

**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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On January 22, 2026, Governor Brian Kemp declared a statewide State of Emergency, effective immediately, through January 29, 2026, in preparation for the approaching severe inclement weather expected to impact Georgia beginning January 24, 2026.

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, and/or the ability of litigants or others to have access to the courts or meet deadlines imposed by court order or rule, statute, or administrative rule or regulation.

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 Monday, January 26, 2026 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 including Magistrate Court, Probate Court, District Attorney Office and the Law Office of the Rockdale Circuit Public Defender will be closed for business on Monday, January 26, 2026 and reopen on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at the regular time.

Pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-62 (a), all court deadlines, other time schedules, or filing requirements imposed by applicable statutes, rules, regulations, or court orders, whether in civil or criminal cases or administrative matters, are hereby suspended, tolled, or extended until January 27, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Pursuant to OCGA 38-3-63, the Sheriff or designee shall post a copy of this notice on the courthouse doors; the County Manager/Administrator or designee, shall post a copy of this notice and any subsequent modification or extension on the county website; the Clerk of Court shall provide notice of the closure in the same manner as they would for cancellation of any other court matter, including announcements on television, radio, and public address systems; and notice of this order and any extension shall be provided to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, to the judges and clerks of all courts sitting within the affected jurisdiction, and on the clerks of the Supreme Court of Georgia and the Court of Appeals of Georgia.

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 [clerkofcourtsoffice@RockdaleCountyGA.gov](mailto:clerkofcourtsoffice@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 770-278-7800 or email [magct@rockdalecountyga.gov](mailto:magct@rockdalecountyga.gov).

This 25th day of January, 2026.



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