

**TITLE 3**

**MUNICIPAL COURT<sup>1</sup>**

**CHAPTER**

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

**CHAPTER 1**

**CITY JUDGE**

**SECTION**

- 3-101. City judge.  
3-102. Salary.

**3-101. City judge.** The officer designated by the charter to handle judicial matters within the City of Jefferson City shall preside over the city court and shall be known as the city judge. (1996 Code, § 1-501)

**3-102. Salary.** The salary of the City Judge of Jefferson City shall be set by ordinance by the city council. (1996 Code, § 1-502, modified)

---

<sup>1</sup>Charter reference  
City court, city judge: Art. XI.

## CHAPTER 2

### COURT ADMINISTRATION

#### SECTION

- 3-201. Maintenance of docket.
- 3-202. Imposition of fines, penalties, and costs.
- 3-203. Disposition and report of fines, penalties, and costs.
- 3-204. Disturbance of proceedings.
- 3-205. Trial and disposition of cases.
- 3-206. Contempt of court.
- 3-207. Other civil penalties.

**3-201. Maintenance of docket.** The docket required to be kept by Art. XI, § 5 of the charter shall include for each defendant such information as his name; warrant and/or summons numbers; alleged offense; disposition; fines, penalties, and costs imposed and whether collected; whether committed to workhouse; and all other information that may be relevant. (1996 Code, § 1-503)

**3-202. Imposition of fines, penalties, and costs.** All fines, penalties and costs shall be imposed and recorded by the city judge on the city court docket in open court.

The following costs are established for the City Court of Jefferson City:

Arrest	20.00
Affidavit and warrant	10.00
Continuance	1.00 (each)
Judgement	7.50
Docketing	7.50
Mittimus	1.00
Bond	2.00
Issuing subpoena	2.50 (each)
Serving subpoena	2.50 (each)
Bill of costs	2.00
Disposition to state	5.00
Search warrant	5.00
Litigation tax	13.75

An additional charge of \$1.00 shall be added to court costs and remitted to the administrative office of the courts for the purpose of defraying the cost of municipal judge and clerk training in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 16-18-304. (1996 Code, § 1-508, as amended by Ord. #2005-19, Nov. 2005)

**3-203. Disposition and report of fines, penalties, and costs.** All funds coming into the hands of the city judge in the form of fines, penalties,

costs, and forfeitures shall be recorded by him and paid over daily to the city. At the end of each month he shall submit to the city council 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. (1996 Code, § 1-511)

**3-204. Disturbance of proceedings.** It shall be unlawful for any person to create any disturbance of any trial before the city court by making loud or unusual noises, by using indecorous, profane, or blasphemous language, or by any distracting conduct whatsoever. (1996 Code, § 1-512)

**3-205. Trial and disposition of cases.** Every person charged with violating a municipal ordinance shall be entitled to an immediate trial and disposition of his case, provided the city court is in session or the city judge is reasonably available. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply when the alleged offender, by reason of drunkenness or other incapacity, is not in a proper condition or is not able to appear before the court. (1996 Code, § 1-506)

**3-206. Contempt of court.** The city judge may impose a civil penalty of up to \$50.00 upon any person found by the city judge to be in contempt of court and a separate penalty may be assessed for each act of contempt if such person is found to be in contempt in two or more instances. (as added by Ord. #2005-20, Nov. 2005)

**3-207. Other civil penalties.** Unless otherwise mandated by state or federal law, the city judge may impose a civil penalty of up to \$50.00 for each violation of the provisions of this code. (as added by Ord. #2005-20, Nov. 2005)

## CHAPTER 3

### WARRANTS, SUMMONSES AND SUBPOENAS

#### SECTION

3-301. Issuance of arrest warrants.

3-302. Issuance of subpoenas.

**3-301. Issuance of arrest warrants.**<sup>1</sup> The city judge shall have the power to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with violating municipal ordinances. (1996 Code, § 1-504)

**3-302. Issuance of subpoenas.** The city 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. (1996 Code, § 1-505)

---

<sup>1</sup>State law reference

For authority to issue warrants, see Tennessee Code Annotated, title 40, chapter 6.

## CHAPTER 4

### BONDS AND APPEALS

#### SECTION

3-401. Appearance bonds authorized.

3-402. Appeals.

3-403. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.

**3-401. Appearance bonds authorized.** When the city judge is not available or when an alleged offender requests and has reasonable grounds for a delay in the trial of his case, he may, in lieu of remaining in jail pending disposition of his case, be allowed to post an appearance bond with the city judge or, in the absence of the judge, with the ranking police officer on duty at the time, provided such alleged offender is not drunk or otherwise in need of protective custody. (1996 Code, § 1-507)

**3-402. Appeals.** Any defendant who is dissatisfied with any judgment of the city 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.<sup>1</sup> (1996 Code, § 1-509)

**3-403. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.** An appearance bond in any case before the city court shall be in such amount as the city judge shall prescribe and shall be conditioned that the defendant shall appear for trial before the city court at the stated time and place.

An appeal bond in any case shall be in the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) and shall be conditioned that if the circuit court shall find against the appellant the fine or penalty 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. (1996 Code, § 1-510)

---

<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 27-5-101.