

**Debra DeBerry**  
Clerk,  
Superior Court



**PRESS CONTACTS:**  
**Xernia L. Fortson, Esq.**  
Public Information Officer  
Cell: 404-275-8704

**William Sheppard**  
Chief Deputy  
Phone: 404-371-2795  
Cell: 404-345-6983

## **DEKALB COUNTY**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

---

**January 23, 2026**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Clerk of Superior Court's Office Closed Due to Expected Severe Winter Weather**

Decatur, GA – DeKalb Clerk of Superior Court, located in the DeKalb County Courthouse at 556 North McDonough Street, Ground Floor, **will be closed to employees and the public from** Sunday January 25, 2026, beginning at 8:00AM through Monday, January 26, 2026, in anticipation of severe winter weather.

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.

The DeKalb County Clerk of Superior Court Offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (weather permitting) at 8:00AM. Please note that 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 Tuesday, January 27, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Although the Clerk of Superior Court's Office will be physically closed, our website [www.dksuperiorclerk.com](http://www.dksuperiorclerk.com) remains available 24 hours a day for filing criminal, civil, real estate, tradenames and UCC documents. No passport and notary applications can be processed until the Courthouse reopens. Temporary protective orders will be processed through our website. For additional information please refer to the judicial Administrative Order dated January 23, 2026. Thank you for your cooperation.

###

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DEKALB COUNTY  
DEKALB JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**26AP1059**

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

**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 CLOSING COURTHOUSE AND  
DECLARATION OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY**

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 OCGA § 38-3-61, during the period of the Judicial Emergency, the DeKalb County Courthouse shall be CLOSED on Sunday January 25, 2026, beginning at 8:00AM through Monday, January 26, 2026 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 (weather permitting) at 8:00AM; the civil and criminal matters on any calendar shall be continued.

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 Tuesday, 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.

Anyone requiring the Court's involvement in an emergency situation may contact the office of the Chief Judge of Superior Court by calling (404) 371-2909, by email to the Court Administrator LeNora Hawkins Ponzo at [lhponzo@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:lhponzo@dekalbcountyga.gov) , or by calling the County Sheriff's Office, at (404) 371-7050.

**SO ORDERED this 23rd day of January, 2026 at 4:00PM.**

-----  


---

SHONDEANA C. MORRIS, Chief Judge  
Superior Court of DeKalb County  
DeKalb Judicial Circuit