

TITLE 3

MUNICIPAL COURT¹

CHAPTER

1. CITY JUDGE.
2. CITY COURT.

CHAPTER 1

CITY JUDGE²

SECTION

3-101. City judge.

3-101. City judge. The officer designated by the charter to handle judicial matters within the city shall preside over the city court and shall be known as the city judge.

¹Charter reference: Article IX.

²Charter reference: Article IX.

CHAPTER 2

CITY COURT¹

SECTION

- 3-201. Trial and disposition of cases.
- 3-202. Appearance bonds authorized.
- 3-203. Appeals.
- 3-204. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.
- 3-205. Disposition and report of fines and costs.
- 3-206. Disturbance of proceedings.
- 3-207. Court costs.

3-201. 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 that city court is in session or the city judge is reasonably available. 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. (1975 code, sec. 1-501)

3-202. Appearance bonds authorized. When the city judge is not available or when an alleged offender requests and has reasonable grounds of 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 city clerk or ranking police officer on duty at the time, provided such alleged offender is not drunk or otherwise in need of protective custody. (1975 code, sec. 1-502)

3-203. 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. (1975 code, sec. 1-503)

3-204. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms. Except when otherwise provided by the city judge, an appearance bond in any case before the city court shall be in the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) 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 penalty and all costs of the trial and appeal shall be promptly paid by the defendant and/or his sureties. An appearance or appeal

¹Charter reference: Article IX.

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 of sufficient value which is located within the county. No other type bond shall be acceptable. (1975 code, sec. 1-504)

3-205. Disposition and report of fines and costs. All funds coming into the hands of the city judge in the form of penalties, costs, and forfeitures shall be recorded by him and paid over daily to the city. Then, at the end of each month he shall submit to the city council a report accounting for the collection or non-collection of all penalties and costs imposed by his court during the current month and to date for the current fiscal year. (1975 code, sec. 1-505)

3-206. 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. (1975 code, sec. 1-506)

3-207. Court costs. (1) All fines, penalties and costs shall be imposed and recorded by the municipal court clerk on a municipal docket in open court.

(2) In cases wherein the defendant admits guilt and waives the opportunity to appear in open court and in cases heard and determined by the municipal judge, the judge shall tax as court costs the amount of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per case, plus any litigation tax authorized by the laws of the State of Tennessee as well as the cost of any capias issued in the case. (as added by Ord. #4-10-12-3, Nov. 2004)