

Table of Contents

Volume 1

CHAPTER 1. ACTIONS

- § 1:1 Actions in circuit court—Applicable rules and definitions
- § 1:2 Accrual of cause of action
- § 1:3 Choice of law rules
- § 1:4 Limitations of action—In general
- § 1:5 —Particular statutes
- § 1:6 —Workers' compensation
- § 1:7 —Outer limits or ceilings—Statutes of repose
- § 1:8 —Tolling
- § 1:9 —Saving rules and statutes, including comparative fault
- § 1:10 —Choice of law
- § 1:11 Computation of time
- § 1:12 Notice as prerequisite to action
- § 1:13 Demand as prerequisite to action
- § 1:14 Other conditions precedent to filing action
- § 1:15 Joinder and misjoinder of causes of action
- § 1:16 Splitting causes of action
- § 1:17 Collateral source rule
- § 1:18 Survival of causes of action
- § 1:19 Wrongful death actions
- § 1:20 Revivor of actions
- § 1:21 Commencement of actions
- § 1:22 Transfer of actions
- § 1:23 Moot claims
- § 1:24 Subrogation
- § 1:25 Actions; Contribution and indemnity
- § 1:26 Actions against liability insurers; Uninsured motorist cases
- § 1:27 Interpleader
- § 1:28 Actions—Workers compensation
- § 1:29 —Health care liability (medical malpractice)
- § 1:30 Actions against the state, counties, and municipalities
- § 1:31 Actions—Abuse of the courts
- § 1:32 —Termination of parental rights and adoption
- § 1:33 —Domestic Relations

CHAPTER 2. CIRCUIT COURT ORGANIZATION AND JUDGES

- § 2:1 Circuit courts generally
- § 2:2 Supervision of circuit court by the Supreme Court, the General Assembly, and the Board of Judicial Conduct
- § 2:3 Qualifications of circuit judges
- § 2:4 Selection, tenure, and oath of circuit judges
- § 2:5 Disqualification of circuit court judges; recusal

- § 2:6 Vacancies in office
- § 2:7 Substitute judges when judge is absent, unable to preside,
or has recused itself
- § 2:8 Special circuit judges by consent
- § 2:9 Interchange of judges
- § 2:10 Masters
- § 2:11 The 2012 Tennessee Revised Code of Judicial Conduct
- § 2:12 Three judge panels to be convened in certain civil actions;
procedure

CHAPTER 3. SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

- § 3:1 Subject matter jurisdiction generally; Justiciability
- § 3:2 Subject matter jurisdiction—Objections and transfer for
lack of jurisdiction
- § 3:3 Tennessee’s appellate courts
- § 3:4 Trial courts with general jurisdiction
- § 3:5 Circuit court—Original civil jurisdiction generally
- § 3:6 —Original exclusive civil jurisdiction
- § 3:7 —Original concurrent civil jurisdiction
- § 3:8 —Concurrent jurisdiction with federal courts; preemption
- § 3:9 —Criminal jurisdiction
- § 3:10 Courts of limited original jurisdiction—Third and fourth tier
courts
- § 3:11 Circuit court—Appeals from general sessions and other
fourth tier courts
- § 3:12 —Appeals from juvenile court
- § 3:13 —Certiorari from fourth tier tribunals
- § 3:14 —Transfer jurisdiction—Will contests
- § 3:15 — —Condemnation to enforce general sessions judgments
- § 3:16 Transfer—Parentage actions
- § 3:17 Circuit court—Transfer jurisdiction—General sessions cases
involving substantial, complex, or expensive defense
- § 3:18 —Inherent powers—General powers
- § 3:19 —Contempt powers
- § 3:20 —Declaratory judgments

CHAPTER 4. JUDICIAL JURISDICTION

- § 4:1 Definitions
- § 4:2 In personam jurisdiction generally
- § 4:3 In personam jurisdiction—1997 long arm statutes
- § 4:4 —T.C.A. § 20-2-214—Specific jurisdiction
- § 4:5 —1972 Amendment to T.C.A. § 20-2-214—General
jurisdiction
- § 4:6 Quasi in rem jurisdiction; In rem jurisdiction
- § 4:7 Filing objections to judicial jurisdiction
- § 4:8 Waiver of objections to judicial jurisdiction requirements
- § 4:9 Continuing jurisdiction

CHAPTER 5. PARTIES

- § 5:1 Definitions and classifications

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 5:2 Capacity, authority, legal existence, and standing
- § 5:3 Joint obligations and joint torts; comparative fault
- § 5:4 Principal and agent
- § 5:5 Master and servant
- § 5:6 Corporations
- § 5:7 Partnerships, unincorporated associations, and joint ventures
- § 5:8 Rights and liabilities of women
- § 5:9 Actions for injury to spouse
- § 5:10 Actions involving infants
- § 5:11 Actions by others for injuries to children or parents
- § 5:12 Liability for family member's contracts
- § 5:13 Actions involving incompetents
- § 5:14 Products liability actions
- § 5:15 Parties—Privity
- § 5:16 —Vicarious or imputed liability
- § 5:17 Family immunities
- § 5:18 Parties—actions against the state, its departments, agencies, boards, and institutions, and its officials and employees
- § 5:19 Prisoners
- § 5:20 Parties—Workers' compensation
- § 5:21 —Subrogation
- § 5:22 —Wrongful death actions
- § 5:23 —Survival of actions
- § 5:24 —Death, substitution, and revivor
- § 5:25 —Substitution in cases not involving death
- § 5:26 Intervention
- § 5:27 Parties—Misjoinder and nonjoinder
- § 5:28 Misspelled names, improper designations, and misnomers
- § 5:29 Objections to parties
- § 5:30 Parties and attorneys
- § 5:31 Parties—Cases involving constitutional questions
- § 5:32 Pro se parties
- § 5:33 Parties—Assignments; collection service companies
- § 5:34 —Limited scope representation
- § 5:35 —Torts—Limitations of liability—Public policy—Duty and proximate cause

CHAPTER 6. VENUE

- § 6:1 Generally
- § 6:2 Transitory actions
- § 6:3 Special venue statutes
- § 6:4 Actions against domestic corporations
- § 6:5 Actions against foreign corporations
- § 6:6 Actions against partnerships and unincorporated associations
- § 6:7 Local or in rem actions
- § 6:8 Actions involving public officers and entities
- § 6:9 Objections to venue—Waiver
- § 6:10 Transfer of venue

- § 6:11 Forum non conveniens
- § 6:12 Workers' compensation
- § 6:13 Forum selection clauses

CHAPTER 7. PLEADINGS

- § 7:1 Definitions and scope
- § 7:2 Notice pleading—Judicial construction of pleadings
- § 7:3 Caption
- § 7:4 Commencement
- § 7:5 Body of pleading
- § 7:6 Pleading conclusions
- § 7:7 Alternative, hypothetical, and inconsistent pleadings;
Election of remedies doctrine
- § 7:8 Writing style in pleadings
- § 7:9 Demand for judgment
- § 7:10 Signature; sanctions
- § 7:11 Verification of pleadings
- § 7:12 Exhibits
- § 7:13 Pleading statutes, ordinances, and regulations
- § 7:14 Pleading capacity, authority, legal existence, and standing
- § 7:15 Pleading fraud, mistake, or condition of the mind
- § 7:16 Pleading conditions precedent
- § 7:17 Pleading official documents, official acts, and judgments
- § 7:18 Pleading special damages
- § 7:19 Adoption by reference
- § 7:20 Deposits in court
- § 7:21 Forms for Pleading—Uncontested Divorces and Protective
Orders
- § 7:22 Pleadings—Health care liability (medical malpractice)

CHAPTER 8. THE INITIAL PLEADING

- § 8:1 Definition and purpose
- § 8:2 Form
- § 8:3 Caption and commencement
- § 8:4 Body
- § 8:5 Petition for termination of parental rights
- § 8:6 Complaint—Medical malpractice (health care liability)
actions

CHAPTER 9. PROCESS AND SERVICE OF PROCESS

- § 9:1 Definitions and general overview
- § 9:2 Cost bonds or oath as prerequisites
- § 9:3 Issuance
- § 9:4 Form
- § 9:5 Authority to serve original pleadings and process, and
mechanics of service
- § 9:6 Personal service—Generally
- § 9:7 Service on competent adult natural persons
- § 9:8 Service on minors

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 9:9 Service on incompetents
- § 9:10 Service on prisoners and by prisoners
- § 9:11 Service on partnerships and unincorporated associations
- § 9:12 Service on private domestic corporations
- § 9:13 Service on private foreign corporations
- § 9:14 Service on nonresident fiduciaries
- § 9:15 Service on insurance companies
- § 9:16 Service under Tennessee's long arm statute
- § 9:17 Service on nonresident motorists
- § 9:18 Service on public entities
- § 9:19 Service in wrongful death actions; Counterclaims
- § 9:20 Service on parties after initial service
- § 9:21 Service—Support and custody modification proceedings
- § 9:22 Service when parties change
- § 9:23 Objections to process and service of process
- § 9:24 Constructive service; Service by publication
- § 9:25 Service in divorce actions
- § 9:26 Service outside the United States
- § 9:27 Waiver of service—1995 Amendment
- § 9:28 Service orders of protection
- § 9:29 Service—Forcible entry and detainer actions

CHAPTER 10. MOTIONS, AFFIDAVITS, NOTICES, AND STIPULATIONS

- § 10:1 Definitions and scope
- § 10:2 Form of motions
- § 10:3 Speaking motions
- § 10:4 Affidavits
- § 10:5 Notices and other papers
- § 10:6 Stipulations

CHAPTER 11. RULE 12 PRELIMINARY MOTIONS

- § 11:1 Types of motions
- § 11:2 Time for serving motions—Notice, waiver, and consolidation
- § 11:3 Motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim
- § 11:4 Motion to strike from pleading
- § 11:5 Motion for more definite statement
- § 11:6 Motion for judgment on the pleadings
- § 11:7 Motion to strike defense
- § 11:8 Preliminary hearing
- § 11:9 Motions in limine
- § 11:10 Motion to Dismiss a Medical Malpractice/Healthcare Liability Case—Noncompliance with Prerequisites
- § 11:11 Petition to dismiss actions involving the exercise of rights of free speech, petition, or association

CHAPTER 12. ANSWERS AND REPLIES

- § 12:1 Scope and definitions

- § 12:2 Time
- § 12:3 Form of answer
- § 12:4 Affirmative defenses
- § 12:5 Joinder of defenses; Waiver
- § 12:6 Purpose of reply
- § 12:7 Form of reply
- § 12:8 Answers—Medical malpractice (Health care liability) actions
- § 12:9 Affirmative defenses in actions to terminate parental rights

CHAPTER 13. COUNTERCLAIMS AND CROSS-CLAIMS

- § 13:1 Scope and definitions
- § 13:2 Form
- § 13:3 Compulsory counterclaims
- § 13:4 Permissive counterclaims
- § 13:5 Counterclaim subsequent to answer
- § 13:6 Cross-claims
- § 13:7 Adding parties to a counterclaim or cross-claim and separate trials
- § 13:8 Statutes of limitations—Counterclaims and cross-claims
- § 13:9 Demands exceeding jurisdiction

CHAPTER 14. THIRD PARTY PRACTICE

- § 14:1 Scope and definitions
- § 14:2 Nature of liability of parties
- § 14:3 Jurisdiction and venue
- § 14:4 Form of pleadings and motions
- § 14:5 Time for filing impleader; Permission; Service
- § 14:6 Subsequent proceedings
- § 14:7 Statutes of limitations
- § 14:8 Third party actions against liability insurers

CHAPTER 15. CLASS ACTIONS

- § 15:1 Introduction
- § 15:2 Summary of the class action rule
- § 15:3 Jurisdiction and venue
- § 15:4 Complaint
- § 15:5 Certification procedure
- § 15:6 Notice requirements
- § 15:7 Settlements and dismissals
- § 15:8 Class actions—Effect on statutes of limitations
- § 15:9 —Res judicata and collateral estoppel
- § 15:10 Actions under the Tennessee Consumer Protection Act and Tennessee’s Taxpayers Remedies Act
- § 15:11 Modifications of certification orders
- § 15:12 Class actions—Disposition of residual funds

CHAPTER 16. AMENDMENTS TO PLEADINGS

- § 16:1 Generally

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 16:2 Purpose and effect
- § 16:3 Time
- § 16:4 Method
- § 16:5 Responses to amended pleading
- § 16:6 Amendment to conform with evidence
- § 16:7 Relation back of amendments under the Rules and Tennessee Statutes after the statute of limitations expires
- § 16:8 Supplemental pleadings
- § 16:9 Amendment practice

CHAPTER 17. ORDERS

- § 17:1 Definitions and scope
- § 17:2 Hearings and entry of orders
- § 17:3 Reconsideration

CHAPTER 18. DISCOVERY

- § 18:1 History
- § 18:2 Types and purposes
- § 18:3 Scope of discovery
- § 18:4 Depositions generally—Types, sequence, frequency, supplementation, and recording
- § 18:5 Oral depositions
- § 18:6 Depositions on written questions
- § 18:7 Depositions—Irregularities and objections
- § 18:8 Interrogatories to parties
- § 18:9 Production of documents and things
- § 18:10 Testing of tangible things; and spoliation
- § 18:11 Examination of persons
- § 18:12 Protective orders; sanctions
- § 18:13 Failure to make discovery and spoliation—Sanctions
- § 18:14 Videotaping of depositions
- § 18:15 Filing discovery papers
- § 18:16 Discovery conferences
- § 18:17 Signing of discovery requests, responses, and objections
- § 18:18 Depositions by telephone
- § 18:19 Action for abuse of process
- § 18:20 Discovery of electronically stored information
- § 18:21 Medical malpractice/Healthcare Liability—Expedited discovery—Precomplaint discovery—Special post-complaint discovery rules
- § 18:22 Interstate depositions and discovery

CHAPTER 19. PERPETUATION OF TESTIMONY

- § 19:1 Purpose
- § 19:2 Procedure for perpetuation before action
- § 19:3 Procedure for perpetuation pending appeal

CHAPTER 20. REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS

- § 20:1 Purpose

- § 20:2 Form of requests and responses
- § 20:3 Procedure
- § 20:4 Effect of admissions

CHAPTER 21. PRETRIAL CONFERENCES

- § 21:1 Purpose, types, and procedure
- § 21:2 Sanctions

CHAPTER 22. CONSOLIDATION, SEPARATE TRIALS, AND SEVERANCES

- § 22:1 Types of consolidation
- § 22:2 Consolidation procedure and effect
- § 22:3 Separate trials and severance
- § 22:4 Form

CHAPTER 23. DISMISSALS

- § 23:1 Dismissals on voluntary nonsuit
- § 23:2 Voluntary dismissals other than nonsuits
- § 23:3 Involuntary dismissals
- § 23:4 Res judicata effect

Volume 2

CHAPTER 24. TRIAL

- § 24:1 Scope and definitions
- § 24:2 Setting actions for trial
- § 24:3 Continuances
- § 24:4 Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act
- § 24:5 Subpoenas for trial
- § 24:6 Preliminaries to taking evidence; Opening statements; Interim commentary
- § 24:7 Exclusion of witnesses
- § 24:8 Burden of proof
- § 24:9 Taking evidence—Generally
- § 24:10 —Oral testimony
- § 24:11 —Depositions and answers to interrogatories
- § 24:12 —Exhibits—Documentary and real evidence— Demonstrative evidence—Experiments and demonstrations
- § 24:13 —Use of photographs, drawings, recordings, and videotapes
- § 24:14 —Views outside courtroom
- § 24:15 Objections to evidence; exclusion
- § 24:16 Adverse witnesses—Parties and others
- § 24:17 Proffer of excluded evidence—Offer of proof
- § 24:18 Directed verdicts
- § 24:19 Involuntary dismissals during nonjury trials
- § 24:20 Voluntary dismissals at trial
- § 24:21 Mistrials

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 24:22 Jury instructions
- § 24:23 Arguments
- § 24:24 Submitting case to jury
- § 24:25 Chambers hearings
- § 24:26 Masters
- § 24:27 Nonjury cases under advisement
- § 24:28 Conduct of attorneys during trial
- § 24:29 Reporting trial proceedings; court reporters
- § 24:30 Trials—Media coverage
- § 24:31 —Sundays
- § 24:32 Interpreters

CHAPTER 25. THE JURY

- § 25:1 Definitions and functions
- § 25:2 Right to jury
- § 25:3 Demand and waiver
- § 25:4 Juror qualifications, excuses and postponement
- § 25:5 Jury selection
- § 25:6 Impanelment of jury—Voir dire
- § 25:7 Challenges for cause
- § 25:8 Peremptory challenges
- § 25:9 Compensation

CHAPTER 26. THE VERDICT

- § 26:1 Introduction and definitions
- § 26:2 Constitutional issues
- § 26:3 General verdicts
- § 26:4 Special verdicts
- § 26:5 General verdicts accompanied by answers to special interrogatories
- § 26:6 Form, certainty, and consistency
- § 26:7 Jury deliberations; Mistrial
- § 26:8 Reception of verdict; Discharge of jury
- § 26:9 Impeachment of verdict and objections after jury discharge
- § 26:10 Investigation of jurors

CHAPTER 27. JUDGMENTS

- § 27:1 Definitions and scope
- § 27:2 Default judgments—Generally
- § 27:3 —Special problems
- § 27:4 Setting aside default judgment
- § 27:5 Summary judgment generally
- § 27:6 Matters considered on summary judgment motions
- § 27:7 Final judgment after trial
- § 27:8 Form of judgment
- § 27:9 Entry and perfection of judgments
- § 27:10 Costs
- § 27:11 Attorney's fees
- § 27:12 Interest
- § 27:13 Res judicata

- § 27:14 Collateral estoppel, mutuality of estoppel, and judicial estoppel
- § 27:15 Offer of judgment
- § 27:16 Consent judgments
- § 27:17 Satisfaction of judgments
- § 27:18 Enforcement of judgments by courts of other states and federal courts
- § 27:19 Enforcement in Tennessee of judgments entered in foreign countries

CHAPTER 28. POST-TRIAL MOTIONS

- § 28:1 Motion for new trial
- § 28:2 —Additur
- § 28:3 —Remittitur
- § 28:4 Motion to alter or amend judgment
- § 28:5 Motion for amended or additional findings
- § 28:6 Renewed motion for directed verdict (judgment notwithstanding verdict)
- § 28:7 Motion to correct clerical mistake in judgment, order, and record
- § 28:8 Motions for relief from final judgment; independent actions; collateral attacks
- § 28:9 Motion to assess discretionary costs
- § 28:10 Motion for entry of judgment nunc pro tunc

CHAPTER 29. ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS

- § 29:1 Executions generally
- § 29:2 Judgment and execution liens
- § 29:3 Effecting the execution
- § 29:4 Execution sale
- § 29:5 Garnishment
- § 29:6 Contempt
- § 29:7 Supplementary procedures
- § 29:8 Relief from executions and garnishments
- § 29:9 Enforcement of Tennessee judgments in other states and nations
- § 29:10 Enforcement in Tennessee of final judgments entered in other states and nations

CHAPTER 30. APPEALS FROM CIRCUIT COURT

- § 30:1 History
- § 30:2 Types of appeals
- § 30:3 Perfecting appeal as of right
- § 30:4 Non Cost Bonds; stays of execution
- § 30:5 Record on appeal—Elements and preparation
- § 30:6 Procedure after record is filed with appellate court
- § 30:7 Scope and standard of review
- § 30:8 Appellate court judgment and mandate

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- § 30:9 Appeals by permission from interlocutory order
- § 30:10 Extraordinary appeals by permission
- § 30:11 Petition for rehearing
- § 30:12 Appeals from appellate court to Supreme Court
- § 30:13 Frivolous appeals
- § 30:14 Expedited appeals in civil actions
- § 30:15 Appellate decisions—Retroactive or prospective application
- § 30:16 Appeals in workers' compensation cases
- § 30:17 Supreme Court assumption of jurisdiction over undecided cases in intermediate appellate courts
- § 30:18 Supreme court—Federal certified questions
- § 30:19 Media coverage of appellate court proceedings
- § 30:20 Appellate opinions—Weight of authority
- § 30:21 Appeals as of right—termination of parental rights
- § 30:22 Appeals—Voluntary mediation
- § 30:23 Appeals of recusal denials
- § 30:24 Appeals—Health care liability actions

CHAPTER 31. INJUNCTIONS

- § 31:1 Circuit court jurisdiction
- § 31:2 Prohibitory or mandatory
- § 31:3 Extraordinary process, court discretion, and criteria
- § 31:4 Temporary restraining orders, temporary injunctions, and permanent injunctions compared
- § 31:5 Injunctions—Specificity
- § 31:6 Injunction bond
- § 31:7 Violations of injunctions—Sanctions

CHAPTER 32. GOVERNMENTAL TORT LIABILITY ACT

- § 32:1 Generally
- § 32:2 Exceptions to statutory immunity
- § 32:3 Notice of claims, approval or denials, actions, and statutes of limitations
- § 32:4 Jurisdiction, venue, and right to jury
- § 32:5 Separate actions against governmental employees under the Governmental Tort Liability Act
- § 32:6 Amounts of recovery
- § 32:7 Attorney Fees and Costs

Table of Laws and Rules

Table of Cases

Index