

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

**IN RE: ORDER DECLARING A
JUDICIAL EMERGENCY DUE TO
INCLEMENT WEATHER**

26CV00012

**NOTICE OF JUDICIAL EMERGENCY WITHIN COBB COUNTY DUE TO
INCLEMENT WEATHER**

1.

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 late Friday, January 23, 2026. The National Weather Service has also issued a Winter Storm Watch for Cobb County effective from Saturday, January 24, 2026, through Monday, January 26, 2026.

2.

Due to the facts described in Paragraph 1, the Court has determined that the conditions within Cobb County exist such that winter weather, including snow and ice, may inhibit travel to the courthouse and cause power outages, making business within the courthouse impossible and resulting in severe effects within Cobb County. The Cobb County Government has reduced or suspended services because of these conditions.

These conditions substantially endanger or infringe 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 court orders and rules, statutes of administrative rules, or regulations.

3.

Therefore, pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-60 *et seq.*, Chief Judge Ann B. Harris of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Cobb Judicial Circuit, **HEREBY DECLARES** the existence of a judicial emergency due to the facts and conditions listed within Paragraphs 1 and 2. The Court **HEREBY ORDERS** that pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-61, the Superior Court, State Court, Juvenile Court, Probate Court, Magistrate Court, Municipal Courts, and the Clerk's Offices of said courts shall be closed to the public from Saturday, January 24, 2026, at 6 PM until Monday, January 26, 2026, at 11:59 PM. However, the Magistrate Court shall remain open only for essential judicial functions as directed by the Chief Magistrate. Nothing in this order shall prohibit the employees of such courts, clerk's offices, prosecutorial offices, or any attorney from working remotely or in-person during the emergency if directed to by the appropriate authority. Employees may return to work on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, as directed to by the appropriate authority and subject to Paragraph 7 below.

4.

The Court further **ORDERS** that, pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-62 (a), relief from all court deadlines, time schedules, or filing requirements in all civil, criminal, and administrative matters is granted for the duration of the judicial emergency.

5.

Upon issuance of this **ORDER**, pursuant to OCGA § 38-3-63, the Court shall or shall cause by and through the Court Administrator (1) notification of this action to the Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, (2) notification and service of this order on the Superior, State, Juvenile, Probate, Magistrate, and Municipal judges and clerks of all courts sitting within the jurisdictions affected and on the clerks of the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court, (3) notification of the issuance of the order to the affected parties, counsel for the affected parties, and the public in the same manner as would be for cancellation of any other court matter, including announcements on television, radio, and public address systems, and (4) posting a copy of this notice on the courthouse doors and county website.

6.

Anyone requiring the Court's involvement in an emergency situation may contact Superior Court by emailing presidingjudge@cobbcounty.gov or by calling the Cobb County Sheriff's Office at 770-528-4700.

7.

The Court will continue to monitor conditions within the Circuit, and if further emergency declarations are necessary, an order will issue.

SO ORDERED this 23RD day of JANUARY, 2026 at 12:35 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann B. Harris', written over a horizontal line.

Ann B. Harris, Chief Judge
Cobb Judicial Circuit