

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGLAS
COUNTY DOUGLAS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA

FILED
25 JAN 21 PM 1:00
SUPERIOR STATE COURT
DOUGLAS COUNTY, GA
ANNETTA D. STEMBRIDGE
CLERK

TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P. BOGGS, CHIEF JUSTICE,
GEORGIA SUPREME COURT
TO THE JUDGES AND CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF STATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MAGISTRATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF PROBATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MUNICIPAL COURT

ORDER

DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY AND
COURTHOUSE CLOSURE

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a judicial emergency exists in this county such that there is either a state of emergency as declared by the Governor, a weather emergency, or a state of emergency as declared by the Douglas County Commissioners;

WHEREAS, the emergency substantially endangers or infringes upon the normal functioning of the judicial system, the ability of persons to avail themselves of the judicial system, or the ability of litigants or others to have access to the courts or meet scheduled or time deadlines imposed by the court order or rule, statute of administrative rule or regulation;

IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, the Courts of DOUGLAS County shall be closed from Tuesday, January 21, 2025 starting at 1:00 P.M and Wednesday January 22, 2025 and shall reopen at 8:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 23, 2025 unless extended by further order pursuant to O.C.G.A 38-3-61(b);

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-62, all court deadlines, time schedules or filing requirements are hereby suspended, tolled, or extended for the duration of the judicial emergency as noted above; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in order to satisfy the continuity of operations of the court system, and to ensure that the Douglas County community has access to justice during this weather emergency and closure, individuals may refer to the attached Exhibit A-Continuity of Operations Plan; and

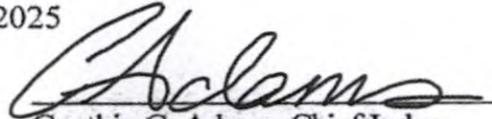
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Sheriff or his/her designee shall post a copy of this notice on the courthouse doors; and

RECORDED IN BOOK 76 PAGE 51
DATE 1/21/25

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Superior Court, or his/her designee, shall immediately notify the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Clerks of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court by sending them a copy of this notice; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County Manager, or his/her designee, shall post a copy of this notice and any subsequent modification or extension in accordance with O.C.G.A § 38-3-63 by posting it on the county website or other appropriate public address system.

SO ORDERED this 21st day of January 2025



Cynthia C. Adams, Chief Judge
Douglas County Superior Court

CC:

Superior Court Judge Deah Warren
Superior Court Judge Lauren Wallace
Chief State Court Judge Eddie Barker
State Court Judge Brian Fortner
Chief Juvenile Court Judge Michelle Harrison
Juvenile Court Judge Talia Nurse
Chief Magistrate Court Judge Susan Camp
Magistrate Court Judge Barbara Caldwell
Probate Court Judge Valerie Vie
Douglas County Commission Chair Romona Jackson-Jones
Douglas County Sheriff Tim Pounds
Douglas County Administrator Dr. David Corbin
Courthouse Security Captain Trent Wilson
Director, Douglas County Communications & Community Relations, Yvette Jones
District Attorney Dalia Racine
Chief Public Defender Monica Myles
Solicitor General Sonya Compton
Clerk of Court Annetta Stembridge
Department of Community Supervision

Exhibit A: Continuity of Operations Plan

Due to the Judicial Emergency and County wide State of Emergency, access to the courthouse is not available to the public on Friday, January 10, 2025. Please refer to the Order for additional information.

However, if you have an **emergency** that requires the court's involvement, or need to speak to a court official on an emergency basis, please refer to the following as it relates to each court.

Superior Court: Douglas County Superior Court will continue to operate through remote and electronic means to address any emergency issues. If a temporary protective order is needed, please email the order to radiooperators@sheriff.douglas.ga.us.

State Court: Douglas County State Court will continue to operate through remote and electronic means to address any emergency issues. Any emergency filing can be made electronically through our E-filing system. The Clerk's Office will remain available to receive and process those filings electronically. Both judges will remain available to review, sign, and return emergency orders electronically. If you have an emergency that requires State Court's involvement or need to speak to a State Court official on an emergency basis, please call 770-530-7741 or email jcmiller@douglascountyga.gov.

Magistrate Court: Douglas County Magistrate Court will be available to handle emergency issues related to the court either virtually on Friday, January 10, 2025 or on Sunday January 12, 2025 once the weather clears.

Juvenile Court: Douglas County Juvenile Court will continue to operate through remote and electronic means to address any emergency issues. To the extent that a virtual hearing can not occur, the Court shall issue an order to address the emergency situation. Please call 770-920-7245 with any **emergency** issues regarding child/ren removal from home.

Probate Court: Douglas County Probate Court will be available on-call for emergency any emergency issues. For any urgent matters or to make emergency filings, please reach out via email to casestatus@douglascountyga.gov. Our on-call team will promptly respond and assist with your filing needs. For all vital records emergencies, please email probatecourtjudgefax@douglascountyga.gov.

If you are experiencing an immediate emergency, please call 911 or the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at 770-942-2121.

RECORDED IN BOOK 76 PAGE 53
DATE 1/27/25

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGLAS
COUNTY DOUGLAS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P. BOGGS, CHIEF JUSTICE,
GEORGIA SUPREME COURT
TO THE JUDGES AND CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF STATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MAGISTRATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF PROBATE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF JUVENILE COURT
TO THE JUDGE(S) AND CLERK OF MUNICIPAL COURT**

ORDER

**END OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY AND REOPENING OF
COURTHOUSE**

WHEREAS, it had been determined that a judicial emergency existed in this county that required the closing of the courthouse on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 and Wednesday January 22, 2025

WHEREAS, the winter impact on Douglas County, Georgia was not as expected, and the winter emergency that necessitated closing no longer exist.

IT IS ORDERED that the Courts of **DOUGLAS** County shall **REOPEN** and be available for access to justice on **Wednesday January 22, 2025 at 10:30 A.M.** and shall continue operating under normal business hours;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, all court deadlines, time schedules or filing requirements that were previously suspended, tolled, or extended for the duration of the judicial emergency as noted above shall no longer be tolled or extended; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Superior Court, or his/her designee, shall immediately notify the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Clerks of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court by sending them a copy of this notice; and

SO ORDERED this 22nd day of January 2025


Cynthia C. Adams, Chief Judge
Douglas County Superior Court

CC:

Superior Court Judge Deah Warren

Superior Court Judge Lauren Wallace

Chief State Court Judge Eddie Barker

State Court Judge Brian Fortner

Chief Juvenile Court Judge Michelle Harrison

Juvenile Court Judge Talia Nurse

Chief Magistrate Court Judge Susan Camp

Magistrate Court Judge Barbara Caldwell

Probate Court Judge Valerie Vie

Douglas County Commission Chair Romona Jackson-Jones

Douglas County Sheriff Tim Pounds

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Director, Douglas County Communications & Community Relations, Yvette Jones

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