



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SERVICE

May 12, 2024

Wage Assignments and Garnishments

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

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,

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Reference Number: CTAS-1090

Garnishment of wages, salaries or other compensation due from a county to any of its officers or employees is permitted.^[1] Employers cannot retaliate against an employee based on a wage assignment for alimony or child support, but the employer may impose a service charge of up to five percent, not to exceed \$5.00 per month.^[2] The maximum amount of earnings that may be garnished is set out in T.C.A. § 26-2-106. For federal law regarding garnishments, see 15 U.S.C. § 1672(b).

[1] T.C.A. § 26-2-221.

[2] T.C.A. § 36-5-501.

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