



**TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DOUGLAS, ELBERT, and LINCOLN COUNTIES
STATE OF COLORADO**

**CHIEF JUDGE ORDER 2025-34
PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ON
COURTHOUSE AND PROBATION OFFICE CLOSURES IN
THE TWENTY-THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 14, 2025**

On rare occasions it is necessary for the Court, the County, or law enforcement to close the courthouses and/or probation offices in this judicial district, the 23rd Judicial District (Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln counties). These closures are typically due to inclement weather or loss of essential utilities such as water, electricity, and/or heating and ventilation. When it is necessary to close a courthouse or a probation office, it is typically a result of unforeseen circumstances. As a result, hearings or other meetings cannot be rescheduled in advance. Pursuant to the provisions of Chief Justice Directive 95-01, “Authority and Responsibility of Chief Judges,” the following procedures related to courthouse and probation office closures are effective January 14, 2025, and shall be posted, as practicable, on the judicial district’s website.

I. COURTHOUSE AND PROBATION OFFICE CLOSURES

- A. As soon as a courthouse or probation office closure becomes necessary in this judicial district, a notice will be posted on the “Announcements, Closures, Delays or Cancellations” page of the Colorado Judicial Branch website: www.coloradojudicial.gov.

- B. Whenever a courthouse or probation office closure becomes necessary in this judicial district, a notice will be posted on the 23rd Judicial District website. If possible, this notice will also be posted on all entrances to the courthouses and probation offices affected.
- C. In the event of a courthouse or probation office closure in this judicial district, the District Administrator will change the voicemail messages on all general information phone numbers to the affected courthouse or probation office (jury commissioner, administration, clerk's office, etc.). The phone message will indicate that the identified courthouses and probation offices are closed. Further, the phone message will include information related to rescheduling hearings or meetings as set forth below.

II. RESCHEDULING PROCEDURES

- A. If there is a courthouse closure in this judicial district, the party or parties scheduled to appear for a court hearing are to appear at 8 a.m. on the first business day following the closure unless instructed otherwise by the judicial officer in charge of the case or by the assigned division's staff.
- B. If there is a probation office closure in this judicial district, the probation client scheduled to attend a meeting is to contact his/her probation officer, or the probation officer's supervisor, to reschedule the meeting. Probation clients may also present themselves to the probation office on the first business day following the probation office closure to either reschedule the meeting for a future date or to proceed with the meeting on the same day if possible.
- C. Citizens summoned for jury duty on a day of a courthouse closure must check the website or call the Jury Commissioner for additional information. The website and phone number are provided on the jury summons.
- D. When there is a courthouse closure in this judicial district, jurors who have already been selected to be on a jury must follow the instructions provided by

the judicial officer in charge of the case or by the assigned division's staff. Absent other instruction, jurors must report to the courthouse at 8 a.m. on the first business day following the courthouse closure.

Dated this 14th day of January 2025.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Stuart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a stylized "S".

Ryan J. Stuart
Chief Judge, 23rd Judicial District