

TITLE 3**MUNICIPAL COURT****CHAPTER**

1. TOWN JUDGE.
2. COURT ADMINISTRATION.
3. WARRANTS, SUMMONSES AND SUBPOENAS.
4. BONDS AND APPEALS.

CHAPTER 1**TOWN JUDGE****SECTION**

3-101. Town judge.

3-101. Town judge. A town judge shall be appointed by and shall receive a salary fixed by the board of mayor and aldermen. The town judge shall be a licensed attorney in the State of Tennessee. The town judge is hereby vested with the powers to try all offenses against the peace and dignity of the Town of Dandridge. If for any reason the judge is incompetent or absent, the mayor may try the case and decide the same with all the authority and power vested in the judge. In the event an appeal is taken from any fine imposed by the judge or mayor for the violation of any of its ordinances to the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Tennessee, the person so appealing shall give bond and security for the payment of said fine and costs. The town judge shall be empowered to sign warrants for the arrest of individuals who violate the town's ordinances. Compensation for the town judge shall be set prior to appointment and shall not be modified during that term.

CHAPTER 2

COURT ADMINISTRATION

SECTION

3-201. Maintenance of docket.

3-202. Imposition of fines and costs.

3-203. Disposition and report of fines and costs.

3-204. Disturbance of proceedings.

3-205. Litigation tax.

3-201. Maintenance of docket. The town judge shall keep a complete docket of all matters coming before him in his judicial capacity. The docket shall include for each defendant such information as his name; warrant and/or summons numbers; alleged offense; disposition; and all other information that may be relevant. (1995 Code, § 3-201, modified)

3-202. Imposition of fines and costs. All fines and costs¹ shall be imposed and recorded by the court clerk on the town court docket in open court.

In all cases heard or determined by him, the town judge shall tax in the bill of costs. (1995 Code, § 3-202, modified)

3-203. Disposition and report of fines and costs. All funds coming into the hands of the court clerk in the form of fines, costs, and forfeitures shall be recorded by him and paid over daily to the town. At the end of each month he shall submit to the board of mayor and aldermen a report accounting for the collection or non-collection of all fines and costs imposed by his court during the current month and to date for the current fiscal year. (1995 Code, § 3-203, modified)

3-204. Disturbance of proceedings. It shall be unlawful for any person to create any disturbance of any trial before the town court by making loud or unusual noises. (1995 Code, § 3-204, modified)

3-205. Litigation tax. A local litigation tax in the sum of thirteen dollars and seventy-five cents (\$13.75) per offense charged is and shall be levied on any case involving judicial action in the town's municipal court over and above the cost currently associated with and levied on each charge. (Ord. #12/13-08, March 2013, modified)

¹Ordinance #17/18-06 regarding court costs and fines, and any amendments thereto, may be found in the recorder's office.

CHAPTER 3

WARRANTS, SUMMONSES AND SUBPOENAS

SECTION

3-301. Issuance of summonses.

3-302. Issuance of subpoenas.

3-301. Issuance of summonses. When a complaint of an alleged ordinance violation is made to the town judge, the judge may in his discretion, issue a summons ordering the alleged offender personally to appear before the town court at a time specified therein to answer to the charges against him. The summons shall contain a brief description of the offense charged but need not set out verbatim the provisions of the ordinance alleged to have been violated. Upon failure of any person to appear before the town court as commanded in a summons lawfully served on him, the cause may be proceeded with ex parte, and the judgment of the court shall be valid and binding subject to the defendant's right of appeal. (1995 Code, § 3-302, modified)

3-302. Issuance of subpoenas. The town judge may subpoena as witnesses all persons whose testimony he believes will be relevant and material to matters coming before his court, and it shall be unlawful for any person lawfully served with such a subpoena to fail or neglect to comply therewith. (1995 Code, § 3-303)

CHAPTER 4**BONDS AND APPEALS****SECTION**

3-401. Appeals.

3-402. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.

3-401. Appeals. Any defendant who is dissatisfied with any judgment of the town court against him may, within ten (10) days next after such judgment is rendered, appeal to the next term of the circuit court upon posting a proper appeal bond.¹ (1995 Code, § 3-402)

3-402. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms. An appeal bond in any case shall be in the sum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and shall be conditioned that if the circuit court shall find against the appellant the fine and all costs of the trial and appeal shall be promptly paid by the defendant and/or his sureties. An appearance or appeal bond in any case may be made in the form of a cash deposit or by any corporate surety company authorized to do business in Tennessee or by two (2) private persons who individually own real property located within the county. No other type bond shall be acceptable. (1995 Code, § 3-403, modified)

¹State law reference
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 27-5-101.