Law Enforcement and Corrections

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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Law Enforcement and Corrections

Boards and committees involved with law enforcement and corrections include all of the following:

- Board of Workhouse Commissioners
- Disciplinary Review Board
- County Jail Inspectors
- Work Release Program Commission

Board of Jury Commissioners

In most counties of this state, a three-member board of jury commissioners is appointed by the judge or judges of the circuit and criminal courts in the county and any chancellor or other judge with the duty to hold circuit or criminal court in the county. In most counties, jury commissioners must be at least 25 years of age and residents of the county for five years, reside in different sections of the county, not be practicing attorneys or state or county officers, and not have any suits pending in any of the courts noted above. The legislative body of any county with a population in excess of 50,000 according to the 1980 or subsequent federal census may by resolution adopted by a two-thirds majority vote increase the number of jury commissioners to either five or seven. T.C.A. § 22-2-201. Jury commissioners are compensated for each day or portion of a day discharging the duties of the board in accordance with T.C.A. § 22-2-201. Jury commissioners serve a term of four years. T.C.A. § 22-2-202(b) The board of jury commissioners meets every two years to create from available and reliable sources a list of people qualified to serve as jurors in the circuit and criminal courts of the county in such number as specified by the judges selecting the board. T.C.A. § 22-2-302. Also, the board of jury commissioners oversees the process of selection of names for jury service from the list of eligible residents. T.C.A. § 22-2-304.

Community Corrections Advisory Board

In order for a county to be eligible to receive state funding under the Tennessee Community Corrections Act of 1985, codified at T.C.A. § 40-36-101 et seq., the county legislative body must establish a community corrections advisory board. This board must have at least ten (10) members including at least the following:

- A representative of the county government nominated by the county mayor subject to confirmation by the county legislative body;
- The sheriff;
- The district attorney general;
- A criminal defense attorney residing in the county nominated by presiding judge of the judicial district in which the count is located subject to confirmation by the county legislative body;
- A representative of a nonprofit human service agency nominated by the county mayor and the other community corrections advisory board members who serve by virtue of their office subject to confirmation by the county legislative body;
- Two state probation and parole officers assigned to work in the county nominated by the board of probation and parole and confirmed by the county legislative body; and
- At least three private county residents nominated by the county mayor and the other community corrections advisory board members who serve by virtue of their office subject to confirmation by the county legislative body.

If a municipality participates, a citizen is nominated by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. Any additional members are determined by resolution of the county legislative body. T.C.A. § 40-36-201.

County Bounty Committee

The county legislative body may form a committee to administer and implement the provisions of the County Bounty Act. T.C.A. § 38-11-201 et seq. If formed, the committee consists of the director of
schools or the director's designee, the sheriff or the sheriff's designee and an alliance member for a drug-free Tennessee appointed by the county mayor. This committee reviews the record of prosecutions and convictions for illegal drug trafficking in the county and compiles data to determine whether or not the county is following a pattern of aggressive action to eliminate illegal drug trafficking from within its boundaries. The committee makes a determination regarding what financial incentives are appropriate for the period under consideration and with the approval of the sheriff determines the percentage of funds from goods seized and forfeited from drug-related convictions that will be made available to the county school system for drug education and prevention programs subject to matching funds from county, state or federal governments.

**County Sheriff's Civil Service Board**

Reference Number: CTAS-1648

Upon adoption of the optional County Sheriff's Civil Service Law of 1974 by a two-thirds majority vote of the county legislative body, the county legislative body selects three people to serve on a civil service board. These three members must be at least 18 years of age, be residents of the county and cannot hold any elected or appointed office within the county. The term of office is three years except for the initial appointments for one, two and three years to create a staggered system. This board may or may not be compensated at the discretion of the county legislative body. The board adopts a classification plan, determines the requirements of each position and performs other duties specified in this optional law. Some counties have similar boards created by private act. T.C.A. § 8-8-401 et seq.

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