTE: The validity of this act and the right of the General Assembly to change county boundary lines were both sustained by the Supreme Court in Putnam County v. White County, 140 Tenn. 19, 203 S.W. 334 (1918).

Private Acts of 1915 Chapter 542

SECTION 1. That the line between White and DeKalb Counties be changed by taking from DeKalb County and adding to White County a strip of land bounded and described as follows:

Beginning in the center of the Caney Fork River at a point where said river in its downward flow leaves the line between said Counties, runs thence down the center of said river to a point in the center of the river two miles below Sligo Ford, thence at right angles Easterly 350 feet to a point, thence, southernly and parallel with the meanders of the river to a point in the present White County line, thence Westerly 350 feet to the beginning.

SECTION 2. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: May 17, 1915.

Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 220

SECTION 1. That the line between the Counties of Putnam and White be, and the same is hereby changed so that the county line between the counties of Putnam and White will be located in the following manner: Starting at a point where the present Putnam County-White County line intersects Taylor's Creek at Fanchers Falls; thence down Taylor Creek with the meanders of the creek to the center of Falling Water River at the mouth of Taylor's Creek; thence up Falling Water River with the meanders of the River to Burgess Falls; thence from Burgess Falls southwardly to the Power House Road to a point of intersection with the present County line. There is excluded however, from the above described lands a tract of approximately one hundred fifty (150) acres, said lands being owned by the City of Cookeville and which are fully described in Chapter 698 of the Private Acts of 1925, all of which said lands shall remain and be a part of the County of Putnam.

SECTION 2. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 8, 1961.

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