County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

April 26, 2024

General Sessions Court and Interchange

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-497

Under T.C.A. § 17-2-208, general sessions and juvenile judges may interchange with each other. The substituting judge need not be a resident of the same county, but must otherwise possess the same qualifications of the absent judge. If another judge cannot serve by interchange, general sessions and juvenile judges who must be absent from court may seek a special judge pursuant to the requirements and process set forth in TCA 16-15-209. General sessions court judges may sit by interchange for municipal court judges, but not vice versa. T.C.A. § 16-18-312.

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