

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF ROCKDALE COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN RE:**

**DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY AND CLOSURE OF  
ROCKDALE COUNTY COURTHOUSE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

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**ORDER**

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Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-61, et seq., and Rule 45 of the Uniform Rules for the Superior Courts, the undersigned Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the Rockdale Judicial Circuit of Georgia does hereby declare the existence of a Judicial Emergency in Rockdale County, Georgia and the closure of the courthouse on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 due to inclement weather.

During this closure period, the Clerk of Superior and State Court, Magistrate Court, and the Superior Court Judges Offices shall conduct all business via efile Georgia and virtual hearings, as each court directs. The Probate Court shall conduct all business by telephone and/or by email.

Accordingly, it is the order of the Court that the Rockdale County Courthouse be closed for business on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 and reopen on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at the regular time.

During the period when the Rockdale County Courthouse is closed, the Court hereby suspends, tolls, extends, and otherwise grants relief from all deadlines or other time schedules or filing requirements imposed by otherwise applicable statutes, rules, regulations, or court orders, whether in civil or criminal cases or administrative matters, including, but not limited to:

1. A Statute of limitation;
2. The time within which to issue a warrant;
3. The time within which to try a case for which a demand for speedy trial has been filed;
4. The time within which to hold a commitment hearing;
5. A deadline or other schedule regarding the detention of a juvenile;

6. The time within which to return a bill of indictment or an accusation or to bring a matter before the grand jury;
7. The time within which to file a writ of habeas corpus;
8. The time within which discovery or any aspect thereof is to be completed;
9. The time to serve a party;
10. The time within which to appeal or to seek the right to appeal nay order, ruling, or other determination;
11. The time within which responsive pleadings are due;
12. This order shall not toll, extend, or suspend any deadline, time schedule, or time period imposed by statute, rules, regulations, orders whether civil, criminal or administrative cases or matters wherein the parties present to the Court any consent order seeking relief or an order of the court. It is the intent of this provision to allow litigants to obtain consent judgments and orders where desired and to allow attorneys to continue with various matters of litigation by consent if they so choose; and
13. Such other legal proceedings as may be determined to be necessary.

Because the governing authority of Rockdale County has ordered that the courthouse be closed during this period of emergency, the Court hereby designates methods listed above for the transaction of court business. However, anyone requiring the Court's involvement in an emergency situation should call the Rockdale County Clerk of Courts at 770-278-7900 or email [clerkofcourtoffice@RockdaleCountyGA.gov](mailto:clerkofcourtoffice@RockdaleCountyGA.gov), Rockdale County Probate Court at 770-278-7700 or email [mary.hawk@rockdalecountyga.gov](mailto:mary.hawk@rockdalecountyga.gov), Rockdale County Magistrate Court at 678-332-6498 or email [magct@rockdalecountyga.gov](mailto:magct@rockdalecountyga.gov).

This 21st day of January, 2025.



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Nancy N. Bills, Chief Judge  
Rockdale County Superior Court  
Rockdale Judicial Circuit

Cc: Chief Justice, Georgia Supreme Court  
Clerk of the Georgia Supreme Court  
Clerk of the Georgia Court of Appeals  
All Judges and Clerks of Court  
Rockdale County District Attorney  
Rockdale County Sheriff  
Rockdale County Judicial Circuit Bar  
Chairperson, Rockdale County Commission  
Rockdale County Circuit Public Defender  
Rockdale County Public Relations & Community Affairs  
Department of Community Supervision