

**HISTORICAL CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS
OF TENNESSEE 1796 - PRESENT
TERRITORY SOUTH OF THE RIVER OHIO 1790 - 1796**

**ATTORNEYS GENERAL
AND REPORTER**

NAME	PARTY	BIRTH & DEATH YEAR	YEARS OF SERVICE
James Houston Thomas	Democrat	1808 – 1876	1836 – 1842
George S. Yerger	Whig	1808 – 1880	1831 - 1839
Return J. Meigs	Whig	1801 – 1891	1839
West H. Humphreys	Democrat	1806 - 1882	1839 – 1851
William G. Swan	Whig Later Democrat	1821 - 1869	1851 – 1854
John L. T. Sneed	Whig	1820 - 1901	1854 – 1859
John W. Head	Democrat	1822 - 1879	1859 – 1862*
Thomas M. Coldwell	Republican	1822 - 1891	1865 – 1870
Joseph B. Heiskell	Whig	1823 - 1913	1870 – 1878
Benjamin J. Lea	Democrat	1833 - 1894	1878 – 1886
George W. Pickle	Democrat	1845 – 1917	1886 – 1902
Charles T. Cates Jr.	Democrat	1840 – 1919	1902 – 1913
Frank M. Thompson	Democrat	1860 – 1926	1913 – 1926 Died in office
Charles L. Cornelius	Democrat	1888 - 1968	1926
Leonidas D. Smith	Democrat	1866 - 1932	1926 – 1932
Roy H. Beeler	Democrat	1882 – 1954	1932 – 1954
George F. Mccanless	Democrat	1904 – 1992	1954 – September 1969

David M. Pack		1921 – 1996	September 1969 – May 1974
Milton P. Rice		1920 -	May – September 1974
R. A. Ashley		1927 -	September 1974 – October 1976
Brooks Mclemore		1920 -	October 1976 – July 1978
William M. Leech Jr.		1935 -	July 1978 – July 1984
W. J. Michael Cody		1936 -	July 1984 – September 1988
Charles W. Burson	Democrat	1944 -	October 1988 - February 1997
John Knox Walkup		1947 -	February 1997 – January 1999
Paul G. Summers		1959 -	January 1999 – October 2006
Robert E. Cooper Jr.			November 2006

- During the War between the States, civil government was suspended in Tennessee, and the office was vacant.

SOURCES:

1. **Tennessee Blue Book** - *JK5230 .A3*
2. **Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly** volumes 1 – 6 – *JK5231 1975 .M33*
3. **Tennessee the Volunteer State, 1769-1923** by John T. Moore, volumes 2 – 4 – *F436 .M82*
4. **Prominent Tennessean, 1796-1938** by James L. Guillum – *F435 .G55*
5. **Sketches of the Bench and Bar of Tennessee** by Joshua W. Caldwell - *F435 .C14*
6. **Who's Who in Tennessee; A Biographical Reference Book of Notable Tennesseans of To-day (1911)** – *F435 .W6*
7. **Who's who in Tennessee; A Reference Edition Recording the Biographies of Contemporary Leaders in Tennessee with Special Emphasis on Their Achievements in Making the Volunteer State One of America's Greatest (1961)** by Frank E. Bass – *F435.W62*
8. **History of Tennessee** by Stanley J. Folmsbee, Robert E. Corlew and Enoch L. Mitchell, volumes 3 – 4 – *F435 . F64*

9. **Notable Men of Tennessee: Personal and Genealogical With Portraits** by John Allison – *F435 .A45*
10. **Tennessee Templars. A register of names, with biographical sketches, of the Knights Templar of Tennessee, and brief histories of the Grand and subordinate commanderies**, by James Daniel Richardson - *HS757.T2R52*
11. **Lawmakers and public men of Tennessee** by Morgan Blake and Stuart Towe – *F435.B4*
12. **A history of Tennessee and Tennesseans : the leaders and representative men in commerce, industry and modern activities** by Will T. Hale and Dixon L. Merritt, volumes 1 – 8 – *F436 .H17*
13. **Library of American lives. Tennessee ed. a source edition recording the contemporary history of the nation through the medium of the life history of it's most constructive contributors. Chronicling the genealogical and memorial records of its prominent families and personages** by Gustavus Dyer – *F436 .L5D9*
14. **Memorial and biographical record: An illustrated compendium of biography** by Silas E. Lucas – *F435 .M41 1980*
15. **Tennessee: A history, 1673-1932** editor: Philip M. Hamer, volumes 3 – 4 – *F436 .H23*
16. **Sketches of prominent Tennesseans : containing biographies and records of many of the families who have attained prominence in Tennessee** by William S. Speer – *F435 .S74 1978*
17. **Law and lawyers; sketches of the Federal judges of Tennessee, sketches of the attorneys general of Tennessee, legal miscellany, reminiscences** by John W. Green – *F435 .G75*
18. **Bench and bar of Knox County, Tennessee, brief sketches of the bench and bar of Knox County of other days, including an autobiographical sketch of the author** by John W. Green – *F435 .G74*
19. **The Sparta bar** by Frank Trigg Fancher – *F435.F35*
20. **Tennessee State Library and Archives Vertical Files**

Researched and prepared by Diane Black – January 2009