



Municipal Technical Advisory Service  
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

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## Sample Ordinance - City Judge

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Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal 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 municipal 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 MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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# Sample Ordinance - City Judge

Reference Number: MTAS-1483

## **SAMPLE ORDINANCE FOR CITY JUDGE (For cities with current Mayor or Recorder Court)**

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_, TENNESSEE, THAT:

Section 1. Pursuant to T.C.A. § 16-18-101, *et seq.*

(a) The city judge for the City of \_\_\_\_\_ shall be \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) years of age, licensed in the state of Tennessee to practice law, and shall be a resident of \_\_\_\_\_ (city/county). In the event he or she removes his residency from \_\_\_\_\_ (city/county) he or she shall automatically vacate his or her office.

(Note: Text in italics is optional.)

(b) The city judge shall be appointed by, and serve at the will and pleasure of, the governing body.

(c) Vacancies in the office of city judge shall be filled by the governing body.

(d) The compensation of the city judge shall be per month.

(e) During the absence or disability of the city judge, the governing body may appoint a city judge pro tem to serve until the city judge returns to his duties. The judge pro tem shall have all the qualifications required of the city judge under this ordinance, and shall have all the authorities and powers of the city judge.

Section 2. Consistent with *Town of South Carthage v. Barrett*, 840 S.W.2d 895 (Tenn. 1992), the city judge is an appointed judge and shall have jurisdiction only over violations of municipal ordinances.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage upon final reading by the governing body, the public welfare requiring.

Passed first reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Passed second reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Passed third reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney

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